

## 6th & 7th Grade Edge Homestudy

# Lesson #7: Masterpiece

If God Exists, How Does That Change My Life?

## GOAL

The goal of this lesson is to show you that you will find purpose for your life in light of the truth of who God is.

## TEACHING

### **The Masterpiece**

For a variety of reasons, different pieces of art and music are considered masterpieces and are put on display and remembered throughout history. They are marveled at for their beauty, the artist's or musician's attention to detail, or the unique way they reveal something about the world. Even though we never saw or knew the artist, we know that they are real because we see what they made. They are remembered throughout history for the work they have done. In some cases we can know things about the artists who made the art because of the witness of people who knew them, wrote books about them, or recorded facts about them.

In the same way, God is made present in the world He has created. Even though we have not personally seen God, we can reasonably conclude that He is real and choose to have faith and believe because we see what He has made. It is also the case that we can know things about God because of the witness of people who knew Jesus, those who knew His apostles, and those who recorded facts about Jesus.

***Read John 14:9***

It is not unreasonable for us to trust people who recorded facts and told us about the lives of artists who created great masterpieces, and it is no less

reasonable for us to trust those who have passed on our faith and told us about Jesus and all He revealed about God.

## **Jesus Christ**

Every day we rely on the witness of others, and we oftentimes operate on trust of things that we cannot personally prove or do not know everything about. Through the witness of Jesus' apostles, followers, and the Church He established, we have both the Bible and the tradition of the Catholic Church, which give us reliable information about our faith. It is not unreasonable to rely on the witness of those who personally knew Jesus, knew people who knew Him, or have diligently studied all matters of the Catholic faith.

### ***Read Romans 10:13-17***

We learn from all of these sources about Jesus, who is the one who reveals God perfectly. Jesus teaches us how to live our lives and shows us what it looks like to follow God, love God, and love one another. (John 14:6) But God did not become man just so He could tell us about Himself; He became man to save us from our sins so we could be in a loving relationship with God — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — here and for eternity in heaven. This is what we were created for, and it is this love and relationship with God, who created us, that will bring meaning to every aspect of our lives.

## **Saying Yes**

Jesus asks us to say “yes” to a relationship with Him. When we choose to believe and follow God, our lives radically change — we will have a purpose, hope, and the true happiness we desire. We can choose to make meaning and purpose for ourselves and live our lives on our own terms, but, over time, we will discover that it is not enough. Or we can turn to God and learn how He created us and discover a better purpose for our lives than we could ever make on our own. In order to find this purpose and meaning for our lives, we have to know and seek God and respond to His invitation to be in a relationship with Him, which is possible through Jesus.

To say “yes” to this invitation does not mean that you have all of the answers to every single question, or that you are totally convinced by the answers you do have. It is about taking a reasonable step toward God, who is real and loves us as we know by both faith and reason. This “yes” does not have to be big or dramatic; it can be as simple as a prayer saying you are open

to learning more about God. It can be a big “yes” where you proclaim with everything you are that you believe in God and want to live for Him. Everyone’s journey is different and the way we seek God will be different. You do not need to be afraid to ask questions or seek, for God desires to be found and He is not far off.

## Prayer

*God has a purpose for our lives that incorporates our unique personality, the things we are good at doing, and what we are passionate about. It can even incorporate the times when we have messed up or done something wrong, because God can transform the messiest parts of our lives into a masterpiece.*

Take some time to think about some of the aspects of your life that you are passionate about. When you are ready, write or draw something that represents a unique part of yourself and contributes to your purpose on a notecard, sticky note, or in a journal.

*We know that all of the created world is extremely big and full of amazing and unbelievable things we can study and understand. We have learned that, through our intellect, we can reasonably conclude that God created it all — including us. We are each a unique part of God’s creation. While we may have the same interests, hobbies, talents, and desires as other people, we are each unrepeatable. God created us to be different than every other person, which means He created each of us with a unique purpose. We can try to make up that purpose on our own, but, over time, we will discover that it is not enough. When we turn to God and learn how He created us, we will discover a better purpose than we could ever make up on our own. We can begin to lean into God’s purpose for our lives now by looking at what we wrote on our sticky note and telling God that we want our purpose to begin with Him.*

Take a moment to look at a crucifix and silently talk to God about anything you are currently thinking, specifically anything that has to do with finding your purpose. If you do not have a crucifix in your home, look up a picture of one online. Pray the following prayer:

*As I grow stronger, my faith in you grows deeper  
and I am so thankful.*

*I know that the plan you have for my life  
will slowly unfold with each new day.*

*I will be patient as change comes  
because I know you are in charge.*

*Help me to help others today.*

Conclude the lesson by praying the Our Father.

## **Lectio Divina**

### **Read Psalm 121:2-8**

What word or verse jumped out at you?

What is God saying to you through this scripture?

What is God asking you to do?

**Read Ephesians 2:10**

What word or verse jumped out at you?

What is God saying to you through this scripture?

What is God asking you to do?

### **Questions**

- What is one movie you consider a masterpiece?

- Is there someone in your life who is a witness to who God is? Who is it and how are they a witness for Christ? How does their life seem to have purpose?

- What does a relationship with Jesus look like? How does Jesus help us understand our purpose?

- How do you determine your purpose in life? Where do you look?