

Virtue - Becoming Extraordinary



The Wizard Shazam, holding back the Seven Deadly Sins, giving Captain Marvel his powers with a bolt of lightning.

A simple approach using art, storytelling and contemporary movies.

A presentation around three basic points:

1. How virtue makes the individual - it is the flourishing of God's creation
2. The divine spark
3. Revealing the mystery of the real person

Lesson: *Possible activities with Shazam*

- This lesson would occur later in the unit when students have acquired knowledge around the key terms and are feeling confident with their understanding of virtue and vice.
- They are then shown clips of the movie 'Shazam!'
- Accompanied by a worksheet that is designed to aid them in identifying why Billy Batson is chosen over Dr Thaddeus Sivana?
- The objective is to demonstrate that the supernatural powers of Shazam should be placed in the hands of a human whose 'desire' is to do good. Therefore, the actions of both boys at the time are judged by the desire behind them and not the action itself. This highlights the role desire plays for the students.
- This challenges the students with the contrast of young Sivana who acts as a 'good' student but has bad role models in his family and therefore ultimately mimics their desires of selfishness and self-importance. Deeming him not suitable for the powers.
- This can also raise the discussion of what is a 'good heart' and this would be led to the understanding of a good heart being that of one in which God is present.
- The lesson can go in a number of different ways to unpack the footage.
- They then synthesize how the definitions like passion, virtues and vice are demonstrated through the Shazam clips.
- Alternatively, discuss the power of the suit and how that changes the actions of whoever wears it. This can be compared to the robes of a priest or monk and once again linked to the readings.

Resources: See slides for step-through of possible lessons and various links to multiple resources: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1lqlz2OYKnxDdag7_ylrXwSTH7tHwfnTTj4MRYQ_Wz4/edit?usp=sharing