

ICE BREAKER/GETTING TO KNOW THE TEENS

- I. Skittle Game: each color signifies a topic theme (keep in mind we end at 7:15)

LAUNCHING QUESTIONS: GETTING THE CONVERSATION GOING

Let them share and discuss

- II. What stood out to you from the main talk today?
III. What are some of the things that you can relate to?
IV. What have you enjoyed/taken from the program?
V. What are you looking forward to, confirmation or post?
 - *Some might answer that they are excited to be done and over with this*
 - *Opportunity to relate and share your experience/mindset during your confirmation and your turning point*VI. Opportunity for testimony
 - *Emphasize the aspect of God calling us to relationship*

CALLED FOR RELATIONSHIP

- *In your terms, reveal how we are created for a relationship. How even by coming into existence, we were made from a relationship. How it's one of our deepest longings in our hearts to be known.*
- I. How have you found this to be true in life?
II. **What does it take to make a friendship, other relationships, teams, groups, or communities grow? Have them name a couple of attributes of building solid relationships.**

Reflection of God's Desire

Read: "See what love the Father has given us that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are?" – 1 John 3:1

- III. What sticks out to you in this verse?

RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENED

Love and friendship can't endure indifference. They need to be known and wanted. Like a lamp, they need to be fed out of the oil of another; otherwise, their lights burn low.

- I. Do you find this to be true?
II. So, in faith, our relationship with God, just like all relationships, must grow and mature; otherwise, it withers?

Explain below the ways God Strengthens our relationship with him and one another:

Strengthen by the Sacraments

"God created us with a purpose: to become holy and like His Son. That He desires for us to have a faith-filled life is impossible without His grace in our lives; So, God gives us the sacraments where He reaches out through extraordinary means to intervene in our life and bestow His grace in an outward physical way."

Confirmation Retreat 2024

I. Reflection of the sacraments of Initiation:

- what are they? **Baptism Confirmation and Eucharist**
- What are their effects?
God welcomes us into his family, the church, and gives us the strength and the nourishment to sustain us on our walk and journey in life.

II. Sacrament of Confirmation?

- *The sacrament where God sends His Holy Spirit to stir in us the gifts received in baptism. It strengthens those gifts to help live fruitful and spiritual lives.*
- *Examples of the effects of confirmation: A cup of milk with chocolate syrup, and the chocolate is settled at the bottom. At confirmation, HS analogously stirs the milk and syrup. He awakens and strengthens those gifts*
- *Another is that our bodies when born, have everything we need for human life to reach its full maturity. Through adolescence, the body goes through a process of change that unleashes its full maturity to adulthood.*
- *Confirmation completes baptismal grace like adolescents' complete childhood. It does not bring it to an end. It brings a sense of readiness to live an entire adult life. So, Confirmation completes what was given in baptism and strengthens us to grow to full maturity.*

Gifts are given at confirmation

I. Gifts given at Confirmation to strengthen us on our journey are

- Wisdom, understanding, knowledge, fortitude, counsel, piety, and fear of the lord
- **Could ask them what they fear they need the most now and why?**
- Have them keep this in mind on the day of their confirmation.

Strengthen through Community

I. Here, you can talk about the importance of a church community. **You can ask the saints to talk about who their saint is and why they chose that saint.**

- **Ask them to discuss information about there saints.**

INVITATION

End with the importance of community and invite them how to continue to plug in

I. Ways to stay involved

- Ministry: Sunday youth choir 5 pm, care for our typical home, social justice group, altar serving, service
- Youth-oriented events: Sunday nights (Events entail fellowship, social outings, small group sharing) Retreats, Workcamp, Steubenville, men's and women groups

BISHOP QUESTIONS

Feel free to use the time reviewing the bishop questions