**Grade 10**

**Semester 1**

**Christian Morality**

**Lesson 25: Sources of Moral Truth**

**Faith Focus:**

1. The students will recognize natural law as part of human nature.
2. The participants will explore the relationship between the Old Law (10 Commandments) and New Law (the Law of the Gospel)
3. The students will discover ways to integrate the laws or precepts, of the Church with the formation of conscience.

**Materials:** CFHB, Bibles, 10th grade DVD

**Pray It!**

1. Welcome students into the room and take attendance.
2. Ask students if they believe that there are actions that are always morally wrong and actions that are always morally right. Gather a few responses.
3. **Tell** the participants that class is going to begin with a prayer for moral courage to help prepare us for our discussion on how to discover what “the truth” is.
4. **Direct** them to find the prayer in the Pray It! “A Prayer for Moral Courage,” on page 277 in the handbook.
5. **Ask** several volunteers to take turns reading the prayer.
6. Conclude by **leading** the young people in praying the Glory Be together.

**Study It!**

1. **Natural Moral Law**
   1. **Brainstorm** with the whole class the types of moral dilemmas that youth between the ages of nine and twelve face daily. You may need to define a “moral dilemma” as a class.
   2. If some of the participants have younger brothers or sisters, they will have firsthand knowledge of such situations. Others might remember what it was like to be that age.
   3. **List** the situations or issues on the board.
   4. **Divide** the students into partnerships
   5. **Direct** the young people to read the chapter introduction and the section “Natural Moral Law,” on pages 275–277.
   6. After 7 minutes ask partnerships to discuss the reflection question on page 277 of the CFHB
   7. Ask each partnership to share their response to the question with the large group.
2. **Old Law and New Law**
3. **Tell** the participants to form pairs and answer the following questions:
   * To whom do you turn when you have to make a tough decision?
   * How does this person help you?
   * What makes you turn to this person?
4. **Ask** a few volunteers to share their answers.
5. Write the following questions on the board:

* What is the Old Law and where is it summarized in scripture?
* What is the New Law?
* How does the New Law fulfill the Old Law

1. **Direct** partnerships to read the sections “Old Law and New Law” pages 278–280 in the handbook and to be prepared to share their answers with the class for the questions on the board.
2. After 7 minutes, discuss the questions on the board as a class.
3. **Conscience**
   1. Write the word conscience on the board
   2. Ask students what they think this means.
   3. Invite students to look up the meaning in Catholic terms in defnitions in the back of the CFHB.
   4. Ask one student to read the definition to the class.
   5. Invite students to look at the top 10 ways to form your conscience on page 284 and challenge them to try one this week.

**Live It!**

1. Tell the students that there are five basic rules or precepts of the Church that help us grow closer to God and come to a greater understanding of moral truth.
2. Show the short video clip “The Bare Minimum” (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NzXEP4HZGqg)
3. Ask students to help list the precepts of the Church on the board
   1. Attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
   2. Confess sins in sacrament of penance at least once a year.
   3. Receive the Eucharist at least during the Easter season
   4. Observe days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.
   5. Help provide for the material needs of the Church.
4. Ask students how these precepts are related to the Old and New Law. How would they help a person form their conscience and discover moral truth?
5. Be open to students ideas and questions. It could be a lively discussion!

**Closing Prayer (5 minutes)**

1. **Direct** the participants to page 448 in the handbook and pray the “Act of Love” together.