

Years 3 & 4 Experiential Learning Activity - Sunday 01/08/2010

Time: 10 minutes

Aim: To highlight the importance of giving our full attention to God

Materials: Mr Potato Head head, with cut out *eyes*, *ears* and *mouth* out of place.
(Joanne will supply these)

Introduction: ~ 1 min

- God blessed us with 5 senses. He gave us eyes to see; ears to hear; nose to smell; mouth to taste and speak; and the sense of touch.
- It may be an idea to ask the class to call out the 5 senses.
- He gave us these gifts so that we may use them to praise and worship Him.
- But sometimes they get a little muddled up...

Activity ~ 6 mins

- Show the class the muddled up Mr Potato Head image

Scenario 1 - Ears

- Imagine you are/Have you ever been in class at school, in the middle of a lesson, and you are distracted by something outside, or you are daydreaming about something else (you may give an example to engage them) and suddenly your teacher asks you to answer the question she just asked the class!?
- What just happened? You got distracted. You weren't concentrating. You weren't using the ears that God gave you.
- Is it because your ears have a mind of their own and weren't working? Or were you simply not listening?
- Encourage short discussion to get the class involved. Time permitting; see if they can think of another situation that this may happen.
- Ask one of the class to help you move the ears back to the appropriate position on Mr Potato Head's head!

Scenario 2 - Eyes

- Have you ever seen a new person at school/church that were meaning to go say "Hi" to, but got distracted by all the fun you were already having. You didn't want to miss out!
- Was it because your eyes just weren't working? Do you have poor eyesight? Or were you just not acting on what you had seen? Were you ignoring what you had just seen?
- Alternative scenario is:
- Have you ever seen something rude, scary or inappropriate on TV/internet/movies and continued watching, even if it was with your family or friends?

- Is it because your eyes can't see that it is wrong to keep watching? Or that you weren't using the vision that God blessed you with? Are you not being careful what you let the eyes that God gave you see?
- Encourage short discussion to get the class involved. Time permitting; see if they can think of another situation that this may happen.
- Ask one of the class to help you move the eyes back to the appropriate position on Mr Potato Head's head!

Scenario 3 - Mouth

- Have you ever/imagine you have been nasty to someone, or made fun of him or her, or spoke about him or her behind his or her back. Maybe they said something nasty to you, and your doing the same back to them!
- Is this right?
- Is this because your mouth is sinning? Or is it because you have not been careful with your words. God has blessed us with the ability to communicate with one another. Are we using that gift in the right and Christian way?
- Alternative scenario is:
 - Lying
 - Swearing
- Encourage short discussion to get the class involved. Time permitting; see if they can think of another situation that this may happen.
- Ask one of the class to help you move the mouth back to the appropriate position on Mr Potato Head's head!

Conclusion/Summary ~ 3mins

- We can't blame our ears for not hearing; our eyes for not seeing.
- We need to take care of what each of our senses do, and use God's gifts appropriately.
- *Question:* When is a time that God is trying to talk to us, and we may not be giving our full attention???
- *Answer:* An example is in the mass
- We may get there on time, we may go every week, and we may have Holy Communion... but sometimes...
 - Our ears don't concentrate on Abouna's sermon, or the words that God wants us to hear
 - Our eyes don't concentrate on the altar, and we get distracted easily. Or we may even drift off to sleep!!!
 - Our mouths don't sing along with the mass, and the responses that we are meant to say, or give praise to God.
- *Question:* What are some ways we can focus all our concentration, attention and senses on God?
- *Answer:* in regards to mass, church, family, friends school.
- Encourage discussion.

Please adjust/change the activity to best suit your class. Please let me know if you have any suggestions for this activity.