

Earth-Centered Traditions

Lesson 10: Appreciations & Jeopardy

1.9.2022

Objectives: Celebration of semester and learning in community.

Materials: Yarn, scissors.

Time allotments: Suggested for 50 minute class, followed by 20 minute closing service (end class 9:50/11:50 to begin chapel 9:55/11:55).

1. Nametags and Graffiti Wall (5 minutes before class begins):

- Make nametags using blank paper, markers, and holders. Youth can create their own unique but LEGIBLE nametag. Make it a regular practice to wear nametags.
- “Graffiti Wall” questions: Write the following on whiteboard. Invite youth as they arrive to grab a marker and weigh in with their responses:
 - ▶ What is one thing you learned in RE this semester?
 - ▶ What is the best goodbye you’ve experienced/witnessed (in your life or in a story)?
- Teachers complete attendance sheets.
- ***Begin in classroom and take first 15 minutes for appreciations. Then join other classes in Robbins Parlor for Jeopardy (Ray and KP facilitate Jeopardy).**

2. Chalice Lighting: Light a chalice at your home, invite youth to light their own chalices and say together: *“We light this chalice as a symbol of our faith, the light of truth and the warmth of love.”*

3. Appreciations (15 minutes)

Prompt youth to reflect on what they appreciate about each other. Appreciations are encouraged to be specific. Take a minute in silence to think.

- a) Stand in a circle. One teacher begins as sharer.
- b) Holding the ball of yarn, the sharer calls out someone’s name and shares aloud an appreciation for that particular person.

(E.g. I appreciate how thoughtful your questions are; When we did (name of activity) together, I appreciated your leadership and enthusiasm; I appreciate your quality of attention, especially during chapel.)

- c) Holding onto the tail end of the yarn, the sharer then tosses the ball to the receiver, whose name they called.
- d) The receiver becomes the sharer by calling on someone else and sharing an appreciation. Holding onto the yarn, they pass the ball to the new receiver, whose name they called.
- e) Repeat until everyone has a turn as receiver and sharer. The teacher who started should be the last to receive an appreciation and the ball of yarn.
- f) At the end, there should be a web of string across the circle. Everyone is invited to tie a piece of yarn around their wrist, cutting it off to make a bracelet.

4. Announcements: Today concludes the first semester of RE. Next week is Family Sunday. As per our class agreements, please go to the worship service with family and/or friends. The following Sunday, Jan 23, is the start of second semester RE.

5. Jeopardy (35 minutes)

- Extinguish the chalice (see step #6).
- As a class, go to Robins Parlor for a game of Jeopardy with all junior high classes.

6. Say goodbye until next time: Extinguish the chalice, saying together: *“May the light of truth and the warmth of love go with us in our hearts.”*

7. Help clean up classroom before leaving: Please keep regular practice of readying classroom for the next class.

- leave lesson plan and all materials organized
- wipe the whiteboard clean
- tables and chairs neatly returned
- nametags collected in Ziploc bag
- leave any comments for RE staff on attendance sheets