

FLOATS

YEAR 1, 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

Get together the four ingredients you need to make floats: cups, spoons/straws, soda, and ice cream. Divide everybody into four even groups. Give each group only one float ingredient and enough for each person in the group to have 4 each. Group 1: each person is given 4 cups. Group 2: each person is given 4 sets of spoons and straws. Group 3: each person is given 4 soda cans. Group 4: each person is given 4 servings of ice cream.

Once all the ingredients are distributed, get everybody to form new groups that have all the ice cream float ingredients. There should now be newly formed groups of 4 people which have enough ice cream float ingredients to make one ice cream float for each person in the group.

When each group has made their ice cream float ask the groups to imagine that they are the other apostles wanting to write a letter to Peter. Instruct each group (as they enjoy their floats) to write one letter addressed to Peter about the apostles concerns, sentiments, hopes or best wishes after Jesus tells everyone that Peter will inherit the keys of the kingdom. Remind the groups that the apostles still think that Jesus' kingdom is an earthly one at this point. Pass out pencils and lined notebook paper to each group, and give them 5-7 minutes.

Gather back together and read the letters out loud for a bit of fun. Ask the teens to identify some common themes that the "apostles" shared in their letters and why they think those themes were common. Wrap it up by emphasizing God's authority and dominion over all creation and briefly explain how He shares that authority with His "bride" the Church.

Variations of this mixer could be: Banana splits (bowls, bananas, chocolate topping, ice cream), hot chocolate (mugs, spoons, hot chocolate mix, marshmallows)