

Lesson Plan for Lesson 6

The Human Person

Preparation and Supplies

- Study chapter 6, “The Human Person,” in the handbook.
- For each group of three or four, gather a Bible, newsprint, markers, tape or glue, scissors, and several newspapers and magazines.
- Make copies of the handout “The Canticle of Brother Sun” (Document #: TX003371), one for each participant.

Pray It! (5 minutes)

Tell the participants that the topic for this session is the human person. **Ask** them to turn to page 68 in the handbook and find the Pray It! “Prayer for Accepting Our Humanity.” **Select** seven participants to each read an “I am” statement. **Close** by having everyone read the last two paragraphs of the prayer together.

Study It! (35 to 45 minutes, depending on your class length)

A. Made in the Image of God

1. **Direct** the participants to form groups of three or four, and give each group a Bible. **Ask** the groups to locate Psalm 139. **Read** verses 1–16 aloud to the class. After the reading, **ask** the young people to turn to page 70 in the handbook and **invite** each group to answer the three bulleted questions in the Scripture Connection “You Formed My Inmost Being” as if they were the person who wrote the psalm. **Ask** for volunteers to share their answers.
2. **Direct** the participants to read the chapter introduction and the section “Made in the Image of God,” on pages 64–67. The content covers points 1 through 3 on the handout “Lesson 6 Summary” (Document #: TX003370).
3. (*Optional*) After the young people have finished the reading, **direct** them to the Reflect directions on page 67. **Conduct** a discussion on the question presented there.

B. The Fall from Grace

1. **Direct** the participants to form groups of three or four. **Give** each group a sheet of newsprint and a marker. **Invite** the young people to imagine what their world (or city or town) would look like without sin. After giving everyone a few minutes to think quietly, **ask** them to work in their groups to create newspaper headlines that depict some of the events they imagined. **Tell** them to record



their headlines on the newsprint. **Invite** each group to report on its vision for a world without sin by reading their headlines.

2. **Direct** the participants to read the sections “The Fall from Grace” and “Original Sin,” on pages 67–70 in the handbook. The content covers points 4 through 9 on the handout “Lesson 6 Summary.”
3. **(Optional) Invite** questions and observations on the content. You could also **direct** the participants to the Reflect questions on page 70.

C. Destined for Glory

Direct the participants to read the section “Destined for Glory,” on pages 70–72 in the handbook. The content covers points 10 through 11 on the handout “Lesson 6 Summary.”

Note: If you are running short on time, you may wish to just briefly summarize this section of the handbook.

Live It! (15 to 20 minutes)

1. **Direct** the young people to form groups of three or four. **Provide** each group with three sheets of newsprint, markers, scissors, tape or glue, and a variety of newspapers and magazines. **Ask** the participants to write one of the following headings at the top of each sheet of newsprint:

- Cooperation
- Lack of Cooperation
- Ambiguous

Explain that they are to work in their groups to find stories or pictures that fit the headings as described here. They should cut out each story or picture they find and attach it to the appropriate newsprint:

- **Cooperation:** situations, images, or events that illustrate human cooperation with God’s creation and purposes
 - **Lack of Cooperation:** situations, images, or events that illustrate a lack of cooperation with God
 - **Ambiguous:** situations, images, or events that are ambiguous—that is, the group members cannot decide whether they illustrate cooperation or a lack of cooperation
2. **Invite** each group to share its findings with the rest of the class. **Highlight** some of the examples of human cooperation that surfaced during the discussion.
 3. **Share** the following comments in your own words:
 - Human beings are the crown of God’s creation. Made in the image of God, we alone are capable of knowing God and freely returning his love.
 - The first Creation story teaches us that God gives human beings a special responsibility for caring for creation, called stewardship.
 - The Garden of Eden symbolizes the ideal relationship that God intended to have with human beings. Adam and Eve see God face-to-face. They are in a perfect state of holiness and justice.
 - God’s only command to Adam and Eve was to not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Adam and Eve disobeyed God and committed the first sin.



- Adam and Eve's sin has consequences, not just for them but for all of us! The harmony that should exist between people, between human beings and nature, and between people and God has been wounded.
- The Catholic Church explains the impact of Adam and Eve's sin in its teaching on Original Sin.

Closing Prayer (5 minutes)

Following any announcements, **distribute** the handout "The Canticle of Brother Sun" (Document #: TX003371) to each participant. **Close** by praying the prayer, alternating sides, with girls and boys praying different verses, or break it up in some other way to provide variety.

