

Lesson Plan for Lesson 22

Sacraments at the Service of Communion

Preparation and Supplies

- Study chapter 22, “Sacraments at the Service of Communion,” in the handbook.
- Gather five Bibles, five markers, and eleven sheets of newsprint.

Pray It! (5 minutes)

Tell the participants that class is going to begin with a prayer for vocations. **Select** a volunteer to read Mark 1:16–20. Then **lead** the following prayer:

- Father you call each one of us by name and ask us to follow you. Bless your Church by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve your people as sisters, priests, brothers, deacons, and lay ministers. Inspire us as we grow to know you, and open our hearts to hear your call. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Study It! (40 to 50 minutes, depending on your class length)

A. The Origins of the Priesthood

1. **Direct** the participants to form five groups. **Distribute** to each group a Bible, a marker, and a sheet of newsprint. **Assign** each group one of the following Scripture readings: Exodus 3:1–5, 1 Samuel 3:1–20, Isaiah 6:1–13, Jeremiah 1:4–10, and Luke 1:26–38. **Ask** each group to select one person to read the assigned passage and one person to write on the sheet of newsprint the group’s answers to the following questions, based on the Scripture readings:
 - Whom does God call?
 - What does God call the individual to do?
 - What is the individual’s initial response to God’s call? Why? What is the person’s final response? Why?

If there is time, **invite** someone from each group to share the group’s responses to the questions. **Post** the sheets of newsprint in the meeting space.

2. **Direct** the participants to read the chapter introduction and the section “The Origins of the Priesthood,” on pages 237–239 in the handbook. The content covers point 1 on the handout “Lesson 22 Summary” (Document #: TX003402).
3. **(Optional) Invite** questions and observations on the content.



B. Ministries of Ordained Ministers

1. **Conduct** a brainstorming session on the following question: What qualities do you think are necessary for Church leadership? **Record** the participants' answers on the board.
2. **Direct** the participants to read the sections "Ministries of Ordained Ministers" and "The Rite of Ordination," on pages 240–244 in the handbook. The content covers points 2 through 6 on the handout "Lesson 22 Summary."
3. *(Optional)* Following the reading, **direct** the participants to the Reflect directions and questions on page 242 and lead a discussion on the responsibilities of deacons, priests, and bishops.

C. Marriage in the Bible

Direct the participants to read the sections "Marriage in the Bible," "The Meaning of Married Love," and "The Rite of Matrimony," on pages 245–248 in the handbook. The content covers points 7 through 9 on the handout "Lesson 22 Summary."

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

Live It! (10 to 15 minutes)

1. **Direct** the participants to form five groups. **Distribute** a Bible, a marker, and a sheet of newsprint to each group, and **assign** each group one of the following readings:
 - Song of Solomon 2:8–10,14,16; 8:6–7
 - Tobit 7:9–16
 - Matthew 5:11–12
 - Romans 8:31–35,37–39
 - Colossians 3:12–17**Explain** the task as follows:
 - Each group is to identify characteristics of Christian marital love that are illustrated in the Scripture passages they have been assigned.
 - Each group has 5 minutes to complete this task.
2. **Invite** one person from each group to give a brief summary of the group's reading and to share the characteristics of Christian marital love that her or his group identified from the reading. **List** each group's responses on newsprint. **Invite** the participants to identify married couples they know who are examples of each of the characteristics of Christian marital love listed on the newsprint. **Record** their names to use in the closing prayer.
3. **Share** the following comment in your own words:
 - The Bible teaches us that the Sacrament of Matrimony signifies the union of Christ and the Church. The permanent nature of the marriage union symbolizes God's unending love for all humanity. The Sacrament gives a husband and wife the grace to love each other as Christ loves the Church.



Optional Activity: Use the handout “Commitment Card” (Document #: TX003403) as a way to encourage the young people to spend time listening to God’s call in their own lives. **Make** enough copies so that each participant receives a commitment card to sign and take home.

Closing Prayer (5 minutes)

Following any announcements, **direct** the young people to find the Pray It! “Anniversary Prayer,” on page 245 in the handbook. **Lead** them in praying the prayer together, with all participants taking a turn to call out the names of the couples they identified in step 2 of the Live It! activity.

