

Chapter 5

****Lesson Plan : Defenders of True Faith****

****Objective:****

- 1 .To understand the importance of defending true faith against false teachings
- 2 . To recognize the role of Church Fathers and Apostolic Fathers in preserving and teaching authentic Christian doctrine.

Starter

True or false game

Divide the class into 2 teams , prepare a list of statements related to church teachings , historical heresies both true and false. Read out the statements and the teams have to quickly decide. The team which gives the correct answer earns the points

Few examples of the statements are given...(you can add more)

1. Sources of true faith are the scriptures alone and not traditions...false
2. The head of the Catholic Church is the Pope...true
3. There are 2 persons in Jesus Christ...false
4. The church fathers are influential in preserving Apostolic teaching...true
5. Jesus has dual nature human and divine...true
6. Father ,Son and Holy spirit are three independent and distinct divine beings...false
7. Mother Mary was born without original sin....true
8. Jesus ,son of God is neither eternal nor is fully divine as God the Father....false

Development

(teacher to explain in detail the topics given below)

1. Schisms vs heresyexplain difference

2. Historical heresies : Monoarchianism , Aryanism , Apolloniarism , Nestorianism , Protestant Reformation
(suggested to present the table given below in chart form or ppt showing difference between various heresies to give easy and better understanding)
3. Role of church councils especially the council of Nicea in doing away with the heresies

(<https://www.britannica.com/question/Did-the-Council-of-Nicaea-settle-the-matter-of-Arianism>)

4. Explain who were Apostolic fathers and church fathers .give examples
5. Explain in details the doctrines of St Augustine (also known as Augustine of Hippo) and St Ephrem ...(Wikipedia gives good info ,pls refer)

Bible Verse

Learn Galatians 1:6-9

Ask students to read in the class

2 Peter 1:12-21

Titus 1:6-16

Duet 18:20

Ezekiel 13:9

Activity

Open Discussion

- 1 . Are we venerating or worshipping Mother Mary....Give Reasons
- 2 . How would you respectfully address a Pentecostal friend's disagreement with your devotion to Mother Mary and recitation of the Rosary

Practical application or habit

1. Desire and interest to learn about true Catholic teachings
2. Encourage students to develop virtues such as faithfulness , courage to stand up for the truth , resist the allure of misguided values followed by majority like academic dishonesty , substance abuse , relying heavily on social media likes , comments for self worth

This is a table comparing the different heresies in the Catholic Church, including Monarchianism, Arianism, Apollinarianism, and Nestorianism:

Heresy	Description	Key Proponents	Main Objection by the Church
Monarchianism	Emphasizes the oneness of God to the exclusion of the Trinity. Divided into two types: Modalism (God is one person who manifests in different modes) and Adoptionism (Jesus was adopted as God's son).	Sabellius (Modalism), Paul of Samosata (Adoptionism)	Denies the distinct persons of the Trinity; compromises the doctrine of the Trinity.
Arianism	Asserts that Jesus Christ is a created being distinct from God the Father and is not co-eternal or consubstantial with the Father.	Arius	Denies the full divinity of Jesus Christ; contradicts the Nicene Creed affirming the consubstantiality of the Son with the Father.
Apollinarianism	Claims that Jesus had a human body but a divine mind, effectively denying the full humanity of Jesus.	Apollinaris of Laodicea	Undermines the full humanity of Jesus Christ, which is essential for the incarnation and redemption
Nestorianism	Argues that there are two separate persons in Jesus Christ, one divine and one human, rather than a single unified person.	Nestorius	Denies the unity of Christ's divine and human natures, leading to a potential misunderstanding of the incarnation.

Note: Each of these heresies represents a significant theological deviation from orthodox Christian doctrine as defined by the early ecumenical councils of the Church.