

PARENT / GUARDIAN CONNECTION

THIRD GRADE: TOB LESSON 7



THEME: ORIGINAL SOLITUDE (PART 1)

SOW THE SEED



Dear Parents,

In the creation of man, Pope St. John Paul II saw and named three “original experiences” **Original Solitude**, Original Unity, and Original Nakedness in his Theology of the Body (TOB) teachings. These experiences are called “original” because they are experiences of our original parents, Adam and Eve. They are “original” in the sense of happening first, but they are also called original because they are the experiences common to all of us and because they are foundational to what it means to be human. Though we all have many experiences in our lives, these original experiences reveal who we are at the deepest level, and therefore every other human experience is based upon them. The account of Genesis does not simply retell something that happened a long time ago, but explains to us what it means to be human now. In a way, the experiences of Adam and Eve can teach us and shed light on who we are today.

In this lesson, Original Solitude (Part 1): In the Beginning, the class will dive deeply into the creation story in Genesis. We will discuss how God created the human person to be a unique combination of body and soul. This creation gives us the freedom to choose between good and evil, to be in relationship with God and to follow Him.

Your child will begin a project, the “Salvation History Timeline” that will last for the next 3 lessons. This class activity is called “In the Beginning.” Your child will begin to witness how he/she is part of a bigger story with purpose and meaning, and how God is present in our own lives and story.

GERMINATE THE SEED



FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Do you feel God’s presence when you are alone? Are there particular places where you feel God’s presence more than others? For example, in nature, in church, in your room? ****(Note to parents: Solitude is different than loneliness, it could be described as Alone-with God. Encourage your children to call upon God and talk to Him when they feel alone. Explain to them that He is always with them and loves talking to them in prayer).***





FAMILY ACTIVITY:

Make a list of people and things that God has provided in your life that remind you that He is with you, even when you are by yourself.

FAMILY PRAYER:

Lectio Divina (Listening to God's Word and allowing it to touch our hearts in prayer) — Read slowly 2-3 times this gospel passage, John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life." Share your thoughts and ideas that came to your mind and heart each time it was read.

Stay up to date with the TOB lessons your child is learning in the classroom. Look for the leaf at the bottom of your child's worksheets to see a summary of their current TOB lesson labeled "THEOLOGY OF THE BODY TIDBITS."

Want to learn more? Visit RuahWoodsInstitute.org/parents to view a TOB parent presentation.

