

# Religious Education Home Learning Grid

	Activity 1	Activity 2	Activity 3
<p><b>Week 1</b> We are learning that people are free to do good</p>	<p>God created people to have 'free will' so that they can do what is good. Draw a 'Where's Wally' style community image that shows people in a community choosing to do good things for others.</p>	<p>As people grow, they can develop freedom and the ability to make choices for themselves that reflect love and respect. Colour the 'Freedom' image on Activity Sheet 1 and list around the outside ways that people are making choices that reflect love and respect.</p>	<p>It's not always easy to choose what is good for oneself and others. The gift of choosing what is good and loving needs practice. Throughout the day, journal the choices you have had to make in order to choose what is good for yourself and others.</p>
<p><b>Week 2</b> We are learning that Jesus teaches people to freely love and follow God</p>	<p>In the Gospel of Matthew, there is a story of a rich young man asking Jesus what he needs to do to go to heaven. Read the story on Activity Sheet 2 and reflect on the questions.</p>	<p>The Story of the Rich Young Man shows that God gives everyone the choice to freely love and follow God, or not. Talk to a parent about how you think the rich young man could have responded to Jesus' instructions differently.</p>	<p>Jesus knows that his followers will always be challenged to live as he taught. Create a comic strip that shows the rich young man responding differently to the request of Jesus.</p>
<p><b>Week 3</b> We are learning that Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit. The fruits of the Holy Spirit guide people to live as Jesus taught</p>	<p>Jesus promised his followers that he would send the Holy Spirit to give them the strength to live as he taught. Complete Activity Sheet 3.</p>	<p>The Holy Spirit gives people the power to live freely and to always choose what is good. Use Activity Sheet 4 to read about the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Highlight the key words and reflect on how the fruits of the Holy Spirit give you strength to choose good.</p>	<p>The fruits of the Holy Spirit are: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Design emoji fruit for each of the fruits of the Holy Spirit that reflect what each fruit is. For example, 'love' might be a strawberry giving a hug.</p>
<p><b>Week 4</b> We are learning that Christians recall stories of people guided by the Holy Spirit</p>	<p>Week-long project: Create a presentation in any way you choose (video, poster, PowerPoint, iBook etc) that explains how either Saint Stephen the Martyr or Saint Oscar Romero were guided by the Holy Spirit throughout their lives. See next boxes for suggested websites and resources.</p>	<p>Resources for research: Activity Sheet 5 Activity Sheet 6 <a href="https://bit.ly/2Prpl3C">https://bit.ly/2Prpl3C</a> <a href="https://bit.ly/2QEzoqE">https://bit.ly/2QEzoqE</a> <a href="https://bit.ly/2rvGFL6">https://bit.ly/2rvGFL6</a></p>	<p>Things you might want to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief description of the person</li> <li>• What they are known for doing during their life</li> <li>• How they were guided by the Holy Spirit (guided to make good choices)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Week 5</b> We are learning that the Sacrament of Confirmation guides people to live as Jesus wants</p>	<p>The Apostles, as Jesus intended, handed on the experience of being filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost to others through the Sacrament of Confirmation. Discuss Confirmation with a family member that has been Confirmed.</p>	<p>As people are guided by the fruits of the Holy Spirit, they find themselves developing the freedom needed to love God and others with all their heart, soul, mind and strength. Choose one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit and explore how you are guided by it.</p>	<p>The fruits of the Spirit are strengthened when people pray, participate in Mass, love their parents and family members, forgive others, show respect for others and the environment. Write a prayer asking for the fruits of the Holy Spirit to be strengthened.</p>

# Freedom to Make Choices that Reflect Love and Respect

True freedom is the capacity and the right to do what is good. As people grow, they can develop freedom and the ability to make choices for themselves that reflect love and respect. List how the people below are showing FREEDOM to make choices that reflect love and respect.



# The Story of the Rich Young Man

## The Rich Young Man

*And now a man came to him and asked, 'Master, what good deed must I do to possess eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you ask me about what is good? There is one alone who is good. But if you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.' He said, 'Which ones?' Jesus replied, 'These: You shall not kill. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false witness. Honour your father and your mother. You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' The young man said to him, 'I have kept all these. What more do I need to do?' Jesus said, 'If you wish to be perfect, go and sell your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But when the young man heard these words he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth. [Matthew 19:16-22]*

In the Gospel of Matthew, there is a story of a rich young man asking Jesus what he needs to do to go to heaven. First Jesus advises the man to obey the commandments. The man tells Jesus that he already does and asks what else he can do. Jesus tells him to sell his earthly possessions and follow him.

After speaking with the young man, Jesus let him walk away. Jesus gave him the choice to follow him or leave him. The young man chose the way of earthly riches rather than following Jesus.

The story of the rich young man shows that God gives everyone the choice to freely love and follow God, or not. Only love that comes from a free choice of the will is true love. Love is not true if there is no other option.

## Reflect...

How has the rich young man chosen to be a good person during his life?

What was the one thing the rich young man still needed to do?

Why do you think Jesus asked him to do this?

Why do you think wealth and possessions might get in the way of allowing people to always choose good?

## Jesus Promised to Send the Holy Spirit

*On the other hand the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control; no law can touch such things as these. All who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified self with all its passions and its desires. Since we are living by the Spirit, let our behaviour be guided by the Spirit and let us not be conceited or provocative and envious of one another. [Galatians 5:22-26]*

Jesus told his followers he would send the Holy Spirit to guide people on their journey as disciples of Jesus. The Holy Spirit opens peoples' hearts to the goodness and beauty of God in everyday life.

Create a 'word cloud' in the space below that includes the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Fruit of the Spirit	Strength from God	Real Life
<b>Love</b>	To love freely with a God-like love, unconditionally, and vigorously, not counting the cost.	Wanting what is good for the other person, sustaining commitment in relationships, strengthening true friendship, no matter what.
<b>Joy</b>	More serene and stable than worldly joy, which is merely emotional and lasts only for a time.	More than a passing worldly joy. Deeper than an emotional experience. It is rooted in God and comes from God. Connected not to the world but to faith and God.
<b>Peace</b>	The experience that everything is alright, that everything is in the hands of God.	The presence in people and their relationships of everything that should be there, a trust that everything is in the hands of God. The tranquil state of fearing nothing from God and being content with life. It means not trying to control others or things and being more content to allow things to unfold, rather than to control and manipulate the outcomes of life.
<b>Patience</b>	More willing to suffer the difficulties of life and of other people.	Being less needy to pay back wrongs and hurts. Being better able to cope with the imperfections of people and the world. Being able to endure the crosses and difficulties of life and not giving up when things are difficult.
<b>Kindness</b>	A Spirit-produced goodness which meets the needs of others and avoids harshness.	Goes beyond mere justice, it is being tender hearted and compassionate toward others. It means asking oneself "What would Jesus do?" and then doing the same.
<b>Goodness</b>	Flows from God's great love. It is loving all people without exception and doing what is right and best for others in every circumstance.	At times, it might include telling someone off or disciplining them. At other times it would include encouraging or reassuring. The key point seems to be what is good or best for the person.
<b>Trustfulness</b>	Being trustworthy, being faithful and reliable.	Being more trustworthy and reliable since faith gives people a sense that God is watching and they are accountable. Being trustworthy makes them more inclined to respect others and the commitments they make to them.
<b>Gentleness</b>	Being submissive to God and humble enough to be taught by God. It means to be considerate of others.	Being humble, gentle and respectful in relationships with God and people. Being generous and forgiving; avoiding resentment or revenge, being unselfish.
<b>Self-control</b>	Resisting the temptation to break God's laws.	Controlling oneself. It involves moderation, constraint, and the ability to say "no". It involves the ability to control thoughts, words, and actions. Self-control leads to perseverance as people value long-term good instead of instant gratification. Self-control is a gift that frees people. It frees them to enjoy the benefits of a healthy body and mind. It frees them to rest in the security of good stewardship. It frees them from a guilty conscience. Self-control gives people the freedom to love and live as God wants.

# Saint Stephen, the first Christian Martyr

## Stephen, the first Christian martyr

Stephen was a disciple of Jesus who was guided by the Holy Spirit to freely love and serve others and teach about Jesus.

Stephen was the first follower of Jesus in the Bible to be killed for being a Christian. He was one of the first deacons ordained by the Apostles [Acts 6:1-7]. Deacons were people who preached and were concerned for the material welfare of the first Christians. Jewish leaders did not like the followers of Jesus preaching about Jesus, whom they had put to death. The leaders made false accusations against Stephen [Acts 6:11-14] so that he would be convicted.

Stephen had to go before the court. Stephen was strengthened by the Spirit when he:

- told the court about Jesus, rather than be silenced by fear [Acts 7:1-54]
- told the court of a vision he was having during his trial of Jesus the Son of God in heaven [Acts 7:55-56]
- endured being stoned to death [Acts 7:57-59]
- forgave those who were stoning him to death [Acts 7:60]

Useful websites:

<https://bit.ly/2QEzoqE>

<https://bit.ly/2rvGFL6>





# Saint Oscar Romero

## Oscar Romero

Oscar Romero was a prominent Catholic Archbishop in El Salvador during the 1960s and 1970s. After witnessing many violations of the human rights of the people of El Salvador, he became a spokesperson for the poor and the victims of violence by the government of El Salvador. After speaking out against the government because of the violence they were doing against the people, Archbishop Romero was shot and killed while celebrating Mass.

Oscar Romero is someone who, when challenged with the decision between what was popular and what was right, chose to stand up for thousands of persecuted people, even at the risk of his own life.

He gave up his comfortable life in order to instill justice in his nation and as a result paid the ultimate price, giving up his life for the greater good.

Oscar Romero inspired the world to be better, to help those in need and to stand up for their beliefs in what they know is right, no matter the cost.

All Christians can celebrate Saint Oscar Romero's legacy by following his example, by challenging injustices wherever they see them and refusing to stay silent about the issues that keep people in poverty.

Oscar Romero freely defended human rights becoming known as the "voice for the voiceless".

Useful websites:

<https://bit.ly/2lcSJzW>

<https://bit.ly/2Prpl3C>

