



Day 3 Lesson Plan
Wednesday, October 2, 2013
English Grades 6–8, 9–12

Title: Solutions to Crime and Conflict—
Capital Punishment, Incarceration, and Restorative Justice
Grades: 6–8; 9–12
Timeframe: One class period with service-learning follow-up
Overview: Day 3 of a 5-day project

Essential Questions:

Is there any justification for purposely taking any human life?
What are the challenges to Jesus' teaching to forgive even our enemies?
What is the best way for me to talk about capital punishment?

What will the student learn:

Students will learn the history of capital punishment and the evolution of Christian thought on the subject, particularly the leadership of Blessed John Paul II. Students will be introduced to the themes of restorative justice and challenged to see that people convicted and incarcerated deserve better than to be locked up and forgotten. They will be introduced to services and organizations that work toward restoring the dignity of the most cast-aside.

Student Resources:

Student handout provides reading and questions that students can answer individually, in discussion groups, or as essay questions.

Videos (see links on website) reinforce themes.

Activities:

Students are offered several suggestions of positive, life-affirming service activities that they can do either individually, with their class, as an entire school, or in conjunction with their parish. These activities are age-appropriate and will all count for service hours.

Assessment:

Students can be assessed on activities or discussion/essay questions as appropriate for each class.

Additional Teaching Resources:

See website for Resources