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P.7 R.E. SELF STUDY LESONS SET 2

LESSON 1

THEME : IN THE SPIRIT WE SERVE OTHERS

SUBTHEME : PEOPLE WHO NEED OUR SERVICES

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- (i) Name the groups of people who need our services
 - (ii) State ways we can serve those in need
 - (iii) Share biblical values of serving others
- The term service refers to work done for others importantly the needy.
 - It can also be defined as the act of extending help to those in need.
 - Through service, we can take care of other people's needs.
 - By serving others especially the needy ,we are serving God .(**Mat.25:31-40**)

There are different groups of people who need our help .These include :

- The orphans
- The sick
- The poor
- The widows
- The lame
- The elderly
- The hungry
- The refugees
- The strangers
- The long distance travelers

Ways in which we can serve others

- By providing orphans with school fees.
- By taking care of the sick, e.g. counseling them, providing medical needs, praying for them.
- By helping the poor .e.g. feeding them, giving them clothes, shelter, jobs e.t.c.
- By supporting the widows e.g. meeting their needs, giving them comfort
- By helping the lame people e.g. by providing them with basic needs
- By supporting the elders e.g. helping them in doing domestic work
- By feeding the hungry
- By providing food, shelter and clothes to the refugees
- By welcoming strangers and caring for their needs
- By caring for the needs of travelers.

Biblical teaching about service

Bible readings; Get your bible and study the bible scriptures below on the biblical teaching about service to others.

- **Matthew 25:31-40**
- **Psalms 41:1-3**
- **Deuteronomy(15:7-10)**
 - ❖ The scriptures above show us the rewards of serving others.
 - ❖ Jesus himself showed us a good example of servant hood. For example;
 - He accepted to come on earth in form of a human being in order to bring salvation to the world.
 - He offered selfless service to the needy people by caring for their needs e.g. healing the sick.
 - He accepted to die on the cross to save mankind from the original sin.

NOTE: Jesus teaches us that the reward for serving others is eternal life as seen in **Matthew 25: 31-40.**

- He also teaches us that serving others means serving God.
- The bible also teaches us that the main source of blessings is through offering selfless service to the needy .(blessed are those

who show concern to the poor, the lord shall save them when in trouble .Psalms 41)

Exercise

1. How did Jesus care for the following needs of people?
 - (i) Spiritual needs
 - (ii) Physical needs
 - (iii) Emotional needs
2. State three ways you can show care and concern to the needy pupils in your class.
3. According to Jesus' teachings, what are the rewards of serving others?
4. Why do you think it is better to give than to receive?
5. What is selfless service?

LESSON 2

THEME : IN THE SPIRIT WE SERVE OTHERS

SUBTHEME : RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- (i) Explain what relief organizations are.
- (ii) Give other names used to describe relief organizations.
- (iii) Mention examples of relief organizations and state their roles

Introduction

The term Relief organizations refers to the people that willingly offer free services to others.

- ❖ They are formed by individuals or groups of people who were inspired by God to extend free services to the needy people.
- ❖ Some relief organizations are religious based while other are non religious based.
- ❖ Relief organizations can also be called:
 - Voluntary organizations
 - Charity organizations
 - Humanitarian organizations. These names can be used

interchangeably

- ❖ Voluntary organizations have played tremendous roles in the socio-economic transformation of our country.
- ❖ Their humanitarianism has also impacted on the moral and spiritual welfare of the people of Uganda.

Religious voluntary organizations

- These are organizations that are formed to extend free services to members of their faith
- Some are Christians founded while others are Islamic founded.

Examples of Christian founded voluntary organizations

- ADRA = Adventist Development Relief Agency
- YMCA = Young Men's Christian Association
- YWCA = Young Women's Christian Association
- UJCC = Uganda Joint Christian Council
- Mother's Union
- Fathers 'Union
- Compassion International
- Scripture Union Uganda.

Examples of Islamic founded relief organizations

- Islamic Relief Agency
- Foundation for Islamic development
- Uganda Muslim Education Association
- The Uganda Muslim youth assembly
- The Uganda Muslim cultural association
- Makerere university Muslim Student's Association
- Uganda Muslim Student's Association
- Send a cow

Reflection corner
How have religious organizations
Promoted;
a) Social development

- b) Economic development**
- c) Education services**
- d) Health services**
- e) Moral development among people?**

Social development

- They have built orphanages for orphans
- They have promoted unity and harmony among people
- They have provided food and shelter to people.

Economic development

- They provide jobs to people
- They train people with practical skills

Education services

- They have built schools
- They have provided school fees to children
- They have given scholarships to children

Health services

- They have built hospitals
- Some donate blood to people

Moral development

- Some organization have provided guidance and counseling to people
- They have taught people moral values
- They have taught people religious values.

Exercise

1. Why were the following organizations formed?
 - a) YMCA
 - b) YWCA
2. State the services offered by ADRA
3. Which organization in Uganda unites all married men in the protestant church?
4. How do married women benefit from the mother's union?
5. Why was UJCC formed?

LESSON 3

THEME : IN THE SPIRIT WE SERVE OTHERS

SUBTHEME : NON- RELIGIOUS VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- (i) Give examples of non- religious voluntary organizations in Uganda
- (ii) State the contributions of non- religious organizations towards the development of the people of Uganda.

Non- religious voluntary organizations are groups of people who willingly offer free services to the needy people regardless of their faith or religion.

Such organizations include:

- The Aids Support Organization (TASO)
- Uganda Women's Effort to Save Orphans
- Carry American Relief Every Where
- Sanyu babies Home
- The Red Cross Society
- Chain Foundation
- World Vision

Roles played by relief organizations

- Some provide health services e.g.TASO, IRA, ADRA
- Some provide educational services e.g. ADRA,IRA
- Some care for the disadvantaged groups of people e.g. orphans, widows, Aids victims, the lame, blind, deaf, refugees, people hit by disasters.

State any two roles played by the Inter- religious Council of Uganda

- It promotes unity and harmony among all religious sects in Uganda
- It sets and regulates moral standards to be followed by all religious groups
- It fosters development of religious sects
- Some have supported the widows e.g. UWESO
- Some take care of refugees e.g. world vision

Examples of religious bodies /organizations in Uganda

These are organizations that bring together people of the same faith/religion.

- They aim at fostering unity and cooperation among believers
- These organizations may not necessary be voluntary organizations though they can offer charity work
- In Uganda such organizations include :
 - Uganda Joint Christian Council
 - Uganda Muslim Supreme Council
 - Uganda Bible Society
 - Born Again Federation of Uganda
 - The Inter –Religious Council of Uganda.

ACITIVITY: Use the MK Religious Education textbook 7 and read the topic of “Service for Others” to guide you in answering the following questions.

1. Mention three examples of charity work you can offer to your church
2. Why were the following organizations formed?
 - a) UMSC
 - b) UMEA
 - c) UWESO
3. State any two roles played by the Inter-Religious council of Uganda
4. How do Christians benefit from voluntary organizations?
5. Give two ways in which God shows care and concern to his people through voluntary organizations.
6. State any four examples of selfless services you can offer to people in society.
7. Give any two examples of selfless services that the church offers to

the community.

LESSON 4

THEME : WE LIVE IN THE SPIRIT OF LOVE

SUBTHEME : MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIPS

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- (i) Define marriage
- (ii) State God's purpose for marriage
- (iii) Name the types of marriage.

Introduction

- ❖ The term Marriage refers to the legal union between a man and woman as husband and wife for mutual love, respect and companionship.
- ❖ Marriage started at the time of creation when a woman was created for Adam as a helper, a companion and a comforter.
- ❖ Marriage is founded on the three pillars of mutual love, respect and companionship.
- ❖ Adam and Eve were the first people to get married. Therefore, marriage is a gift that comes from God.
- ❖ During marriage, a man gets united to his wife and the two become one person.
- ❖ Marriage is a life time commitment. Only God has power to separate married couples.

God's purpose of marriage

- To bear children/reproduction/pro-creation
- For companionship i.e. it's not good for a man to live alone.
- For raising up God fearing children
- For sexual pleasure i.e. Sex is only allowed in marriage.
- For respect.

Types of marriage

There are three recognized types of marriage in Uganda today.

These are:

- Religious marriage e.g Holy matrimony and Nikkah
- Customary marriage/traditional marriage
- Civil marriage / contractual marriage

Religious marriage

- This is the type of marriage officiated by religious leaders
- In Christianity ,it is called holy matrimony while in Islam is called Nikkah

Exercise

1. Why do people marry?
2. How is Nikkah different from holy matrimony?
3. Why did God allow marriage?
4. Name the first marriage according to the Bible
5. Mention the three pillars on which marriage is built.

LESSON 5

THEME : WE LIVE IN THE SPIRIT OF LOVE

SUBTHEME : HOLY MATRIMONY

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- (i) Define holy matrimony
- (ii) State the characteristics of holy matrimony
- (iii) Give reasons why Christians go through holy matrimony.

Holy Matrimony

- This is a legal union between a Christian man and woman as husband and wife.
- It is a sacrament that unites a Christian man and woman into holy marriage.

Characteristics of holy matrimony

- It must be monogamous
- It is permanent. i.e. there is no divorce
- It must be witnessed by church leaders
- It is conducted by ordained priests
- It involves exchange of marriage vows and rings
- It involves signing marriage certificate
- It takes place in the church.

Reasons why Christians perform holy matrimony

- For companionship
- For raising up God fearing children
- For pro – creation (producing children)
- To please God
- To strengthen their faith in God
- To create happiness
- To promote good morals
- To fulfill Christian doctrines

Conditions to fulfill before holy matrimony takes place

- One must be a confirmed Christian
- One must be of one wife or husband
- One must be above eighteen years of age
- Each partner must willingly accept to get married
- The parents of the girl's family must accept their daughter to get married
- The partners must not be close relatives

Conditions that may fail holy matrimony to take place

- When one of the partners is not a confirmed Christian
- When one of the partners is polygamous
- When the partners are close relatives
- When one of the partners is below 18 years of age
- When the girls family is not in agreement.

Activities done during holy matrimony

- Exchanging marriage vows

- Exchanging marriage rings
- Signing a marriage certificate
- Unveiling the bride by the bridegroom
- Celebration of holy communion
- Reading of the scriptures

Examples of marriage vows

- Promise to love each other until death separates them
- Promise to love each other in times of sickness or good health
- Promise to love each other in times of poverty or riches.

Reasons for exchanging marriage vows

- To prove that the partners love each other
- To prove that the partners are ready for marriage.
- To cement/strengthen the marriage

Reasons for exchanging marriage rings

- It is a sign of union of a married man and woman
- It is a sign of love and commitment to the vows

Reasons for signing a marriage certificate

- To prove that you are legally married

Reasons for unveiling the bride by the bride groom

- For a man to prove that she is the true partner.

Exercise

1. What makes holy matrimony a legal type of marriage?
2. State two benefits of getting married from the church
3. Why do some Christians fail to perform holy matrimony?
4. What are marriage vows?
5. Who officiates a holy matrimony?

LESSON 6

THEME : WE LIVE IN THE SPIRIT OF LOVE

SUBTHEME : BIBLICAL TEACHINGS ABOUT MARRIAGE

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- (i) State the biblical teachings about marriage**
- (ii) State God's laws about divorce, adultery and re-marriage**

Introduction

Definition of terms

1. Divorce is the legal separation of married couples
2. Re –marriage is a situation where a person who has ever been married finds another partner for marriage.
3. Adultery refers to a sexual relationship outside marriage.

Biblical scriptures to read about marriage, divorce and re-marriage;

Study the bible readings below to understand the lesson more.

Mathew 19:1-5 (Gods' laws about divorce)

1 Corinthians 7:1-15 (Paul's teachings about marriage)

Leviticus 18:1-22(forbidden sexual relationships)

Ephesians 5:21-32. (Marital responsibilities)

God's laws about marriage

- Every man shall have one wife and every woman shall have one husband
- In holy matrimony there is no divorce. God hates divorce.
- In marriage the two partners are joined into one body i.e. the body of the husband belongs to the wife and the body of the wife belongs to the husband
- If one cannot control his/her sexual desires, it is better to marry
- Sex before marriage and outside marriage is unlawful
- Both the wife and husband should fulfill their marital responsibilities to each other.
- No one has authority to separate what God has joined together.

Conditions under which divorce can be allowed

- When one of the partners is unfaithful i.e. commits adultery
- When one of the partners practices witchcraft/idol worshipping

Reasons why the bible forbids divorce

- It is against God's purpose of marriage
- It leads to break down of families
- It leads to the suffering of children
- It leads to hatred and conflicts

Conditions when a Christian can be allowed to re-marry

- When the partner/spouse has died
- When one obtains a divorce letter

God's law about adultery

- Whoever commits adultery commits sin
- Neither the adulterous nor fornicators shall inherit the kingdom of God

Exercise

1. Which commandment protects married people?
2. Why are children below 18 years not allowed to marry?
3. Why do some married couples practice adultery?
4. When can a Christian be allowed to divorce?
5. What is the difference between adultery and fornication?

LESSON 8

THEME : WE LIVE IN THE SPIRIT OF LOVE

SUBTHEME : TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE/CUSTOMARY MARRIAGE

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- (i) Define traditional marriage
- (ii) State the advantages and disadvantages of traditional marriage
- (iii) Give the importance of bride price

Traditional marriage is a type of marriage performed according to the customs of a given society.

- The marriage agreement is made between the boy's family and the girl's family.
- It involves paying dowry or bride price.
- An introduction ceremony is organized for the girl to introduce the groom to her family members.

Bride price is the amount of money or property paid by the boy's family to the girl's family before marriage takes place.

Advantages of customary marriage

- It promotes cultural values e.g. proper dressing ,greeting
- It promotes unity and co-operation among family members
- It promotes development in the society

Disadvantages of customary marriage

- It is expensive on the side of the boy's family
- It is time consuming
- It allows polygamy unlike holy matrimony

Reasons for paying bride price

- To strengthen the marriage
- To show appreciation to the girl's family
- It is a sign of commitment to bride by the bride groom.
- It is a source of respect to the boy's family
- It is a sign of love by the groom.

Disadvantages of bride price

- It is expensive to pay
- It is expensive to repay on the side of the girl's family in case of separation
- It leads to poverty on the boy's side.
- It lowers the dignity of women to the value of a property

Reflection corner

Give three ways customary marriage promotes:

- a) Cultural values**
- b) Social development**

How customary marriage promotes cultural values

- It helps young ones to know their languages
- It teaches young ones how to dress decently and respect elders
- It teaches the young ones how to greet.

How customary marriage promotes social development

- It promotes unity and cooperation among people
- It brings family members together
- It promotes brotherhood among different families and clans
- It leads to increased interaction of members in society
- It is a source of happiness in society.

Exercise

1. State two advantages of traditional marriage over religious marriage.
2. Give two characteristics of customary marriage
3. Why does traditional marriage allow polygamy?
4. Why do some people discourage payment of bride price?
5. State two conditions that may fail traditional marriage from taking place.

LESSON 9

THEME : WE LIVE IN THE SPIRIT OF LOVE

SUBTHEME : CIVIL MARRIAGE

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to

- (i) Define civil marriage
- (ii) Give the advantages and disadvantages of civil marriage

- (iii) State the conditions and qualities to be considered before choosing a marriage partner.

Introduction

Civil marriage

This is a type of marriage officiated by government officials e.g. CAO, Magistrates

- It is also called contractual marriage because a marriage agreement is made in form of a contract
- The couple signs a marriage certificate and exchanges marriage rings

Advantages of civil marriage

- It is less costly because it involves very few people.
- It is time saving i.e. it does not involve organizing marriage ceremonies
- It promotes freedom in marriage i.e. It allows divorce

Disadvantages of civil marriage

- It encourages separation(divorce)
- It leads to division of wealth /property in case of separation.
- It leads to family breakdowns

Qualities of a good marriage partners

These are qualities any marriage partner should have:

- faithfulness
- hardwork
- patience
- obedience
- self-control
- physical appearance (beauty)
- honesty
- openness

Factors to consider before choosing a marriage partner

- **Family background** i.e. a good marriage partner should come from a family with a good background.
- **Religion** i.e. it is advisable to marry a person whom you share with similar religious beliefs to avoid religious conflicts at home.
- **True love**, you should ensure that there is true love between the partners. Marriage should not be built on conditional love.

- **Health status**, it is advisable to marry someone whose health status you know .you should check for chronic diseases like cancer, sickle cells,HIV/AIDS.

- **Age**, it is advisable to marry someone of your age bracket i.e. marriage couples should almost be of the same age.

- **Education status**, it is advisable to marry someone of your education status

- **Economic status**, for marriage to be successful the couple should first establish the sources of income.

EXERCISE

1. Why is it advisable to marry someone of your age bracket?
2. Describe the qualities of a marriage partner you would wish to marry after your studies
3. Why do some people fail to get married partners?
4. What is the role of parents in choosing a marriage partner?
5. Why do some people marry wrong partners?

LESSON 10

THEME : WE LIVE IN THE SPIRIT OF LOVE

SUBTHEME : MARRIAGE AS A SOCIAL INSTITUTION

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- State the reasons why marriage is considered a social institution.
- Identify the causes of marital problems
- State the common problems faced by marriage partners
- Give solutions to the stated marital problems.

Introduction

- Marriage involves almost all members in the society.
- The members of the society take part in marriage decisions contribute towards marriage ceremonies, settle marriage conflicts and offer guidance and counseling to the married couples.
- It is a socializing agent that is why it's also called a social institution.

Below are some of the reasons to support the idea that marriage is referred to as a social institution

- It involves/brings members of the society together
- It unites different families and clans
- Marriages promote societal values
- Members of the society contribute towards the welfare and wellbeing of married couples
- Members of the society offer guidance and counseling to married couples

However, married people experience many problems .we cannot exhaust them all but below are some of the commonest problems faced by married couples.

- desire for a given sex of children
- adultery /unfaithfulness
- domestic violence
- Impotence among men
- Mistrust

- poverty
- failure to fulfill the marital responsibilities

Causes of marriage problems

- poor communication between the couples
- unfaithfulness
- wrong choices of married partners
- drug abuse
- laziness
- ungodliness
- failure to meet marital responsibilities

SEX DEVIATIONS

- Sex deviations are the forbidden sexual practices / relationships in a given society.
- Sexual deviations are considered to be unclean/unlawful depending on the customs of a given society
- Some may vary from society to society while others are universal to all societies.

Examples of sexual deviations

- Having sexual intercourse with a close relative (incest)
- Having sexual intercourse with an animal (bestiality)
- Having sexual intercourse outside marriage (adultery)
- Having sexual intercourse before marriage (fornication)
- Having sexual intercourse with a person of your gender (homo sexuality)
- Fellatio (oral sex)

Effects of sexual deviations

- Loss of relationship with God
- It leads to loss of respect in society
- It leads to shame
- It leads to family breakdowns e.g. incest
- It leads to acquisition of sexually transmitted diseases

- It leads to decline in religious beliefs and morals.

Exercise

1. Why do some people practice sexual deviations?
2. What advice would you give to a fellow pupil who is a victim of sexual deviation such as fornication?
3. Why do some people fear to marry?
4. Give two characteristics of true love.
5. State three things married couples need to do to strengthen their marriage.