



CREATIVITY

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



yahad.mt

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ABOUT THIS SESSION

This session is an activity-based session in which young people are invited to just hang-out and create something together. It is based on the premise that young people especially have the creativity and capacity to bring positive change to the world around them.

GOAL

- To give young people the space to think of solutions to problems they see in the world around them.
- To give young people the time to create something tangible.

RESOURCES NEEDED

- Anything and everything that can be used for a craft: paper, boxes, paint, string, clay, old magazines, used wrapping paper, rags, glue... anything you can get your hands on.
- It is highly encouraged to use pre-used materials.

SCRIPTURE

- Isaiah 43:16-21

CREATIVITY
Summary & Team Overview

Welcoming & Opening
Prayer

Explanation of Activity

Closing & Prayer

Welcome and Opening Prayer (5 mins)

Activity (60 mins)

- Divide young people into small groups of between 3 and 5.
- Ask each group to identify what they consider a major problem in today's world.
- Invite them to think of a way to improve this problem and present their solution through something they create with the resources available.
- Let the young people have some fun and have the time to create something physical.

Young people tend to have less opportunities to just do practical things, so let them enjoy "wasting time" on creating something, even if it's abstract.

This will give them the opportunity to:

- *Reflect on the world around them,*
- *Discuss with their peers to think of a creative solution,*
- *Work together in teams,*
- *Practice temperance with the resources they need to share,*
- *Create something tangible, and be hands on.*

After the allotted amount of time has passed, invite each group to share what they've created and the thought behind it. Make sure that there is enough time for each group to share.

Closing Prayer (2 mins)

During closing prayer, read a short excerpt from Sunday's First Reading.

Isaiah 43:18-21

"Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild beasts will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise."

Invite young people to offer up their own intentions, based on what they had just created, to the Lord in prayer.

Our World

In May 2021, it was reported that a staggering 1,500 homeless people, including 400 minors, applied for refuge at YMCA's shelters in the previous two years. Given that homelessness is often hidden or invisible, we often think that as a country we are immune to this social issue. Unfortunately, the truth is that many individuals and families are facing this reality on a daily level, very often in silence.

Reflection from Lent Resources #YAHADMT

As we read in the Book of Proverbs: "Where there is no vision, the people perish" (Prov 29, 18). This failure of vision is also a failure of imagination, a failure to creatively imagine a different future than the present we live in, a failure to dream that another world is possible. Ultimately, this widespread lack of vision reflects a lack of hope.

In this context, our society urgently needs to hear and rally around a prophetic and credible vision for us and our children. The vision proposed by the Church and specifically by Pope Francis in *Laudato Si* and *Fratelli Tutti* speaks of a society built on justice, truth and solidarity. Many are those who will object to this vision, not in principle, but by arguing that it is an impossible and hopeless task. It is our duty, as Christians and citizens of goodwill, to provide indications of hope.

We are maybe in the presence of something new which is being born which, alas, is not clearly discernible in the alternatives of the present. The prophet Isaiah in today's first reading, speaks of a God who does something completely new and makes a way in what at first appears to be a barren desert and wasteland. Likewise, the Church itself ought to

be a key indication of hope, a living alternative, creatively infusing and challenging the social sphere with a more radical vision of God's dream for humanity: In the priority we give to those with no economic value, in the way we strive for justice even when all seems lost, in the way we continue to faithfully engage in dialogue when all around us. walls of prejudice are being erected.