

# Shared Christian Praxis



*Treasures New and Old Core Document K-12, , 2001,*

Date and Time

## SHARED CHRISITAN PRAXIS

Session Goal

*TRUSTING: Measurable objective about trusting- Our faith is based on a relationship between God and Us. In this session how do I express that?*

*BELIEVING: Measurable objective about belief. Our faith asks us to believe doctrine, faith themes, etc. What belief themes will be taught in the session?*

*DOING: Measurable objective about our response or action. -Our faith is based on faith and works. What are you asking the young people to do?*

Catechists

## Resources Needed

Roll Sheet, Pen, handouts

## Set Up

Room set up

## **FOCUSING ACTIVITY**

- a. What is the particular focus of your learning experience?
- b. What is your focusing question/activity for this learning experience?
- c. How will you engage the participants in identifying their present action?

## **MOVEMENT ONE: NAMING- EXPERIENCING LIFE**

How will you engage the participants in expressing their own life activity (knowing, action, feeling) or that of their community, culture or society that underlines the theme, topic or concept of the learning experience?

How does their life experience inform the topic at hand?

## MOVEMENT TWO: REFLECTING TOGETHER

- a. How will you engage in the participants in telling a story(s) that explains their present action?
- b. How will you engage them in critically reflecting on their present action in light of the broader picture?
- c. How will you engage them in identifying the consequences of their action and the implications for future living?

## MOVEMENT THREE: DISCOVERING THE CHRISTIAN STORY & VISION

- a. What story(s) will you present? What Vision will you offer? Does it reflect the most informed understanding of the church and your faith community?
- b. What resources will you use?
- c. How will you creatively and imaginatively present the story and the vision?

#### MOVEMENT FOUR: OWNING THE FAITH

How will you engage the participants in a dialogue between their story and the story and vision of the Christian story?

How do you help the participants see that their story is the Christian story?

#### MOVEMENT FIVE: REFLECTING THE FAITH

In light of the entire learning experience, how will you engage the participants in deciding on what action to take (personally, interpersonally, socially/politically).

*Based on the works of Thomas Groome*

# Shared Christian Praxis

## 1. MAIN IDEA FOR SESSION

What is the main idea for this session? *For example, The Holy Spirit, Sacraments, Jesus etc. Often your DRE or Confirmation Director will give you the Session Main Idea or Topic*

## 2. LEARNING OBJECTIVES FOR SESSIONS

Groom suggests that Christian Faith as lived reality has three essential and constitutive dimensions: belief, trust, and action.

*Select the learning objectives that are appropriate for the main ideas you have already selected (you don't have to do all three, however you may).*

At the end of the session what do you hope your students will understand about Christian Faith?

### Trusting

This dimension of Christian faith takes the form of a relationship of trust and confidence in a personal God who saves in Jesus. And the trust finds expression in loyalty, love, and attachment. Because God is faithful, we can commit ourselves with confidence and trust. We express this in prayer, both personal and communal.

*What do you want your participants to "trust" about the topic at hand?*

### Believing

Christian faith is more than belief, for it finds embodiment in the lives of people. Religious Education communicates certain historical events, moral concepts and mysteries of the faith in way of making meaning in their lives beyond doubt.

*What do you want your participants to "believe" about the topic at hand?*

### Doing

Christian faith is a response to the Kingdom of God in Christ and must include doing God's will. More specifically, the doing is to find opportunities to live a life of agape (unconditional love)—loving God by loving one's neighbor as oneself.

*What do you want your participants to "do" after you finish the session?*



## 3. SESSION PLAN

*Select teaching activities that will help communicate the main ideas and achieve the learning objectives. Select at least one appropriate activity for each step in the Shared Christian Praxis design. For each step identify the resources that are necessary to conduct the activities that are planned.*

### FOCUSING ACTIVITY

What is the particular focus of your learning experience?

What is your focusing question/activity for this learning experience?

How will you engage the participants in identifying their present action?

***How do you move them from the parking lot to the session?***

*I'm hungry. I think I would like chocolate chip cookies.*

I really like Grandma's  
Chocolate chip cookie  
recipe

### **MOVEMENT ONE: NAMING--EXPERIENCING LIFE**

How will you engage the participants in expressing their own life story (knowing, action, feeling) or that of their community, culture or society that underlines the theme, topic or concept of the learning experience?

***How does their life experience inform the topic at hand?*** i.e. if the topic is Jesus, where does their life story intersect with the person of Jesus?

I remember going to  
Grandma's house and  
the cookies were coming  
out of the oven and the  
house smelled so sweet.

### **MOVEMENT TWO: REFLECTING--REFLECTING TOGETHER**

How will you engage in the participants in telling a story that explains their present action?

How will you engage them in critically; reflecting on where they are in their life-- in light of the broader picture?

How will you engage them in identifying the consequences of embracing this concept and the implications for future living?

I'm going to the recipe box  
and collecting that recipe.  
Read it, collect the ingredi-  
ents and the bake ware.

### **MOVEMENT THREE: CHRISTIAN STORY & VISION--DISCOVERING THE FAITH STORY**

What story will you present? What vision will you offer? Does it reflect the most informed understanding of the church and your faith community?

What resources will you use?

How will you creatively and imaginatively present the story and the vision?

I'm going to make the  
cookies just like Grand-  
ma use to make them

### **MOVEMENT FOUR: OWNING THE FAITH**

How will you engage the participants in a dialogue between their story and the story and vision of the Christian community?

How do you help the participants see that their story is the Christian story?

Lonely Mr. Garcia down  
the street might enjoy  
some of the cookies. I will  
make him a plate of cook-  
ies and deliver them.

### **MOVEMENT FIVE: RESPONDING IN FAITH**

In light of the entire learning experience, how will you engage the participants in deciding on what action to take (personally, interpersonally, social/politically)?

Adapted from: Groome, Thomas. *Christian Religious Education*. San Francisco: Harper & Row. 1981

# THE BIBLE AS A TOOL FOR PRAYER

Aces: Focusing Activity

Twos: Our Naming

Threes: Our Reflecting

Fours: The Christian Story

Fives: The integration

Sixes: Our Response

