

Generation to Generation: Year 2

Before the class, take some time to see if there is anything that the students are still missing (service hours, etc.), so that you can touch base with the parents to remind them.

Begin with introductions / getting reacquainted while taking attendance.

- Use an ice breaker question to be answered after they've introduced themselves.
 - Examples: Favorite holiday / book / movie / song / etc...and why?
 - To make it more fun, have the teen and parent answer this question for the other.
- End with yourself, give a brief bio and why you're here, and your goals for the year and for the students.

Opening prayer

- Thank the Lord for these committed parents, who are the first catechists in these teens' lives.
- Invite the Holy Spirit to open hearts and minds and to guide the discussion.

Things to cover:

- Pull from anything you remember from meeting with the parents last year.
- They're getting closer in their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, and how that should mean something to them, and to their family.
- A refresher on what Confirmation is? (ask the students and then expand upon)
 - It is not graduation, but a sacrament that completes their initiation into the Catholic Church, and one that will hopefully change the course of their lives, if taken seriously.
- Ask the parents to think back to their own Confirmation. What do they remember?
Who were their Confirmation saints and why? Why are they Catholic still today?
Why are they wanting their teen to be Confirmed? Why are the teens wanting to be Confirmed?
 - Share what you remember also, and about your saint.
 - Mention that those who did not have memorable experiences, or who don't seem too excited/convicted when talking about their faith - that this is why we want things to be different for their teen.
- You're here to journey with their teens all year, and to help them develop a closer relationship with Jesus Christ and to have a deeper appreciation and love for our faith. To know this is reinforced at home is so important, and parents should be journeying with their teens as well. You would like to be a support for their family.
- Support what was mentioned at the parent meeting with Elizabeth.
 - Precepts of the Catholic Church, etc
- Acknowledge any discomfort in the room. This isn't to make anyone feel bad, but can hopefully put some positive changes into motion. The past doesn't matter - they can make a commitment to this together.
- Ask if there's anything positive they've intentionally changed regarding their family's walk since last year? (i.e. started praying before meals more regularly, going as a family to Reconciliation, volunteering or donating more frequently, etc.)
- Ask if they can describe any obstacles they may have encountered in their Catholic walk since their began this process last year? Either on the personal or family level, that they want to share. (i.e. noticed that temptations are harder to avoid than they used to be, started recognizing how much the world emphasizes non-Christian values, etc.)
- Ask them to explain how this journey with their teen in the Chosen program has impacted their life overall? (i.e. renewed awakening to your own spirituality, more aware of the blessings from God in your life, etc.)

- Reiterate that you aren't here to judge (Oscar Wilde once said: The only difference between the saint and the sinner is that every saint has a past, and every sinner has a future), but that it is their responsibility as a parent to pass on the faith.
- Suggest and discuss more opportunities for them to share their faith together as a family:
 - Practice your faith together (going to Mass together, Confession, praying together)
 - Begin new family traditions:
 - If you don't pray as a family, at least before meals, start now!
 - Spend time in front of the Blessed Sacrament together
 - Pray the rosary together
 - Carve time out of your day to discuss what your teen is learning in class
- Reminder about the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the healing received. They can have a fresh start, for themselves and for their families, if they take the first step.
 - Not just forgiveness, but a Sacrament—a channel for God's grace to help us to good and avoid sin.
 - St. Michael's Reconciliation times:
 - Saturdays from 9:30-10:30am
 - Wednesdays from 5:00-6:00pm
- Go over the Make-up Class forms.
- If time allows, ask if there are any questions anyone has about our faith that they may not necessarily understand. If you don't know the answer, tell them so, but that you will get back to them.

Close in prayer (feel free to ask for a volunteer, but be prepared to do it yourself if not)

*Hopefully, this will at least get the conversation started between the teens and their parents.
Again, you are only planting seeds, God will do the rest!*