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A PROPOSED REVISED TEXTBOOK FOR GRADE SIX
GROWING WITH THE COMMUNITY
AND TEACHER'S MANUAL

A Thesis
Presented to
the Faculty of the Graduate School
De La Salle University

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Arts in Religious Education

by

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ABSTRACT

In response to the pressing concern of the Church to step up its effort on evangelization, a review on the state-of-affairs of religious instruction in the Philippines today revealed these facts:

1. that there is a lack of trained religion teachers; lay volunteers need training if they have to carry out the task effectively;
2. that there is a need to periodically revise existing instructional materials if they are to be relevant to the age and times of the learner;
3. that in consonance with the methodology recommended by the National Catechetical Directory, there is a need to include more activities to make it easy for learners to know the doctrines, motivate them to practice Christian virtues, and internalize the values for an authentic Christian Filipino.

In addressing these concerns, the theory of James Michael Lee provides the framework upon which the text was developed. Care has been taken so that the interaction between the variables (the teacher, the learner, the subject matter, and the



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environment) can be maximized so as to bring about the "deliberate and purposeful modification of behavior along religious lines." For this reason, the concept of Narrative or Story Theology was made an integral part of the lessons in the text. Stories are used extensively to arouse the interest of the students. Stories are easy to remember; they involve the feeling and imagination of the learners and lead them to get in touch with themselves and reflect on their personal experience as part of the larger story, the story of salvation. To ensure this process, a Teacher's Manual was produced side-by side with the text to assist even the less-trained catechist to approach the lesson in a systematic way.

Since the Gr. 6 level is, in most schools, the transit point to high school, the scope was designed to cover the basic truths of the Catholic faith required in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is therefore recommended that the teacher familiarize himself/herself with the Scriptures, consult the Catholic Faith Catechism as a guide for examining the Filipino experience in the light of the Gospel and keep an assortment of stories that can serve as alternatives-and/or added variation to those in the text should the situation require it. A book on prayer and a good knowledge of the liturgy will be an indispensable tool to complete the process of learning nurturing prayer life and strengthening the witnessing aspect.



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