

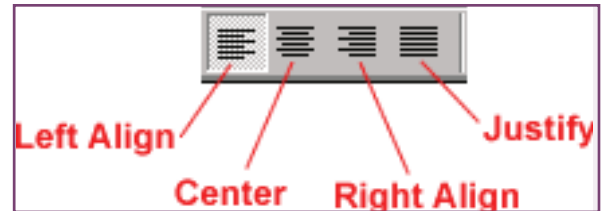


# 40 Ideas for 40 Days

from Joe Paprocki

## Justification – Being Aligned with God

Lent is a time to make sure that we are in a healthy alignment with God.



- Provide each participant with a fistful of Cheerios and a straight edge/ruler or popsicle stick.
- Invite them to “spill” the Cheerios on their desk/table top in front of them.
- Show them the following image (either copy and paste into a handout or project it) and tell them to use their straight edge to arrange their Cheerios so that they LEFT ALIGN.
- Walk around to affirm that they arranged them correctly with the left edge straight.
- Next, have them mix up the Cheerios again and then use their straight edge to arrange their Cheerios so that they RIGHT ALIGN.
- Once again, walk around to affirm that they arranged them correctly with the right edge straight.
- Have them mix up the Cheerios again and then use their straight edge to arrange their Cheerios so that they are JUSTIFIED.
- Walk around to affirm that they arranged them correctly with both edges straight.
- Based on that, invite them to define the word JUSTIFY/JUSTIFIED (*to line up perfectly, to straighten out, to make a perfect fit, and so on*). Be sure to write their suggested definitions on the board. Explain that, during Lent, we strive to align ourselves with God which St. Paul referred to as being “justified.” (Romans 4:1-8)