



## CLASSROOM IDEA

# The Question of Civil Disobedience

This activity encourages the students to consider the value of civil disobedience as a Christian practice.

### Materials Needed:

- the definition of *civil disobedience* from the Merriam-Webster online dictionary
- copies of the handout “Civil Disobedience Quotations,” one for every two students

- 1.** Invite a student to read aloud the article “Civil Disobedience” from the *CYB* near Luke 19:45-48. Provide the students with the standard definition for the term *civil disobedience* from the Merriam-Webster online dictionary. Ask the students to define *civil disobedience* in their own words. Read aloud Luke 19:45–48. Ask the students the following question: “How does Jesus demonstrate an act of civil disobedience in this passage?”
- 2.** Arrange the students into pairs and give each pair a copy of the handout. Ask the students to follow the directions on the handout and write their responses together. Tell them their responses will be collected at the end of class.
- 3.** Engage the entire group in a discussion about the value of civil disobedience. Ask the students the following questions:
  - Do you feel that civil disobedience is an effective way to promote meaningful change? Why or why not?
  - Could civil disobedience be considered a Christian practice?
  - What situations of injustice would Jesus take a stand against today?

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This activity and handout is taken from *Catholic Social Teaching Activities*, which is part of the online resources for *The Catholic Youth Bible*, fourth edition.

