

Making a Difference

Mother Teresa of Calcutta’s vision of humanity and her dedicated service to the poorest of the poor inspired people to help others rise to the potential that God had given them. Blessed Mother Teresa, through the ministry of the Missionaries of Charity, continues to make a difference to the lives of countless people. Mother Teresa and the Missionaries of Charity have something in common with you – like you they were created in the image of God, with many gifts and talents. They too spent many hours in classrooms, often daydreaming and wondering about their future. On the outside they looked just like any other young people, but on the inside a seed was being planted.

Reflect and Share

Join up with a partner to think of examples of people who are truly living the gospel in the world today. People you feel are ‘making a difference’. These can be people you know or people you have heard about, from any walk of life. For example, you might mention a person in your parish, school or neighbourhood who volunteers with a local agency that is serving people in need; or you might identify a person from the world of sport or entertainment who champions the rights and dignity of all people; or a politician who uses their position to influence the public debate on issues such as the right to life, and so on. Discuss briefly how each of these people ‘make a difference’ to the world in which we live. What difference will YOU make?

As you look around the classroom, see if you can make a list of each student’s unique talent or gift or special personality trait.

Then consider your list and think about the signs it holds of things that might come in the future of each of your classmates. For example, is anyone particularly interested in music, art, sport or writing? Is there anyone who is particularly kind and inclined to come to the aid of others? Anyone who gets concerned or angry about the plight of people who are suffering from poverty, neglect – at home or in the world’s poorer countries? Perhaps there are people in your group who are already making a real difference?

Do you believe that you have a responsibility to give something back? For example, to your parents? To your Church? To society? To God?

Do you have a sense that there is more to life than what you see in the advertisements on TV? What could that ‘more’ be?

SECTION F | LESSON 70 | WORKSHEET 1

Share your observations and insights in a class discussion on how each one of us can ‘make a difference’.
