WEEK 1

LIFE AND DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

GRADES 7–8

45 MINUTES

OBJECTIVE

Through the stories of Trinh, Yvone, and Maria Ana, students will explore a Catholic social teaching principle—Life and Dignity of the Human Person—and how they can uphold the dignity of others.

MATERIALS

- Map
- Facts to Consider
- Week 1 story or video (available at crsricebowl.org/stories)
- Week 1 Activity Sheet: Grades 7–8 (in this guide and also available at crsricebowl.org/schools)

DISCUSSION (15 MINUTES)

1. Find Kenya, Honduras, and Vietnam on the map.
2. Ask a few students to read the Facts to Consider aloud. Which do they find most interesting? Why?
3. Read or watch the story from Week 1.
4. Explain what Life and Dignity of the Human Person means.
5. Reflect:
   - What stood out to you in this story?
   - What do the three girls have in common?
   - How does the work of CRS uphold the Life and Dignity of the Human Person?

ACTIVITY (25 MINUTES)

1. Explain that there are millions of families around the world who struggle to provide a healthy lifestyle for children like Trinh, Yvone, and Maria Ana.
2. Have students complete the Week 1 Activity Sheet: Grades 7–8.
3. If time permits, ask the students to share their answers to the last question with the class.

CLOSING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

Compassionate God,
I call to mind all those who are hungry in our world. Create in me a desire to assist our sisters and brothers in need around the world and in our community. Grant that we may work to make a world without hunger a reality.

Amen

AT HOME

1. Reflect on the Gospel story of Jesus feeding the 5,000 and write your thoughts about it in a short paragraph.
2. Share your reflections on the stories you read or watched today with your family at home.

IF YOU ONLY HAVE 10 MINUTES

1. Read or watch the Week 1 story.
2. Lead Discussion step 5.
ACTIVITY SHEET: GRADES 7-8

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Identify whether each country fact belongs to Vietnam, Honduras or Kenya.
*Hint: there are 2 for each country—and the “Facts to Consider” section will help!*

1. The people in this country speak Spanish. ____________________________

2. This country is in Africa. ____________________________

3. This country has a population of about 50 million people. ____________________________

4. This country is in Southeast Asia. ____________________________

5. This country is slightly larger than the state of Tennessee. ____________________________

6. This country is frequently affected by severe weather like typhoons and droughts. ____________________________

CRS works in many countries, including Vietnam, Honduras, and Kenya, to help people live dignified lives.

Identify 3 ways from the lesson that you see Trinh, Yvone, and Maria Ana and their families living with dignity.

1. ____________________________

2. ____________________________

3. ____________________________

In the story from Scripture, Jesus asks his disciples to feed 5,000 people. This story applies to us as well—Jesus wants **US** to feed and care for people in need today. Talk with a partner about practical ways you can help those in need in your community and around the world.