

# **THE SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WORLD**

## **An Event of Thanksgiving to God.**

### **Intent of the story**

- ✓ *To realize that the greatest wonders of the world escape our attention.*
- ✓ *We should not take God's greatest gifts for granted*
- ✓ *Through prayer and meditation we have to discover God's wonders and doings in our daily life.*

### **1. Introductory session**

- ✓ Quiet down. Keep silent for a while in the presence of God
- ✓ Sing: the Hymn Great Indeed are your works of Lord,

### **2. Personal Work**

Ask the participants to write list of what they think are the seven wonders the world

### **3. Group sharing**

- ✓ Request the participants share their lists with the group
- ✓ Next, by discussion and interaction try to arrive to a group consensus and compile a final group list of the seven wonders of the world as the group sees them.
- ✓ **Finally, read them the Story of "The Seven Wonders of the World"**

## **Story**

A group of young students were asked to list what they thought were the present "Seven Wonders of the World." Though there were some disagreements. The following received the most votes:

1. Egypt's Great Pyramid.
2. Taj Mahal.
3. Grand Canyon.
4. Panama Canal.
5. Empire State Building.
6. St Peter's Basilica and
7. China's Great Wall.

While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one student had not finished her paper yet. So she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The girl replied, "Yes, a little, because I find so many wonders in the world that I cannot quite make up my mind with seven to choose.

The teacher said, “Well, tell us what those many wonders you found are. We may help you to choose seven from among them.

The girl hesitated and then read:

For instance, some of the wonders of the world I found are:

To See  
 To hear  
 To touch  
 To taste  
 To feel  
 To laugh  
 To Eat  
 To drink  
 To think  
 To live,  
 To enjoy  
 To play  
 To love  
 My mother  
 My dad  
 My friends  
 Etc....

The room was so quiet; you could have heard a pin drop.

#### **4. Personal Work**

Ask the Participants to write down their answerers to the questions below:

1. Why the class was so silent after hearing what that little girl had to say? (*The reply of the little girl was true but most unexpected*)
2. Were the answers the class had given true? (*Yes, they were true, but they were the expected answers*)
3. Why do we call the girl’s answers unexpected? (*Because the things we overlook as simple and ordinary, in fact are the most wonderful! and yet and we take them for granted*)
4. What are the things we mostly take for granted (*The countless gifts of God*)

#### **5. Group Sharing**

- ✓ The participants will share their replies to the little questionnaire above.
- ✓ In the course of the sharing make them realize how easily we forget the wonderful gifts of God and a how we take God and his gifts for granted

## **6. Personal Work**

Instructions to the participants:

*Alone by yourselves attempt the two following tasks:*

### **First:**

**Right a list, as complete as possible,**

- Of all the wonderful things God has given us, which we never thanked Him for
- Of all the special wonders he has done for you in your life.

### **Second:**

**Write a litany prayer to God thanking Him for all the wonders He has given you, and the wonderful things he did for you.**

*(For instance)*

- ✓ For my birth..... I thank you, God.
- ✓ For my mum and dad.....I thank you, God.
- ✓ For being able to sing.....I thank you, God.
- ✓ For my pet dog.....I thank you, God
- ✓ For saving me from that road accident.... I thank you, God
- ✓ And so on and so forth..... I thank you, God

*Finally, using your litany, pray for a while, with all your heart, thanking and praising God*

## **7. Closing Prayer**

- ✓ Close the event with a shared group prayer of thanksgiving to God for the wonders he has done for you and me.
- ✓ Some participants may read aloud their litanies. After each invocation all will respond "We thank you, God."
- ✓ Quote psalms and other Scripture texts of thanks and praise
- ✓ Sing hymns of thanksgiving