

ROLE PLAY

YEAR 1, 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time

It's easier for some teens to understand the process of forgiveness when they see it from an outside view. Asking teens from the group to stand up and perform a skit helps the other teens visualize the proper steps to forgive. Tape a 3 different "conflict scenarios" outside the doors of 3 different rooms (one conflict scenario for each door). Explain to the group that we may not always want to defend goodness and peace but God says that is what we are obliged to do. Take five volunteers from the group to be actors. Assign different acting teams to a room and ask them to prepare the scene described outside the door (give actors at least 5 min). Divide everyone else into 3 groups and ask them to approach a door and read the "conflict scenario". After the actors are ready, each group can enter their room. Each group should elect a "counselor" to try and solve the problem inside the room.

Alternative *If you have a small group or a small space, you can elect to send a pair of actors outside the room to practice and then call them back into the room after the rest of the group has elected a "counselor" and the actors are done practicing.*

The actors and the counselor then create the scene for the other teens to watch. Afterward, let the teens dissect the scene and, if necessary, come up with better solutions than the acting counselor. Prompt the end of scene discussion with questions like: "Was the counselor successful?" "What might have occurred if the scene continued?"

Conflict Scenario # 1: Two really angry people are yelling at each other. One says that the other has been a real jerk to his/her friend and needs to go apologize. The other says s/he hasn't done anything to hurt that friend and that his/her friend is a manipulative liar.

Conflict Scenario # 2: A friend punched his/her younger sibling in the face and now the younger sibling keeps trying to run away. S/he is afraid to call his/her parents (who are out of town) or let any adults know about the way s/he treated his/her younger sibling.

Conflict Scenario # 3: A friend is sitting alone after school. S/he is depressed. S/he has even thought about suicide today and doesn't know what to do.