



Charity or Justice

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Large print outs of the words 'Charity' and 'Justice'
- Dorothy Day quotes
- Lining paper, pens

WARM UP

Game: We need justice

Don't worry – it looks complicated but is simple really!

Sit 10-12 young people in a circle (if it's a larger group, use this number to demonstrate then split into multiple separate circles).

Turn to person on your right (player 1) and say, "We need justice."

Player 1 responds "What?"

You respond "Justice."

Hand player 1 the printed word.

Player 1 turns to the person on their right (player 2) and says, "We need justice."

Player 2 responds "What?"

Player 1 turns back to you and says 'What?'

You tell player 1 "Justice."

Player 1 tells player 2 "Justice," and passes them the printed word.

Player 2 turns to player 3 and says "We need justice."

3 to 2: "What?"

2 to 1: "What?"

1 to you: "What?"

You to 1: "Justice."

1 to 2: "Justice."

2 to 3: "Justice." Passes paper, etc.

At the same time, in exactly the same way, pass 'Charity' round in the other direction.

Everybody wins if both charity and justice go round the circle with no mistakes. If it goes wrong, start again, beginning somewhere else in the circle.

WARM UP

OR

Game: Spell with your bodies

Have young people spell out the words 'Charity' and 'Justice' using their bodies.

INTRO

Dorothy Day was an incredible Catholic committed to both charity and justice. Pope Francis mentioned four 'great Americans' in a speech when he visited the USA, and she was one of them. When she was young, Dorothy was no saint and apparently she could 'drink anybody under the table'. Even later in life she was someone who divided opinion. People saw her as a trouble maker - she was arrested multiple times for protesting.

She founded the Catholic Worker movement, which still exists today. Inspired by faith, it:

- Publishes a newspaper about Catholic Social Teaching, challenging Catholics to put faith in action, especially for the good of the poor
- Serves the poor, for example with houses of hospitality for refugees and people experiencing homelessness
- Challenges injustice and works for peace through campaigning and protesting

Perhaps one day Dorothy Day will be recognised as a saint. In this session we're going to get to know her a little.

ACTIVITY

Spread out the Dorothy Day quotes on the floor. Invite the young people to circulate, reading them all.

Ask them to stop by one that stands out to them.

Discuss with someone nearby:

- Why did you choose this quote?
- What does it mean to you?

Feed back to group.

Move to stand by a different quote, one that you agree with or that encourages you.

Discuss with someone nearby:

- Why did you choose this quote?
- What does it mean to you?

Feed back to group.

ACTIVITY

Move to stand by a different quote, one that challenges you or that you disagree with.

Discuss with someone nearby:

- Why did you choose this quote?
- What does it mean to you?

Feed back to group.

ACTIVITY

In small groups:

What qualities of Dorothy Day stand out for you?

Draw around one of the group on lining paper – add pictures, symbols or words etc. to show these qualities.

Share your pictures.

Feedback: Which qualities would you most like to develop yourself?

Notes:

Consider watching with your group the excellent film (available on Youtube) about Dorothy Day, "Entertaining Angels".

WRAPPING UP

Ask young people to discuss in pairs/small groups, then feed back:

- For us, today's session was about
- One thing we'll remember is