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# BE THE BEE

# SESSION # 11

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Uniting With God and Neighbor

LEARNING TO BE THE BEE AND LIVE ORTHODOXY



# BE THE BEE # 11

## Called to be Saints

### **Goal:**

Learn that God is calling each of us to become saints.

### **Objective:**

Identify one way to become a saint in your daily life.

### **Estimated Duration:**

60 minutes

# LEARNING SESSION

## **Be the Bee # 11 Called to be Saints**

### OPENING PRAYER

*In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Lord, help us to “be the bee” and “have a positive way of thinking, seeing only the good side of things.” Show us “where to find flowers, sweets, honey and sugar, and to only know the good things in life and become ignorant to all evil.” Grant us faith, courage and love, through the prayers of Saint Paisios and of all the Saints. Amen.*

## ICEBREAKER

*6 minutes*

Who is your patron saint? Tell us one fact about their life.

## VIDEO

*5 minutes*

Be the Bee #11 | Called to be Saints

<https://youtu.be/AgocWG9AG7s>

## DEBRIEF

*10 minutes*

Ask students the following questions and help facilitate a discussion:

- ❖ What did you see and hear in the video?
- ❖ What is one lesson you can take away from the video?

## TEACHING

*7 minutes*

Ask students the following questions and help facilitate a discussion:

- ❖ What is a saint?
  - ❖ Someone who has set apart their life for God
- ❖ What does it mean to be holy?
- ❖ What did you learn about the life of Saint Porphyrios?
- ❖ Can we follow his example in our lives?
- ❖ Is sainthood attainable today? How?

## REFLECTION

*10 minutes*

Ask students the following question and help facilitate a discussion:

- ❖ Have you made a choice you knew was wrong and had regret after? What's that like? Is regret helpful?

## READING AND APPLICATION

*7 minutes*

Read the following story to students:

*Saint Maria Skobtsova*

<http://incommunion.org/2011/11/08/challenge/>

Ask students the following questions and help facilitate a discussion:

- ❖ What did you hear in the story? What spoke to you?
- ❖ Did St. Maria live a regular life?
- ❖ What happened in her life to lead her to sainthood?

## SCRIPTURE READING AND APPLICATION

*10 minutes*

Read the following verses to students:

*"For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His own*

*possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.” - Deuteronomy 7:6*

*“To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.” - Romans 1:7*

Ask students the following questions and help facilitate a discussion:

- ❖ What is the message from these bible verses?
- ❖ What is God calling us to do?

**Teaching: (reflect on this rather than read it directly to participants)**

*Each of us are called to be saints. This is no easy task, and becoming a saint is a lifelong journey. To accomplish this, we must love God and our neighbor. This love is not a feeling, but an action. Love is a continual sacrifice for the other. When we truly love, we are allowing God into the relationship. We transform ourselves and our hearts through this radical kind of love. This type of love can be difficult because we are called to love those who hate us, and those who love us. Through our sacrifice in love, transformation takes place. It is through God’s love that we are transformed into saints. We must be willing to see Christ in each person, and when we are able to do that, we are able to grow closer to God. When we strengthen this relationship, we are on the path towards becoming a saint.*

## CONCLUSION

*5 minutes*

Go around the room and ask each student to answer the following question:

- ❖ What is one way to become a saint in your daily life through what you learned in the session?

## CLOSING PRAYER

*In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Lord, help us to learn that the path to God is through the love of people. Help us to know that each person is the very icon of God incarnate in the world. Allow us to see God in every person we encounter, and allow this encounter to be an encounter of love. Through this love, may we may be transformed ourselves.*

*Amen.*