

Lesson Plan - Week 5 - Unit 1 – Session 4 – God Directs Our Lives

- Opening Prayer

Let's **Remember that we are in the holy presence of God**

- Light the candle and read from the bible - Volunteer – Matt: 5 1-10 – Sermon on the Mt
– Discuss the reading – What is Jesus saying to his apostles? What does Jesus ask of them and us?

– **If you relied solely on advertisements to determine what makes people happy, what might you think you need to be happy? List them on the board**

– **Jesus concept of happiness is quite different – read page 29**

– Books pg 29 – So, what does Jesus teach us (we are near to God when we suffer)

– 30 – What does Jesus appear to be doing in this picture?

– - Read and discuss – What does it mean to be humble? (recognize their dependence on God and to trust him)

– 31 – Read and discuss – What rules did God give us in the Old

Testament

– - What new additional rules in the New Testament

– - Why are the Beatitudes important? (help us to act as signs of God's goodness in the world)

– 32 - Read and discuss – How did Philip inspire? Joyful, encouraged others

– to be happy and to receive the sacraments.

– We can live like Jesus and help others through our own gifts

– Think now of a special gift that you have, these are gifts from God, so it is not bragging (*Examples: patience with sick people, sense of humor to cheer people up, ability to knit, skill at fixing things, skill at playing an instrument, doing chores for others*)

– Let's each express thanks for one of our gifts, and tell God how we will use it to carry out Jesus mission. (*I thank God for the gift of being able to teach you about God. I will use my gift to carry out Jesus' mission.*)

– - God wants us to use our gifts to help others as Jesus did.

Quiz...Prizes

- questions from the pages above

If there's time:

– **What are some problems to be solved in your neighborhood or the news**

– - you can write them on the board

– - which are important to solve – why?

– - think of someone who helps others

– - could be from a news story, a famous person or someone you know

– - discuss that person's heroic traits and how they act like Jesus

– - Whom did Jesus help/save?

– - share stories from the bible - poor, sick, blind, sinners,

– - What do you think he wanted to teach us by doing that?

– - do the same, love all , help all

Remember that we are in the holy presence of God

- Lord, thank you for all of us here, thank you for giving us the courage to learn more about you. Please help us to become closer to you each day.

– What can I do this week for God....

Would any of you share what you will do this week to make your relationship with God stronger?

Ending Prayer: Remember that we are in the holy presense of God: Who shall we pray for?