

HIST359/EDUC346B Lesson Planning Form for Differentiating Instruction

Teacher Springvloed

Date 07-08-2009 Subject/ Topic/ Theme Understanding Calvin

I. Objectives	
<p><i>This is rather loosely put together in order to allow anyone to individually tailor it to their needs. It would be tough to fit all of this into one class period and it could be expanded into many more. Hopefully there will be something you can take away from this.</i></p> <p>How does this lesson tie in to a unit plan? <i>The life of Luther and the reasons for the Reformation will already have been discussed as well as Zwingli and the Anabaptists. This could be used as an introduction to Calvin (with more follow-up later) or as an attempt to get a better understanding of his theology after you've introduced him.</i></p>	
<p>What are your objectives for this lesson? (As many as needed. Indicate connections to applicable national or state standards. If an objective applies to only certain students write the name(s) of the student(s) to whom it applies.)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>To help students better understand that Calvin's theology affects every area of one's life</i> <i>To help students recognize differences between Calvin and the Roman Catholic Church as well as similarities and subtle differences in Luther and Calvin's theology</i> <i>To help students better understand Calvin's view of God's sovereignty and the implications it has for the every area of the believers life.</i> 	

II. Before you start	
Prerequisite knowledge and skills.	<i>Basic understanding of the reasons behind the Reformation as well as the beliefs and role of Luther, Zwingli, and the Anabaptists. Background information on Calvin can be helpful but is not required and can be filled in later.</i>
Assessment (formative and summative)	<p><i>Luther and Calvin quotes can give an idea on how well the students know Luther and any pre-existing knowledge they might have on Calvin.</i></p> <p><i>A whole class discussion will take place at the end of the lesson</i></p>
Materials-what materials (books, handouts, etc) do you need for this lesson and do you have them?	<i>Sheet (or PowerPoint) with quotes from Calvin and Luther</i> <i>Any note sheet you've created to assist students with notes</i>
Do you need to set up your classroom in any special way for this lesson? If so, describe it.	<i>May put students in groups for quotes or have students do individually or in pairs.</i> <i>Final section could also allow for some group discussion.</i>

III. The Plan		
Time	Parts	The description of (script for) the lesson, wherein you describe teacher activities and student activities
	Motivation (Opening/ Introduction/ Engagement)	<p><i>Part One – Calvin or Luther?</i></p> <p><i>Let students know that you are going to begin with a contest. They'll be looking at ten quotes, five from Calvin and five from Luther. Can they determine who said what?</i></p>

Even though these are just a few words of Calvin and Luther perhaps they can identify themes in their thoughts. These differences are often quite subtle and one needs to be careful not to caricaturize Luther or Calvin.

A few things to look for:

- 1. Man's inherent sinfulness*
- 2. Luther – security not in works but from faith in God and leads to a good life. Luther's starting point is justification through faith (human perspective).*
- 3. Calvin – security from an all-powerfull God but living right requires an intentionality. Calvin's starting point is the sovereignty of God.*
- 4. Luther - an exalting of the spiritual over the temporal (not as much as R.C.C.).*
- 5. Calvin - an exalting of God's good creation (including work) and how we are to use it and allow it to bring our praise to God.*
- 6. The importance of community and duty in Calvin's thought.*

Development

Part Two - Intro to Calvin

*Display for the students **solī Deo gloria**. Ask them what they think this might mean (Glory to God alone).*

This is sometimes called the motto of Calvin and it gives us a start on a better understanding of his theology. To Calvin, Christians should not only be concerned with their own salvation but also with glorifying God in every part of God's world around them. Psalm 24:1 and I Corinthians 10:31 can be looked at for a Biblical basis of this. Also refer to the quotes from Calvin.

These would be notes of some sort organized to your liking. Since I teach freshmen I would make this simpler than most. These notes should be tied in with the quotes.

From Kuyper, A. (1931). Lectures on Calvinism (pp. 19-78). Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

Our relation to God- God, as the Holy Spirit, enters into immediate fellowship with us. This differs from the Roman Catholic Church where God enters into fellowship with us through the Church. The Church stands between God and the world. Calvin and Luther are in agreement on this issue as is evident in their teaching of the Priesthood of All Believers. Yet, Luther's break was not completely clean as can be seen in his view of the sacraments.

Our relation to man- Since Calvinism places one's entire life before God than all stand as equals before God since we are all lost sinners. Therefore, there is no distinction between people except that which has been imposed by God. Hierarchy is an important component within Roman Catholicism. There is a hierarchy among the angels, within the church and throughout society.

Our relation to the world – In the Roman Catholic Church there was a division between the things of God or the Church (sacred) and the things of the world (secular). For Calvin, man is created in God's image and the world is His creation. The curse (the fall) does not rest upon the world itself but what is sinful in it. No longer is a monastic flight from the world revered but instead serving God in the world in every position is important.

Part Three – Implications

Abraham Kuyper's (Dutch theologian and statesman, late 19th, early 20th century) quote that is often used to explain Calvinism can also help.

"Oh, no single piece of our mental world is to be hermetically sealed off from the rest, and there is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: 'Mine!'"

* Kuyper, Abraham (1998), "Sphere Sovereignty", in Bratt, James D., Abraham Kuyper, A Centennial Reader, Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, pp. 488

Have them break off into their groups from earlier (if you used them) and discuss what they think this might mean and how it might have applied to the lives of the followers of Calvin. What does this mean for our own lives? What is our relation to the world around us?

If time permits this could lead to a further study of:

1. Life in Geneva and Reformed focus living out ones faith in all areas of life
2. The importance of community to Calvin
3. Growth of Protestantism
4. Conflict between Protestants and Catholics
5. More on God's sovereignty - Predestination

Closure

Wrap up with whole group discussion allowing the groups to share their thoughts on Calvin's views and how all areas of a Christian's life should reflect their belief in Christ.

Your reflection on the lesson including ideas for improvement for next time:

Luther Quotes (More at - <http://www.ctlibrary.com/ch/1992/issue34/3427.html>)

Nothing is easier than sinning.

What lies there are about relics! One claims to have a feather from the wing of the angel Gabriel, and the Bishop of Mainz has a flame from Moses' burning bush. And how does it happen that eighteen apostles are buried in Germany when Christ had only twelve?

Faith is the "yes" of the heart, a conviction on which one stakes one's life.

The truth is mightier than eloquence, the Spirit greater than genius, faith more than education.

Next to faith, this is the highest art: to be content in the calling in which God has placed you. I have not learned it yet.

Our Lord God must be a pious man to be able to love rascals. I can't do it, and yet I am a rascal myself.

A simple layman armed with Scripture is to be believed above a pope or a cardinal without it.

Calvin Quotes (More at - <http://www.calvin500.com/john-calvin/quotes-by-calvin/>)

Every one of us is, even from his mother's womb, a master craftsman of idols.

Seeing that a Pilot steers the ship in which we sail, who will never allow us to perish even in the midst of shipwrecks, there is no reason why our minds should be overwhelmed with fear and overcome with weariness.

Is it faith to understand nothing, and merely submit your convictions implicitly to the Church?

God's whole purpose in creating us, in adorning the world with such a magnificent variety of beautiful and good things, in watching over us with such careful providence is that we might be moved continually to render praise to him.

All the blessings we enjoy are Divine deposits, committed to our trust on this condition, that they should be dispensed for the benefit of our neighbors."

There is not one blade of grass, there is no color in this world that is not intended to make us rejoice.

"[A]ll men were created to busy themselves with labor for the common good."