

Grade 9 Session 6 / Relationships

Opening prayer: Find Psalm 25 in your Bible and pray to begin this session.

Watch the Introductory video, *Bear Bait*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CrzqQrnsV7I&list=PLL_jXAs6d7Bpr6s2_ujEwg0aYJiJamqDJ

Reflect: What kind of friend are you?

Think about it: God's dream for us is to become the best version of ourselves. The purpose of every relationship is two people helping each other become the best version of themselves. The world says the secret to having great relationships is common interests...they are good, but they are not the key. Interests change over time. Great relationships need common purpose...the purpose of helping each other be the best version of ourselves.

Read: Matthew 7:24-27

Think about it: Building relationships upon fun or common interests is like building a house on sand. Building relationships upon the common purpose of helping each become the best they can be is like building a house on rock. If you want to build your relationships on rock, choose friends of good character, who are striving for virtue, who help you become the best you can be, and lead you closer to God.

Many of the most important decisions you will make in your life will be around these relationships:

- Friends: The friends you choose to surround yourself have enormous impact on your choices, values, activities, etc.
- Parents: Your relationship with your parents is central in your life.
- Marriage: Many of you will get married, and whom you decide to marry will have an enormous impact on your life and happiness.
- Community: Community relationships (parish, school, sports, neighborhood) encourage and challenge us.

- God: Your relationship with God is the most important. Unless you make your relationship with God a priority, your chances of getting the other relationship decisions right are greatly diminished.

Reflect: Who are the most important people in your life? Why? Are these relationships helping you to be the best version of yourself? Are you building your life on a solid foundation like the wise man?

View the video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5A89UWmurg&list=PLL_jXAs6d7Bpr6s2_ujEwg0aYJiJamqDJ&index=4

Reflect: Who models selfless love in your life? How does your relationship with God influence your relationships with other people? Do you believe that love is a choice, not a feeling? Why or why not?

Think about it: We all have a deep yearning to love and be loved. There are different types of love...the love we have for all men and women of goodwill; the love of friendship; romantic love; and *agape*, unconditional love. Remember that love desires what is best for the other person. Love is a willingness to inconvenience yourself for another person.

Read about the love that Paul talks about: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

Reflect: Can I put those closest to me in this passage? Can I put myself in this passage? Who loves you in the way God envisions love? How is God calling you to love yourself differently so that you can love others more fully?

Close by praying the Our Father.

FYI...you may view all the Session 6 videos here:

<https://dynamiccatholic.com/confirmation/program-view/session-6/>