

# PEACE REFLECTION

## SPEAKER PREPARATION MATERIAL - NW

**Speaker:** Adult or Young Adult who has previously participated in TEC; not a High School student; actively engaged in the constant encountering of Christ and who has come to know the meaning of Christ's peace

**Time:** At the conclusion of the Reunion/Hoot

**Length:** 10 minutes    **Scripture:** John 14:27

**Setting:**

Toward the end of the second day of intense living, discerning, and absorbing the Gospel message, the participants are in need of a period of relaxation and fun. This is the Hoot/ Reunion during which the Peace reflection is shared. An atmosphere of joy, excitement, and hope permeates Rise Day because the participants are encouraged to say "yes" to the gifts the Risen Christ offers them in the Church. They now have met the People of God from the larger community breaking in to celebrate life in Christ with them.

**Progression:**

Your reflection reminds all present that the encounter with Christ on TEC is permanent and continues to bring peace to one's life. Because you are not on the team, your story is fresh, new, and personal to your journey, your discipleship, and your daily life in the paschal mystery. Your deaths and risings will illustrate that life is filled with challenges, but we face them knowing God is with us. Peace comes with trusting in God's presence. We continue to grow in Christ, grow in discipleship, and grow in love. This reflection is a reminder to all present of the peace that only God can give. Please keep in mind the reality of all that those on the weekend have experienced from Die Day to now.

**Purpose:**

The Peace reflection offers both weekend participants and the larger community a fresh glimpse of the peace, hope, and enthusiasm found in the love of God. The placement of this reflection, in proximity to visiting Christ in the Eucharist, serves as a reminder of Christ's presence. This reflection reminds all those listening of the role that TEC and the TEC community plays in finding peace in one's life.

**Faith Awareness:**

The value and, indeed, the necessity of the Christian community in sharing and sustaining faith becomes paramount as participants witness the dimensions of interest and care the larger community has taken to support the weekend. The Peace reflection further demonstrates that value in day-to-day life.

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## Response:

The greater Christian community arriving for the Hoot/Reunion multiplies joy beyond measure. This surprising celebration delights even those who are expecting the friends and families. Your sharing aims to ignite the flames of confidence and enthusiasm in all present. Community strengthens, bolsters, and supports individual disciples, rendering each, "alone no longer."

## OUTLINE

*After reading and praying with the scripture for this reflection, please study the outline carefully. Time constraints may require you to be selective. As you develop your stories and examples, consider the points in bold as most essential to the purpose of your sharing and the continuity of the weekend.*

**Scripture:** Make sure to read John 14:27 at the point in your reflection where you feel it is most apropos.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid." (John 14: 27)

**Introduction:** Please share a story from your first TEC to help break the ice and help them to get to know you. Make sure your story is not about Go Day.

### **I. Introduce yourself and speak briefly of your background.**

- A. Share when and where you first attended TEC (SD may have already provided this.)
- B. If you are a student or are working, your everyday environment will be of interest, so share details about your family, school, or work.

### **II. Share stories of your walk, in companionship with Christ.**

- A. Finding peace despite pressures, conflicts, and struggles is the gift Jesus offers.
  - 1. Discuss how peace in Christ is different than the world's understanding of peace-
    - a. Stronger than absence of strife
    - b. Deeper than feelings of tranquility.
  - 2. Share an example of when you felt peace in your life.
- B. Living the paschal mystery brings peace that overcomes any difficulty.
  - 1. Relate how new life can come from negative circumstances.
  - 2. Share your joy or surprise of how God has worked in tough situations.

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- C. When sharing these stories, be sure to highlight the role of your relationship with Jesus, experiences with prayer and the sacraments, the dynamic of the paschal mystery, and with the TEC community.
- III. **Conclude by sharing** how God's love and the support of the Christian community, especially through the TEC community, is a constant source of strength and power when we find ourselves overwhelmed.
- A. Share how you invite Christ into your life daily and how you find peace in the regular ups and downs of life.
  - B. Remind participants that peace comes most often in everyday moments of trying our best for God and others. Peace in the everyday happenings of life keeps radiating out farther and farther; like the ripples of a pebble dropped in water, the peace keeps flowing out to all.
  - C. The TEC community and our parish life can help to sustain this peace in Christ and help it to grow.