

# Level 6

## Guiding New Generations



**Focus: Passing the torch, wisdom, values, responsibility, community.**

Participants will identify the importance of relationships and values within the church and the larger community; the challenge of sharing their wisdom, acting responsibly, and witnessing to the world by demonstrating and sharing their values and ethics with others.

### For Each Objective,

preface with the words:

“ *By the end of this lesson or study theme, students should be able to:* ”



#### Session 1

##### Every Family Has A Story

- ◆ **Define and reflect** on the concept of wisdom: What does it mean to you personally, and when have perceived wisdom in your life? Read and discuss I Kings, 3:5 - 15, concentrating on why King Solomon valued wisdom enough to ask for it instead of wealth or power. (session 1)
- ◆ **Begin a journal.** What words of wisdom/experiences would you pass along to your friends and relatives? Consider illustrating your entries with art, photographs, or narratives. (session 1)



#### Session 2

##### Life Together As Family

- ◆ **Reflect (identify) / Discuss** the relationships that are most important in your life. How have these changed as you have matured? What do you most value in relationships? (session 2)
- ◆ **Reflect** in your journal about the kinds of things you can do to encourage good relationships in your family, among friends and at church. (session 2)



Don't forget to explore the other *Group Levels* in this study theme!



- ★ Level 1
- ★ Level 2
- ★ Level 3
- ★ Level 4
- ★ Level 5
- ★ Level 6



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### Session 4

#### Members of God's Family

- ◆ **Narrate** examples of love in action from your own life or the life of someone close to you. **Select** one of these examples and **reflect** in your journal on its significance in your life. (session 4)
- ◆ **Cite** examples of church members, leaders, or saints who changed the world through their loving actions (Consider using the *Prologue of Ochrid* and the biblical account in Hebrews 11:1-12:15. **Relate** this also to persons who helped build up the Church in America. **Discuss** the variety of histories among the saints you have presented. **Classify** these examples as martyrs, apostles, disciples, apologists, unmercenaries, etc.
- ◆ **Read** I Corinthians 13:1-13 and substitute your name each time the word "love" occurs. **Reflect** (in your journal) on what progress you have made in your own understanding of love and **predict** how you will be perfected in the Kingdom of God, considering that the goal of an Orthodox Christian is deification. session 4)



### Session 3

#### God's Story and God's People

- ◆ **Read** I Peter 2: 4 -10 and **reflect** on the meaning of this passage. What does it mean to be called as members of a "holy priesthood" or a "holy nation" and how might this passage apply to our life as Christians? (session 3)
- ◆ **Read** I Peter 3:8-4:11. **Identify, list and discuss** the values stressed in this passage, considering particularly what is said about suffering in 3:17, and how you can use your gifts to show your love for others. (sessions 3-4)



### Session 5

#### Every Parish Has A Story

- **Read and discuss** Hebrews 13:7-8. **Exchange** stories about past or present leaders or members of your parish who made an impression on you. Reflect in your journal about the example you will leave for others. (session 5)
- **Discuss** past events in your parish history. **Discern** which were formative, challenging, inspiring, etc. and which were detrimental to the development of the parish community. **Reflect and journal** on the role you played in these events, and what you learned in the process. (session 5)



Check out these other these other sections also!



- ★ Resource Bins
- ★ My Lesson Plans
- ★ Teacher Resources





**Session 6**  
*Being an Orthodox Christian*

- ◆ **Explain** how you make newcomers welcome in your neighborhood as well as in your parish. **Discuss** the differences and similarities in the methods of welcoming strangers. Consider the message of Hebrews 13:1-2. (session 6)
- ◆ **Construct** a welcome packet for new neighbors with a basic map, nearest neighbors, names/phone numbers for emergencies, churches, shopping advice, doctors/dentists, etc. Make a similar packet welcoming new members into the parish. Include a map of the area around the church, phone numbers for the priest, church office, parish hall, etc., schedule of services, a calendar of events, and a recent bulletin, or anything else you consider necessary for integration into your parish family. (See **Parish Literature/Resources**.) (sessions 6-7)

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**Session 7**  
*The Work of God's People*

- ◆ **Read** Matthew 25:31-46 (the Last Judgment). **Discuss** our responsibilities in serving one another as members of the body of Christ.
- ◆ **Commit** a few hours of your time each week to community service.
- ◆ **Organize/participate** in a group to check in regularly on the elderly in your area. Plan transportation for the elderly to church, doctors, etc. (session 7)



**Session 8**  
*Following God in Our Lives*

- ◆ **List** ways to be responsible and accountable to yourself, family, church, etc., by managing wisely your finances, insurance, health and bequests. **Share** methods of stewardship practical for you and others in your age group. (session 8)
- ◆ **Correlate** your faith with how you express it through works. **Read** James 1:22-2:26, and discuss its meaning and significance to your own experience. **Reflect** in your journal the works you individually can do to express your faith. (session 8)



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