

ACTIVITIES

ROZA'S VILLAGE

A reflection on the graphic novel *Roza or the Courage to Choose Life*

OBJECTIVE // To identify the causes of instability and, conversely, of peace present in the comic. To relate to the realities of life in Roza's village, and many others worldwide.

TIME // 60 – 90 minutes

NUMBER OF PEOPLE // Good for self-study or with any size group.

MATERIALS // Copies of *Roza or the Courage to Choose Life*. These can be downloaded from <http://youth.devp.org/action-drc> and photocopied, or ordered from Shelley Burgoyne – sburgoyne@devp.org – free of charge for up to 10 full-colour copies!

PREPARATION // Read the graphic novel and the discussion questions ahead of time; photocopy, print or order one comic for each individual.

HOW IT'S DONE // Hand out the comic and ask each person to spend some time reading and carefully evaluating each image. Once they have finished reading, assemble the group and talk about what they learned from Roza's story. After this exercise, say *A Reflection on Peace* aloud together.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS //

1. What are the key issues in the graphic novel?
2. What did you know about these issues before you read the story?
3. Did the pictures help you to understand Roza's life and story better? Why or why not?
4. In what ways is your life similar to that of Roza and her fellow villagers? In what ways does it differ?
5. What role does small-scale farming play in the lives of Roza and the villagers?
6. What role does the Justice and Peace Commission play in the villager's lives?
7. Why was it important for the villagers to forgive each other?
8. Why did Furaha suggest a literacy training group for the women?
9. Why did Roza work to convince others to start farming? Why didn't she only worry about feeding her own family?
10. On page 40 of the comic, it talks about how some minerals are sourced in the Congo. Why is it important for us to know how these minerals are sourced?

MORE // Go to <http://youth.devp.org/action-drc> for more ideas on how to take action to support communities like Roza's in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.



ACTIVITIES



A Reflection on Peace

Peace is a state of respect, co-operation and well-being.

Peace is the presence of social justice.

Peace is the absence of war, poverty and hunger.

Peace is the freedom from sickness and disease.

It is employment and health.

Peace is hope for our future

And the future of all God's children and all God's world.

Peace is when we have no fear to assemble,

To worship, to work, to publish and to say the truth,

Even to the powerful.

Peace is well-being for all,

Equality and respect for human rights.

Peace is when everybody feels at home and accepted,

Without barriers based on age, class, sex, race,

Religion or nationality.

Peace is a sense of unity and relationship

That compels one to work for justice and equality.

Peace is action that is dynamic and positive.

Peace is that fragile harmony that carries with it

The experience of struggle, the endurance of suffering

And the strength of love.

Adapted and used with permission from "We Dare to Say" published by Novalis.