

Holy Week Youth Night

What you will need:

A Smart TV or Large computer monitor to show a video from YouTube

Music (stereo, phone and speakers, etc.)

Cardstock cut into ½ sheets, one for each card you plan to make plus extras for mishaps

Markers

Enough adult leaders for each small group discussion

1-3 Raw Potatoes depending on the size of your group

Prep:

Contact a local nursing home (or a convent if you have one nearby) and ask if they would be interested in having your youth group make Easter cards to give to their residents. Find out how many residents are currently living there.

Watch Fr. Mike Schmitz video “The Role of Hope in Holy Week”

Set up the TV or computer and make sure you can play the video before youth night to work out any bugs

Make copies of the discussion questions. One for each small group

Make copies of the samples of Easter cards to give the students inspiration

Create some “Consequences” for the game

After the Meeting:

Check the cards for appropriateness

Drop the cards off at the nursing home

Holy Week Youth Night Agenda

Prayer: Dear God, Thank You for the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus. We want to celebrate Him every day of our lives. In a world that grows increasingly dark, help us hold up His light. Give us the courage to speak as boldly as Mary Magdalene did, and never be ashamed of proclaiming Your Good News. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Video: Fr. Mike Schmitz "The Role of Hope in Holy Week"
<https://youtu.be/4sgbQJsS8uE>

Small Group Discussion: Break into small groups. Hand out discussion questions to adult leaders.

1. Why do we need hope?
2. How does Jesus' resurrection help you feel hopeful?
3. What is something you are hopeful for this Lent/Easter?
4. What brings you hope when you are experiencing fear?
5. What do you think is the opposite of hope?
6. Can we have hope without Jesus? Why or Why Not?
7. How can you help others who are suffering from a lack of hope?

Easter Cards for Elderly: Pass out card stock and markers. Have the samples available for inspiration. You can play some music like "At the Cross", "It Was Love", or other good resurrection songs while the students work.

Say: **One way we can give hope to others this Easter is to make cards for our elderly neighbors who may be feeling lonely this Easter. Some of the residents at the nursing home may not have family able to come visit them, and maybe a card from you will give them a brighter Easter.**

Consequences: The game is like hot potato. Have the students get into a circle. Give 1-3 students a potato depending on the size of your group (or use another small object that can be passed between students quickly). Start the music and have the students pass the potatoes around the circle clockwise. Stop the music randomly. When the music stops, the students holding the potato must do a "consequence". Consequences could be like cry out like a baby, dab, do a cartwheel, do the Chicken Dance, etc. Create some funny consequences to keep handy.

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