



‘JUSTIFIED’ CATECHETICAL STUDY KIT

- **Introduction and suggested schedule**
- **Suggested group activity**
- **Bible Study**
- **Compline, suggested propers**

LEADER INTRODUCTION

This Study is designed to be a catechetical bible study on the idea of what it means to be justified.

Parishes may consider hosting a youth day or night(s) with church youth or youth from a few local parishes. A schedule might look something like this:

One-Day/Evening Schedule: ~ 2.5 hrs

- **Activity / Ice Breaker** ~20-30 min
- **Study: Section I-II** ~45 min
- **Break for Pizza** ~15 min
- **Study: Section III-IV** ~45 min
- **Compline** ~10 min
- **Clean Up** ~5 min

It is our hope that by facilitating studies like this, it will give pastors and leaders an opportunity to encourage more of their youth to come to LYA, and also encourage youth with the Gospel who still may not come to LYA.

This study was put together by Rev. Kyle Madson, chairman of the Board for Youth Outreach.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY

RUNNING OUT OF EXCUSES (Ice Breaker)

Whole group (or groups of 6-8) will gather in a circle. The youth leader or pastor will pull a recipe card on which is written a situation that needs excusing out of a hat and read it aloud. Then each member of the circle will have to give an original excuse for that "situation". The first person in the circle to NOT provide a JUST EXCUSE receives the situation card. The goal of the game is to have the least amount of situation cards at the end of the allotted time.

How you end up with a situation card:

- 1) You fail to produce any excuse within 10 seconds of receiving the situation card...
- 2) Someone in the group calls your excuse UNJUST! AND the majority of the group (by a 'blind' show of thumbs up/down) agrees with the UNJUST call...
- 3) YOU call an excuse UNJUST! AND the majority of the group (by a 'blind' show of thumbs up/down) disagrees with your UNJUST call...

List of situations needing excuses (*can certainly be added to / improved upon*)

(will require some paper / notecards and 5-minutes of prep)

- Why do you have blood on your hands?
- Why isn't your homework not turned?
- Why weren't you at church this weekend?

- Why isn't your room cleaned?
- (Mom asks) Why did your brother/sister come to me crying?
- Why weren't you answering your phone?
- Where were you last with your friends?
- Why didn't you make it home by curfew?
- Why did you miss family dinner last night?
- Why are you always so tired after a night's sleep?
- Where did the dent in the car come from?
- Why is there an envelope full of cash in your room?
- Why did the school office call about you being absent from school today?

Some excuses might induce laughter / discomfort / etc. The only standard is "JUST" or "UNJUST" as determined by the group (a group leader can serve as a tie-breaker).

Discussion of activity AFTER Study Session One:

- 1) Did anyone notice how anxious and uneasy the game was surviving by "excuses"?
- 2) Why do you think that is?
- 3) Who from the Parable of the Pharisee & the Tax-Collector (Luke 18:9-14) *actually* wins the "excuses" game? How?

‘JUSTIFIED’ STUDY

(See other handout)

CLOSING COMPLINE SUGGESTION

Close the youth event with the office of Compline on **page 128** in ELH.

As a way to train young men to be speakers of the Word (like Adam was called to be), you may wish to have the **men** read the leader parts. The **women** can respond with the parts in bold. This resource in our Hymnary is for families to use in a manner such as this, with the head of the household leading.

Suggested Propers:

Hymn: “Not In Anger, Mighty God” | **ELH 454**

In this hymn, which fits the lesson of the Pharisee and Tax Collector, the penitent confesses he ‘justly’ deserves only wrath and punishment, and yet God, by His grace alone, ‘justifies’ him.

Psalm: Psalm 51 “Have mercy upon me”

The confession of the penitent sinner King David, who prayed for a contrite heart.

Chapter: (use standard verse of **1 Peter 5:8**)



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