

~~CALL Teaching Objectives and Seminar Descriptions~~

Year 1: Theology of the Body

**Seminar A:**

**“Setting the Stage & Unpacking Genesis”**

***Description:** The current culture does not get it. We were created by God for union and communion through a gift of self. How do we live that way? In this seminar, Blessed John Paul II’s teachings in Theology of the Body help us understand how we should love others, and what our purpose is on this earth. We dip back into Genesis to learn about “who” we are really meant to be and how the body reveals God.*

1. Introduce God as the amazing designer, giving order and reason to creation.
2. Present Genesis accounts of creation of man as an ensouled body, made in the image of God, male and female for the purpose of union and communion.
3. Introduce the complementarity God created between man and woman.
4. Introduce the prevailing culture’s inadequate and sometimes erroneous picture of the human person, especially of sexual relationships, and struggles of individuals to see their worth and value as son/daughter of the Lord.
5. Introduce Theology of the Body and its author, St. John Paul II.
6. Present that Adam and Eve had the Divine Vision in their original nakedness. They saw the physical and spiritual in one another.
7. Explain that the body is sacramental because it is capable of revealing what is invisible, capable of revealing God.
8. Teach that the Trinity is a union and communion of fruitful, self-giving love, which humans mirror in all authentic relationships.
9. Teach the spousal meaning of the body: The body reveals God by becoming a gift. The body is made for union and communion through a sincere gift of self to others.
10. Clarify that Christ’s death and resurrection show ultimate self-giving love.

**Year 1 Seminar B:**

**“In Search of Freedom”**

***Description:** Do we treasure others or use them? Our culture has thrown away self-mastery and chastity, only to find the hook-up culture and heartache. It’s all because of the Fall of Man. But what if we lived personal virtue in relationships? In this seminar, we discuss recognizing genuine beauty, telling the truth with our bodies, and seeking authentic freedom, a freedom that is in the service of love.*

1. Discuss that with the loss of Divine Vision at the Fall, lust came into the world, leading people to reduce one another to objects for selfish purposes.
2. Teach that concupiscence, the tendency to sin, remains even after baptism, tempting us to use our freedom apart from God’s design.
3. Describe how in all types of relationships we can use our freedom to make a gift of ourselves by willing the good of others, instead of using them for our own desires apart from God’s will.
4. Teach that chastity and self-mastery in all relationships, including marital, provide freedom.
5. Explain that the ‘use mentality’ is the root of many societal ills and disordered behaviors in our society’s ‘hook-up’ culture.
6. Thoroughly describe and distinguish between love and lust.

7. Provide testimony that self-mastery heals the wounds that result from living an unchaste life.
8. Promote the virtue of modesty and authentic beauty.
9. Explain the difference between telling the truth with our bodies and lying with our bodies.
10. Demonstrate that true freedom that is not in the service of love can lead to slavery or addiction.

**Year 1 Seminar C:  
“Ultimate Destinations: The Call of God”**

**Description:** How do we choose which path to take if we haven’t thought about our destination? Of course, our destination is heaven, and each of us will have a different path to get there. This seminar will discuss vocations to marriage and the priesthood/religious life. And, this seminar will help us understand how our priests and religious experience a real participation in the heavenly reality. This might just be a heavenly seminar!

1. Define *eschaton* as the end of time, when Christ will come again, and explain that because we will all die, we need to prepare for our ultimate destination.
2. Clarify that our bodies will go with us to heaven where we will remain male or female.
3. Present facts about the priesthood/religious life. Priests and religious experience a real participation in the heavenly reality while on earth. Their celibacy is a sign that points to heaven.
4. Teach that everyone has a vocation, and discerning it should happen with a seriousness about being open to God’s call.
5. Explain that Spiritual Fatherhood or Motherhood is lived out by everyone, no matter what his/her state.
6. Provide testimony and teaching from vocations director, religious sister, and/or priest.

**Year 1 Seminar D:  
“Marriage: Myths and the Beautiful Realities”**

**Description:** *Hopefully we do not get our ideas about marriage from our current culture. Do we realize that marriage can mirror Christ’s love for the Church? And that through marriage, God’s love is made visible? This seminar explains the vows of marriage, the purpose of marriage, and chastity as preparation for any vocation. It also explains how sexual activity, used contrary to its purpose, has wide-reaching negative effects. Thank goodness, the Church has always treasured marriage and the beauty of marital intimacy.*

1. Contrast society’s view of marriage and the Church’s clear, enduring, and consistent understanding of this vocation.
2. Present St. Paul’s great analogy between marriage and Christ’s love for the Church, especially as it shows the spousal relationship of both husband and wife and Christ and His Bride, the Church.
3. Explain why marriage is a sacrament, in that through marriage, the invisible, God’s Trinitarian love, is made visible.
4. Teach that the four vows of marriage (free, total, faithful, and fruitful) also reflect Christ’s love for the Church.
5. Show that sexual activity used contrary to its purpose has negative emotional, physiological, and sociological side effects.

6. Present the two laws of Catholic sexual morality: Keep all sexual activity in marriage, and do not separate the two purposes, or ends, of marriage, which are unity and procreation.
7. Link societal ills to breaking those laws.
8. Discuss and propose chastity as preparation for vocation to either marriage or priesthood/religious life.
9. Introduce concept of remote marriage preparation for youth.
10. Provide practical ways to live out chastity in preparation for marriage.
11. Complementarity of feminine and masculine persons is presented as normal and good.

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**Year 2: Wonderfully Created in a Broken World**

**Year 2, Seminar A:**

**“Beauty of Biology”**

**“Feminine Sexuality: The Call to Spiritual Motherhood” and “Masculine Sexuality: Power & Responsibility”**

***Description:** Moms and Daughters in one room; Fathers and Sons in another and both rooms learn about the awe-inspiring bodies we have! Now that we have your attention, this seminar covers male/female reproductive anatomy and physiology, contraception and the contraceptive mentality, true masculinity and femininity, the unitive and procreative nature of marriage, age-appropriate scientific basis for Natural Family Planning, and sexual morality. The Church’s beautiful teachings intertwine with the truth of science to show us the beauty of our biology. Prepare to be amazed at God’s design.*

1. Teach Human Reproduction: anatomy and physiology nomenclature and internal processes leading to conception and implantation to impart awe and wonder at God’s creation and respect for the dignity of each sex.
2. Provide talking points regarding the details the marital embrace to parents, so they can teach in privacy when with their son/daughter when ready.
3. Teach complementarity of the sexes from biological, emotional, and theological context.
4. Discuss how embracing chastity provides freedom, protects the gift of sexuality and leads to authentic relationships.
5. Provide effectiveness and side effects of contraception.
6. Clearly impart the Church’s stance on contraception, that it is always an intrinsic evil.
7. Impart wisdom on how to honor God with our bodies.
8. Review and expand on the two laws of Catholic sexual morality: Keep all sexual activity in marriage, and do not separate the two purposes, or ends, of marriage, which are unity and procreation.
9. Review and expand concepts of call to motherhood; call to fatherhood.
10. Introduce the science of Natural Family Planning, without rules.
11. Provide healthy hygiene tips for women in the Feminine Sexuality seminar.

**Year 2, Seminar B:**

**“The Stand for Life”**

***Description:** Ever been challenged to defend your faith, but ended up in an unproductive argument? This seminar gives the opportunity to discuss life issues, especially abortion, from all angles - medical, sociological, theological, emotional, legal, etc. Teens prepare themselves to stand up for life with knowledge, courage, and compassion.*

1. Present apologetics of the Pro-Life defense, as developed by Justice for All.
2. Using scripts, demonstrate pro-life defense arguments, and provide time for each teen to practice in small groups.
3. Present human pre-natal development milestones.
4. Provide a chance for each teen to interact with anatomically correct prenatal models in small group.

5. Provide a post abortive testimony speaker or a video of a speaker from Silent No More.
6. Challenge teens to decide to always speak and act charitably in all pro-life discussions.

**Year 2, Seminar C:  
“Cultural Landscape”**

**Description:** *Let’s take a look at the Cultural Landscape, especially the hook-up culture and its effects on individuals, family, and society. Medical information regarding the effects of contraception, the reality of Sexually Transmitted Infection/Diseases, and myths about sexual activity are examined in this seminar. Would you know how to help someone suffering with post-abortion syndrome or guide someone who is facing a crisis pregnancy to a healthy decision? These, the media’s false portrayal of authentic relationships, and more will be contrasted with ordered relationships, future healthy dating within family parameters, and practical tips for living a chaste life in young adulthood.*

1. Call attention to the cultural landscape, especially the hook-up culture and its effects on individuals, family, and society.
2. Medical information regarding the effects of contraception, the reality of Sexually Transmitted Infections/Diseases, and myths about sexual activity are examined in this seminar.
3. Information to help a friend suffering with post-abortion syndrome or facing a crisis pregnancy is provided.
4. The media’s false portrayal of authentic relationships is contrasted with ordered relationships, future healthy dating within family parameters and practical tips for living a chaste life in young adulthood is provided.
5. Overpopulation myths are examined thoroughly.
6. Gender Theology is exposed as a false ideology and the Church’s response is discussed.

**Year 2, Seminar D:  
“Truth in a Disordered World”**

**Description:** *This seminar provides the Church’ historical, theological, and practical responses to the widespread use of contraceptives and the separation of the two purposes of the marital act, that hearkened the Culture of Death. Beginning with Pope Paul VI’s prophetic document *Humanae Vitae*, a historical view of the setting for this document and for St. Pope John Paul II’s *Theology of the Body* shows how reasonable it is to trust the Church. *Hope for living” in the world, but not of the world”* is offered by presenting the Virtues as the underpinnings of a true Catholic Worldview and demonstrating how they can provide practical assistance for this critical endeavor.*

1. Juxtaposing the Culture of Life vs. the Culture of Death, provide evidence that the Church provided warning for the societal ills that are now so prevalent.
2. Teach that Bl. Pope Paul VI wrote *Humane Vitae* to address the coming contraceptive culture and prophesied what widespread use of contraception would lead to.
3. Introduce that St. Pope John Paul II continued and greatly expanded teachings on sexuality in his groundbreaking *Theology of the Body*.
4. Provide evidence that we can trust the Church, our Mother.
5. The Church provides the guardrails to protect us from the Culture of Death.
6. The protection can be found in hearkening back to embracing the Virtues.

7. Virtues are firm attitudes, stable dispositions, and habitual perfections of intellect and will that govern our actions, order our passions, and guide our conduct according to reason and faith.
8. These virtues can be the remedy and the framework for addressing many practical social concerns of modern life.
9. The virtues, learned and practiced within the family, also provide much hope to the pervasive culture and promote a Culture of Life.
10. We need to be people of hope and trust and realize the importance of living a life of virtue.

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**Year 3: Bioethics and College Readiness**

**Year 3, Seminar A:**

**“Philosophical Basis for Christian Bioethics / Abortion & the Exploitation of Women”**

**Description:** *“That may be your truth, but it is not mine.” How does one live in a culture permeated with this sentiment? We begin presenting the Catholic Worldview by discussing natural law and revelation, discussing the idea of law in a society, and how private decisions affect society. We cover the legal history of abortion and how its acceptance reveals the de-valuation of the human person and the exploitation of women.*

1. Discuss who God is and who man is in relation to God.
2. Present and discuss the proper use of freedom.
3. Introduce and discuss several false ideologies, or “-isms” which are counterfeits for Truth: relativism, utilitarianism, etc.
4. Define and provide examples to articulate the concept of Natural Law.
5. Describe with examples what happens when people use human will over reason.
6. Compare our country’s slavery laws from history with present abortion laws.
7. Present five tragic Supreme Court cases regarding abortion.
8. Demonstrate the relationship between abortion and women’s rights, from both historical and rights perspective.
9. Provide context to show the importance of voting.

**Year 3, Seminar B:**

**“Understanding Biotechnology”**

**Description:** *We take up topics of Biotechnology such as cloning, IVF, sperm donor/egg extraction and sales, adult vs. embryonic stem cell research, and human engineering. This fascinating seminar will present the science behind biotechnology, the Church’s teachings on the value of every human person, as well as the laws regarding these issues. We look at Natural Law and our country’s founding documents to see what it means to legislate morality.*

1. Provide a context for the connection between law and morality.
2. Show the difference between morals and preferences.
3. Define conception as the moment when every human being comes into existence.
4. Discuss the concept of “Designer” babies and the injustice done to the child.
5. Demonstrate from Natural Law argumentation the dangers of biotechnology on family structure.
6. Review and expand on the two laws of Catholic sexual morality: Keep all sexual activity in marriage, and do not separate the two purposes, or ends, of marriage, which are unity and procreation.
7. Teach the process of cloning to show why it is always immoral.
8. Show 3-parent embryo research to explain injustice and sinfulness of scientific research that creates new human life only to destroy it.
9. Describe various types of stem cell therapies and show where each break Catholic moral law.

10. Evaluate medical interventions to assist with infertility as either in keeping with Catholic moral law or as breaking this law.
11. Define and discuss: Radical Feminism, Utilitarianism, Eugenics

**Year 3, Seminar C:  
“Forming Your Conscience / End-of-Life issues”**

**Description:** *We present important end-of-life issues, such as physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia, presented and examined within the framework necessary for moral decision-making. We examine laws and court decisions and think through our supportive roles as our loved ones go through the natural process of death. We examine the responsibility of each person to understand the morality of end-of-life issues at any stage of life from newborn, to the teenager in a life-threatening accident or illness, and to the elderly.*

1. Provide Church teaching regarding end-of-life issues and how that may differ from what the law allows.
2. Demonstrate the difference between Federal versus State law with end-of-life issues.
3. Provide the moral obligations regarding treating an ill person.
4. Introduce concept of Salvific Suffering and related Church documents.
5. Provide case studies to discuss as students grapple to understand real life implications of these issues.
6. Review and discuss false ideologies or “-isms” one will encounter in college.

**Year 3, Seminar D:  
“Encountering College Life”**

**Description:** *We review many false ideologies, or “-isms” which we’ve covered in the first three seminars, and a few more which will be encountered in college and adult life, relating them back to the topics discussed this year. Teens have a chance to interact with the material they have heard throughout the program, learning to identify false worldviews and to more fully understand, live by, and defend the teachings of the Church. What are our civic duties? How do we take on the responsibility of voting? What on earth is that professor talking about? What about my dorm roommate who has a vastly different code of moral behavior than I do? Brace yourselves! This seminar presents a realistic view of college life with the goal of entering into adult life prepared for happy, holy, and healthy careers, families, and futures.*

1. Provide statistics showing how many Catholics lose faith in college.
2. Starting with the ‘End in Mind’ helps us to make the most of college years. How do we want to live our adult life?
3. It is important to connect with a Catholic faith community immediately when arriving on campus.
4. As college students, it is important to be able to convey truth through natural law.
5. Share that what will sustain college students in secular surroundings is a deep encounter with Christ.
6. Introduce that now is time to develop habits to increase your prayer life now as a young adult.



7. Provide strategies on how to avoid giving scandal.
8. Provide a review of the many false ideologies “-isms” which will be encountered in life, relating them back to the bioethics topics discussed this year.
9. Demonstrate how to identify false worldviews and to more fully understand, live by, and defend the teachings of the Church.
10. Expose the false ideology of Gender Theory since it is prevalent on college campuses.
11. Provide assistance in finding Catholic community in secular colleges and how to evaluate colleges in terms of their faithfulness to the magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church.
12. Introduce time management techniques to fit in prayer, study, work, and leisure during college years.