



Lesson Preparation:

*[This part contains the content of the whole lesson and how it was developed. By simply looking at this one would already have the grasp of how the lesson would run. The second part is the **HOW TO TEACH**. The guide would give you the phases as to how this lesson is to be taught in actual.]*

I. TOPIC: Sin of Sacrilege

Definition: Is the deliberate violation and desecration of persons, events, places and things set aside publicly for the service/worship of God.

Meaning of the Definition: God is given due respect in all that is related to Him.

Meaning for the Learners: I can see the person of God in all that is related to him

II. ASPECT: I will respect and give to God what is due of Him.

III. CHRISTIAN MEANING:

- a. Jesus makes me respectful of the person of God and all that is related to him.
- b. Jesus is an omnipresent person

IV. BASIC HUMAN DESIRE: Need to be prudent and respectful at all times

V. CHRISTIAN MESSAGE:

My need to be prudent and respectful at all times is fulfilled by Jesus who is an omnipresent person making me respectful of the person of God and all that is related to him and so I will respect and give to God what is due of Him so that I may not commit the sin of sacrilege.

VI. HUMAN SITUATION: An experience of being embarrassed or humiliated

VII. DOCUMENTATION:

1. Christian Formulation:

God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good...[**Genesis 1:31**]

You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God in vain. For the Lord will not leave unpunished him who takes his name in vain. [**Exodus 20:7**]

On the other hand, it would be better for anyone who leads astray one of these little ones who believes in me, to be drowned by a millstone around his neck, in the depths of the sea. What terrible things will come on the world through scandal! It is inevitable that

scandal should occur. Nonetheless, woe to that man through whom scandal comes!
[Matthew 18:6-7]

Nevertheless, already in the Old Testament, God ordained or permitted the making of images that pointed symbolically toward salvation by the incarnate Word: so it was with the bronze serpent, the Ark of the Covenant and the cherubim. **[CCC 2130]**

The Christian veneration of images is not contrary to the First Commandment which proscribes idols. Indeed, “the honor rendered to an image passes to its prototype,” and “whoever venerates an image venerates the person portrayed in it.” The honor paid to images is a “respectful veneration,” not the adoration due to God alone. **[CCC 2132]**

...Sacramentals are objects, actions, practices, places, and the like, that help us become aware of Christ’s grace-filled presence around us or liberate from the presence of the Evil One (Exorcism). **[CFC 1532]**

Code of Canon Law 1171 Reverence for Sacred Things: Sacred things, set aside for divine worship by dedication or blessing, are to be treated with reverence. They are not to be made over to secular or inappropriate use, even though they may belong to private persons.

Definition – Sacred things are those things which have been blessed, consecrated, or dedicated for divine worship

Denial of Dedication – The object or place should not be so dedicated if it appears that profane use cannot be avoided

Handle with Care – Those who have in their possession sacramentals or other sacred objects are obliged to treat them with care (CIC 1150)

Penalty – The law provides that anyone who profanes a sacred object is to receive a just penalty

[Notes on Sacraments and Sacramentals: According to the Revised Code of Canon Law, Vol. 1]

2. Christian Event:

Title: The Bronze Serpent

Source: Numbers 21: 4-9

Point of Stress: The importance of symbol which signifies God’s goodness, forgiveness and love for his people.

3. Christian Celebration: Good Friday – Veneration of the Cross

Point of Stress: On Good Friday, the entire Church fixes her gaze on the Cross at Calvary. Each member of the Church tries to understand at what cost Christ has won our redemption. In the solemn ceremonies of Good Friday, in the Adoration of the Cross, in the chanting of the 'Reproaches', in the reading of the Passion, and in receiving the pre-consecrated Host, we unite ourselves to our Savior, and we contemplate our own death to sin in the Death of our Lord.

VIII. INTEGRATION

Doctrinal Truth: Holy Spirit as the Paraclete: literally, “he who is called to help.” Thus the Spirit is our *Advocate, Helper, Counselor*. The life He inspires in us, then, is a life that supports, strengthens, and guides, precisely because it brings us in intimacy with Jesus (**CCC 692**).

[CFC 1322]

It is the Holy Spirit who guides and leads us to see the truth if we only allow Him to work in us. It is through the Holy Spirit that we receive **Actual grace** which is a supernatural help of God which enlightens our mind and strengthens our will to do good and to avoid evil.

Moral Truth: Man’s Freedom – God created man a rational being, conferring on him the dignity of a person who can initiate and control his own actions.

The Ten Commandments constitute the basic imperatives needed for life in community, like a community “Bill of Rights.” They sketch for us the limits or parameters within which we, the People of God, must live our life of faith, hope and love in our redeeming Lord and among ourselves. The commandments actually points in two directions: they call for **reverence for God, and respect for our fellow human beings...** [CFC, 870]

FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

Freedom is the power, rooted in reason and will, to act or not to act, to do this or that, and so to perform deliberate actions on one’s own responsibility. By free will one shapes one’s own life. Human freedom is a force for growth and maturity in truth and goodness; it attains its perfection when directed toward God, our beatitude. [CCC, 1731]

XI. Faith Response:

Faith Conviction: I believe that God is present in all the things he created and those images we venerate bring the reality they represent but not substitute for the reality itself.

Faith Commitment: I will respect Christian images and other things that represent and manifest God.

Faith Celebration: I’ll give due recognition and venerate symbols and images of the Church.

How to Teach the Module

PHASE I – Human Situation

- A. An experience of being offended by someone who made fun of their personal:
 1. Picture or a picture of a significant someone in their life like:
 - A parent
 - A friend

- An Idol or Favorite Actor/Actress
- 2. belongings which is important to them

B. What would you feel or do when someone would do you such act of disgrace?

Possible Learner's Response

- I feel offended
- I will be hurt
- I'll be angry
- I'll spank the person
- I'll sue the person
- I'll talk with the person
- I'll ask for the person to say an apology

Phase II – Discovery of the Basic Human Desire or the Values

A. Why do you think such feelings were triggered?

Possible Learner's Response

- Because I am humiliated
- Because I embarrassed
- I don't deserve to be treated that way
- I am insulted
- Because he/she stripped me of my personality

B. What do your answers point or tell you?

Possible Learner's Response

- I need to be respected
- I need to defend myself and those which are important to me
- I need to be valued
- I need speak for truth

(Support and affirm the BHD discovered by the learners.)

So from your responses we can discover that each one of us cry for the need to be respected. We don't allow people to make fun of us and those things which are important and valuable to us.

C. What becomes of you and others when you are respected and knows how to respect?

Possible Learner's Response

- I feel affirmed as a person
- I am encourage to act respectfully
- I feel valued
- There's a sense of harmonious relationship

D. What becomes of your relationship with others when you are respected and you know how to respect?

Possible Learner's Response

- I am able to establish good and meaningful relations with people
- There's mutual respect and understanding
- There's a sense of freedom in relating with people
- It widens my horizon and perspective about things and people

(Lead others to a deeper appreciation of the BHD.)

Let the participants realized deeply the beauty of respect and being respected through questioning:

E. What do you do to develop this value of respect?

Possible Learner's Response

- Acknowledge people's and things as valuable
- I should be prudent with my thoughts, words & actions
- I am to act respectfully
- I should be considerate with people
- Avoid prejudices

*So from our discussion we are really called **to be respectful and to be prudent** in all we do and say, for without such value of respect, chaos and no harmonious relationship will be built.*

PHASE III - DISCOVERY OF THE CHRISTIAN MESSAGE

If we humans react vehemently to such act of disrespect or destructive words and practices done to us how much more if these acts are done to those related to our Lord Jesus Christ. We Filipinos are very sensitive when it comes to our Catholic Christian faith. Our love for sacred images, the veneration we give them – surely, the news about the CCP Scandal reached you and must have triggered such feelings of anger and disgrace in defense of your faith.

Hint: God must have been telling us something, Filipino Catholics...

Evoke: What do you think is God trying to convey to us?

Proclamation of the Christian Message:

My need to be prudent and respectful at all times is fulfilled by Jesus who is an omnipresent person making me respectful of the person of God and all that is related to him and so I will respect and give to God what is due of Him so that I may not commit the sin of sacrilege.

EXPLANATION:

[The Catechists explains the lesson using the documents below]

What is Sacrilege?

Is the deliberate violation and desecration of persons, events, places and things set aside publicly for the service/worship of God.

4. Christian Formulation:

God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good...[**Genesis 1:31**]

You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God in vain. For the Lord will not leave unpunished him who takes his name in vain. [**Exodus 20:7**]

On the other hand, it would be better for anyone who leads astray one of these little ones who believes in me, to be drowned by a millstone around his neck, in the depths of the sea. What terrible things will come on the world through scandal! It is inevitable that scandal should occur. Nonetheless, woe to that man through whom scandal comes! [**Matthew 18:6-7**]

Nevertheless, already in the Old Testament, God ordained or permitted the making of images that pointed symbolically toward salvation by the incarnate Word: so it was with the bronze serpent, the Ark of the Covenant and the cherubim. [**CCC 2130**]

The Christian veneration of images is not contrary to the First Commandment which proscribes idols. Indeed, “the honor rendered to an image passes to its prototype,” and “whoever venerates an image venerates the person portrayed in it.” The honor paid to images is a “respectful veneration,” not the adoration due to God alone. [**CCC 2132**]

...Sacramentals are objects, actions, practices, places, and the like, that help us become aware of Christ’s grace-filled presence around us or liberate from the presence of the Evil One (Exorcism). [**CFC 1532**]

Code of Canon Law 1171 Reverence for Sacred Things: Sacred things, set aside for divine worship by dedication or blessing, are to be treated with reverence. They are not to be made over to secular or inappropriate use, even though they may belong to private persons.

Definition – Sacred things are those things which have been blessed, consecrated, or dedicated for divine worship

Denial of Dedication – The object or place should not be so dedicated if it appears that profane use cannot be avoided

Handle with Care – Those who have in their possession sacramentals or other sacred objects are obliged to treat them with care (CIC 1150)

Penalty – The law provides that anyone who profanes a sacred object is to receive a just penalty

[Notes on Sacraments and Sacramentals: According to the Revised Code of Canon Law, Vol. 1]

5. Christian Event:

Title: The Bronze Serpent

Source: Numbers 21: 4-9

Point of Stress: The importance of symbol which signifies God's goodness, forgiveness and love for his people.

6. Christian Celebration: Good Friday – Veneration of the Cross

Point of Stress: On Good Friday, the entire Church fixes her gaze on the Cross at Calvary. Each member of the Church tries to understand at what cost Christ has won our redemption. In the solemn ceremonies of Good Friday, in the Adoration of the Cross, in the chanting of the 'Reproaches', in the reading of the Passion, and in receiving the pre-consecrated Host, we unite ourselves to our Savior, and we contemplate our own death to sin in the Death of our Lord.

VIII. INTEGRATION

Doctrinal Truth: Holy Spirit as the Paraclete: literally, "he who is called to help." Thus the Spirit is our *Advocate, Helper, Counselor*. The life He inspires in us, then, is a life that supports, strengthens, and guides, precisely because it brings us in intimacy with Jesus (**CCC 692**).

[CFC 1322]

It is the Holy Spirit who guides and leads us to see the truth if we only allow Him to work in us. It is through the Holy Spirit that we receive **Actual grace** which is a supernatural help of God which enlightens our mind and strengthens our will to do good and to avoid evil.

Moral Truth: Man's Freedom – God created man a rational being, conferring on him the dignity of a person who can initiate and control his own actions.

The Ten Commandments constitute the basic imperatives needed for life in community, like a community "Bill of Rights." They sketch for us the limits or parameters within which we, the People of God, must live our life of faith, hope and love in our redeeming Lord and among ourselves. The commandments actually points in two directions: they call for **reverence for God, and respect for our fellow human beings...** [CFC, 870]

FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

Freedom is the power, rooted in reason and will, to act or not to act, to do this or that, and so to perform deliberate actions on one's own responsibility. By free will one shapes one's own life. Human freedom is a force for growth and maturity in truth and goodness; it attains its perfection when directed toward God, our beatitude. [CCC, 1731]

PHASE IV - CHALLENGE AND EVALUATION *(Do this through questioning)*

Faith Conviction: I believe that God is present in all the things he created and those images we venerate bring the reality they represent but not substitute for the reality itself.

Faith Commitment: I will respect Christian images and other things that represent and manifest God.

Faith Celebration: I'll give due recognition and venerate symbols and images of the Church.

Closing Prayer: Songs at the Veneration of the Cross

Antiphon: We worship you Lord,
(All) We venerate your cross,
We praise your resurrection.
Through the cross you brought joy to the world.

Choir 1: May God be gracious and bless us;
And let his face shed its light upon us.

Antiphon: We worship you, Lord,
(All) We venerate your cross,
We praise your resurrection.
Through the cross you brought joy to the world.

Reproaches I

All: My people what have I done to you?
How have I offended you? Answer me!

Choir 1: I led you out of Egypt, from slavery to freedom,
But you led your Savior to the cross.

Choir 2: My people what have I done to you?
How have I offended you? Answer me!

Choir 1: Holy is God!

Choir 2: Holy and strong!

Choir 1: Holy immortal One,
Have mercy on us!

All: For forty years I lead you safely through the desert.
I fed you with manna from heaven

And brought you to the land of plenty;
But you led your Savior to the cross.

Choir 1: Holy is God!

Choir 2: Holy and strong!

Choir 1: Holy immortal One,
Have mercy on us!

All: What more could I have done for you?
I planted you as my fairest vine,
But you yielded only bitterness:
When I was thirsty you gave me vinegar to drink,
And you pierced your Savior with a lance.

Choir 1: Holy is God!

Choir 2: Holy and strong!

Choir 1: Holy immortal One,
Have mercy on us!