

Educational Resources for *Revolution of the Heart: The Dorothy Day Story*

High School Lesson Plan Assignment #1

“Contemporary Prophets”

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Overview: This assignment provides the opportunity to research and reflect on followers of Jesus Christ in modern-day whose witness reflects authentic discipleship and Gospel values. Dorothy Day can be used as a case study for students.

Objective: To analyze faithful witnesses of modern Church history that lived Gospel values, challenged authority (or status quo), and can be recognized as contemporary prophets.

Courses: The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture (*USCCB Curriculum Framework Course I*)  
Life in Christ (*USCCB Curriculum Framework Course VI*)

Directions:

1. Explore Dorothy Day’s life as a case study. Research selections from The Long Loneliness (1952).
2. Teacher should supply list of acceptable candidates for research. Review texts for *Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture* course, *Life in Christ* course, a list of canonized Saints of the Church, and curriculum framework for assistance. Possible suggestions of contemporary prophets could include, but are not limited to the following: *Muhammad Ali, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Howard Thurman, Saint Teresa of Calcutta, Bill and Melinda Gates, Malala Yousafzai, Oprah Winfrey, Saint John Paul II, Saint Oscar Romero, J.R.R. Tolkien, Thomas Merton, etc.*). Please Note: These aforementioned examples may not all be Catholic, but their personal mission/causes in culture reflect many Catholic principles.
3. Compare and contrast your contemporary prophet with a prophet of the Old Testament that shares similar values and who is challenging authority on the same social injustice issue(s).
4. Apply one of G.K. Chesterton’s quotes (<https://www.chesterton.org/quotations-of-g-k-chesterton/>) about your contemporary prophet.
5. Defend the Gospel values for which your candidate is a witness (cite scripture reference).
6. Provide evidence of how your contemporary prophet speaks the divine truth through challenging authority and/or the status quo.
7. If applicable, how does your contemporary prophet live the charism of your secondary school OR reflect the mission of the school’s patron Saint?