Page 125

Unit 4: We Love God's People

Before You Begin

1. Read **A Letter Home,** found on page 116 of the Student Book. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
2. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and pictures of your child with you and other family members, including some as a baby if you have them.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: The Fourth Commandment tells us to respect our parents and other people in authority. It is important for children to learn that there are others in addition to their parents, grandparents, and guardians whom they should respect, honor, and obey. In this lesson, you will consider the ways we show respect and honor to parents, teachers, government officials, and church leaders who guide and protect us.

Page 115

Unit Opener

As you begin the lesson, help your child transition into this special time of faith formation. Have your child put away any devices, toys, or other things that could distract either of you from giving full attention to God. If it will help your child to center him- or herself, play calming instrumental music for a minute. Invite your child to take a deep breath in and out, as you do the same. Then quietly pray the Scripture verse at the bottom of the page as your child keeps his or her eyes closed, "Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another." (1 John 4:11) Share a sign of love with your child.

Have your child read aloud the unit title, **We Love God's People.** Explain that in Unit 3, you will learn more about how the Fourth through Seventh Commandments guide us in showing love for others.

Direct your child's attention to the images on the page. Point to the top right scene and explain that this is the miracle of loaves and fishes when Jesus made sure there was enough to feed the crowds. Ask how the bottom scene is connected to the one of Jesus. (People are gathered to share a meal; some people are serving food and helping others.) Discuss how the scenes connect to the Scripture verse at the bottom of the page. (The images show people showing love for one another, sharing and serving, making sure people have what they need.)

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and listen to the audio together.

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Page 117

Chapter 14: We Honor and Obey

Show a picture of your child with you, his grandparents, or extended family. Say: ***Each of us is precious to God. God asks us to honor our parents because of the love and life they share with us.***

Ask your child who the family pictured at the bottom of the page is. (the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph) Say: ***We can see the love among them as they work and spend time together. How can you tell that the family at the top of the page loves one another?*** (They are sitting close together; they are smiling and happy.) Have your child share some things he or she does to show you love.

We Show Respect in Our Families

Have your child read the first three paragraphs on the page. Ask your child why children love their parents. (They take care of us, give us all that we need, love us, and make sacrifices for us.) Say: ***When our parents show their love for us, we have an idea of how much God loves us.***

Direct your child's attention to the **Word to Know** box to review the definition of *obedience.*

Read aloud the last paragraph. Discuss what God wants parents to do for their children. (love us, take care of us physically and spiritually, teach us, help us be God's children) Point out that sometimes grandparents, aunts or uncles, and other adults support parents in caring and providing for children.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and watch the video together.

Page 118

Words of Honor

Read aloud the directions for the **Words of Honor** activity. Consider completing the activity with your child, giving some examples of how adult children love, help, respect, obey, and thank their older parents.

Lead your child in reflection on Jesus as a child using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. Invite your child to sit quietly and spend time with Jesus, close his or her eyes, and imagine a scene with the Holy Family in it. Read aloud the text, pausing after questions to give your child time to reflect and pray.

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Page 119 We Respect Our Leaders

Have your child share a time he or she was a leader in a group, sport, game, or chore at home. Did your child like being a leader? Why or why not? Discuss how we want members of a group to help us when we are leaders. (by listening, by following directions, by cooperating, by being kind) Talk about why we might need a leader in a game. (to help us do well, to help us be fair, to decide on plays)

Ask: ***Why do we need leaders in our school, Church, and town?*** (to help us be good students, good Christians, and good citizens) Ask: ***What can we do to help these leaders?*** (listen to them, cooperate with them, be kind to them)

Take turns reading aloud the paragraphs on page 119.

Page 120 Leaders Have Duties

Have your child read silently the paragraphs on the page. Name some of the leaders in your city or town (mayor, council members, sheriff) and how they help us. (Some make laws that protect people's rights; some see that people keep the laws; they help keep peace and order; they make the place in which we live safer and happier.) Consider another example of leaders in your child's school and how they help and lead.

Read aloud the directions for the **What Makes a Good Leader?** activity and complete it with your child.

Page 121 Families Help Us Grow in Goodness

Recall the parable of the sower from chapter 13. Remind your child that we need to nurture God's Word in our lives like a seed. Have your child describe what is happening in the picture on the page.

If you showed your child a family photo at the beginning of the lesson, refer back to it now. Point out that we grow and learn so much from our families. Our families are important to us, and they are important to our communities and country.

Have your child read the first and second paragraphs on page 121. Discuss special responsibilities that parents have. (They share their faith with their children, teach children about Jesus, and help children develop Christian virtues.)

Direct your child's attention to the **Word to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition of *virtue*. Explain that a disposition is a quality of our nature or character. Read aloud the third paragraph. Discuss some virtues we learn from our families. (patience, kindness, humility, perseverance, fairness) Sometimes we learn these virtues because we experience the opposite, and our families make an effort to redirect us so we know what is important and how we should act as Christians.

Have your child read aloud the last paragraph. Assure your child that it's impossible for families to always live up to these ideals. We need the Holy Spirit's help and Jesus' example and grace. We will fall short sometimes, but every day is a new opportunity to live as the family God intends us to be.

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Page 122 Chapter Review

Use the **Word Scramble** activity to review the Fourth Commandment. [ANSWERS: 1. Fourth; 2. honor; 3. happiness; 4. leaders; 5. wrong]

Look at the **We Remember** section. Ask the question and invite your child to respond.

Look at the **We Respond** section. Read the statement together. Revisit the **Words to Know** in this chapter by locating the words and their definitions in the **Glossary.**

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review.**

Have your child read aloud the directions for the **Your Turn** activity. If possible, reflect on ways you have honored your own parents or adult family members. Share an example after your child shares.

Page 123 Families in Mission

Complete the **Families in Mission** pages with your child.

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the blue sidebar. Say: ***What is your special gift?*** [pause] ***Take a moment to hold this gift close to your heart. Thank Jesus for all he has given you.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Have your child read aloud the sentence above the chart. Have your child read aloud the first bullet under **We Know Our Faith,** and then you read aloud the corresponding bullet under **We Proclaim Our Faith.** Repeat this for the remaining points. Say: ***Jesus is a perfect model for how to be a leader. We learn from his example by reading the Gospels.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child read the answer choices and choose the correct answer. [ANSWER: leaders have a responsibility to be honest and just.]

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of the page.

Page 124 Families in Mission

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know.** Say: ***Relics, like sacramentals, connect us to the mysteries of our faith. They are reminders that we can see and touch.*** Ask: ***How might a piece of Jesus' Cross help someone better understand Christ?***

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and watch the video together.

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WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then have your child read aloud the faith statements in **My Way to Faith,** pausing after each one for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and complete the activity together. If other family members are at home, have them join in the discussion.

Conclude with the following prayer, "Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Amen."

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Chapter 15: We Respect the Gift of Life

Before You Begin

1. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, and writing supplies.
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: The Fifth Commandment tells us to honor and respect all human life because it is sacred and all people have human dignity. When God told Moses, "I am who I am," God revealed that life was the very nature of his divine being. Every human person is created in God's image, and our respect and care for our lives and the lives of others reflect our love for God. Every human life is sacred to the Lord and has unique value, at all ages and life stages.

Life Is God's Precious Gift

Help your child transition into this special time of faith formation. Invite him or her to take a deep breath in and out, as you do the same. Then ask your child to pray with you a silent prayer thanking God for the precious gift of life.

As you begin the lesson, invite your child to act out activities he or she likes to do while you guess the activity. Talk about other things we can do as human beings. (think, choose, love, read, write, pray, work, play, make art) Point out we can do these things because we have life. Read aloud the first paragraph.

Remind your child that our souls are the spiritual part of us that make us human. The soul gives humans freedom and self-awareness. Our bodies do not live forever, but our souls do. Direct your child to the definitions of *sacred* and *human dignity* in the **Words to Know** feature. Encourage your child to use the words appropriately in the context of your conversation. Remind him or her to use the **Glossary** for additional support if needed.

Explain that God wants us to take care of the gift of life he has given us, not just for ourselves but for others too. Read the next line and the Fifth Commandment in the middle of the page, "You shall not kill."

Have your child read aloud the last two paragraphs on page 125. Ask: ***What else do you think God might be telling us not to do by giving us this commandment?*** (not to hurt anyone, not to fight or quarrel, not to hit anyone, not to do or say mean things to anyone) ***What is another thing God is telling us we should do in this commandment?*** (take care of our own lives and the lives of others; respect life and protect it; respect all people)

Discuss the pictures on the page. Have your child describe what is happening in both. Talk about how we can tell the people love and respect life.

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Page 126 God Wants Us to Take Care of Ourselves

Have your child read silently the first paragraph on page 126. Encourage your child to list some good things about himself or herself. If this is hard for your child, help by pointing out things you love about him or her. Read aloud the Scripture verse in the **God's Word** feature and the second paragraph.

Discuss what God wants for us in the Fifth Commandment. (to be healthy, happy people who love ourselves because our lives are sacred; to take care of ourselves)

Read aloud the rest of the page, pausing after each bullet for your child to name specific examples of things he or she can do to take care of himself or herself.

Page 127 God Wants Us to Take Care of Others

Introduce Saint Peter Claver. Explain that about four hundred years ago, a young Spanish man named Peter Claver wanted to tell people in other lands about Jesus. He was a missionary.

Have your child read silently the page, or alternate reading aloud the paragraphs. Then discuss the following questions. Ask: ***Who needed Peter Claver's help?*** (people who were enslaved) ***How did he take care of the people who were enslaved?*** (He gave them food and medicine; he told them about Jesus.) ***Why was Peter so important to those he helped?*** (No one else cared for them; others made them suffer; they might otherwise have died; they had not heard about Jesus before.) ***Who helped Peter care for them?*** (Jesus; the Holy Spirit)

Reiterate that the Fifth Commandment forbids everything that harms the life of another. It is also wrong to hurt others in any way. It is wrong to speak hateful words, to do mean things, to fight, or to get even. Anything that can harm another goes against the Fifth Commandment.

Page 128 Christians Are Kind and Merciful

Share a time you needed help doing something at home or work. Describe how you felt when someone helped you, or when no one helped. Have your child think of a time he or she needed help learning something. Ask your child to share how it felt to be helped, or to be ignored.

Explain that you are going to read a story Jesus told about someone who was hurt and really needed help. Point out that sometimes people are afraid of people who are different from them. Sometimes they judge them or won't talk to or go near them. When Jesus lived in Palestine, many Jewish people and Samaritans would not eat or work together or even talk to one another. They mistrusted each other.

Take turns reading aloud the story on page 128. Invite your child to share parts of the story that surprised him or her. Ask: ***What do you think happened when the Jewish man told his family and friends how the Samaritan had helped him?*** (They may have changed their minds about Samaritans and wanted to be friendly toward them; they felt grateful.)

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Take some time to think about how the Samaritan story applies to your life. Lead your child in reflection using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature, inviting your child to sit quietly and spend time with Jesus. Read the sentences slowly and quietly, pausing where appropriate long enough for your child to reflect on the words. When you are finished, share times your family may have seen someone act like a Good Samaritan.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and watch the video together.

Page 129 How Are These People Like the Good Samaritan?

Have your child read aloud the three situations described on page 129. After each is read, discuss it by asking questions like: What kind deed was done? Who was happy? Why? What might have made it hard to be kind? Together share experiences of having acts of kindness and mercy bring unexpected joy to others.

Page 130 Chapter Review

Lead your child through **We Remember.** You ask the question from the section and have your child read the response.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by asking your child to explain what they mean. If necessary, reread the definitions in the **Glossary.**

Tell your child you will come back to **We Respond** to close the lesson.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review.**

Explain the directions for the **Your Turn** activity and complete it on a separate sheet of paper as your child works in the Student Book. Share your responses when you are both finished.

Page 131 Families in Mission

Complete the **Families in Mission** pages with your child.

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the blue sidebar. Say: ***Jesus told us to love and take care of one another. We help one another in this life to reach eternal life.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Have your child read aloud the sentence above the chart. Then read aloud the first bullet under **We Know Our Faith,** and have your child read aloud the corresponding bullet under **We Proclaim Our Faith.** Repeat this for the remaining points. Discuss ways people use their minds and talents to bring healing to their local communities.

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TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child read the answer choices and choose the correct answer. [ANSWER: We must treat all people with kindness and mercy.]

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of the page.

Page 132 Families in Mission, continued

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know.** Say: ***Saint Bonaventure studied hard, and he never felt he was too smart to need God in his life. Saint Bonaventure knew that we all depend on God.***

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then take turns with your child reading aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith,** pausing after each for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and complete the activity. Invite your child to share his or her example, and then share yours, or work together. Have other family members participate if possible.

End the lesson with the **We Respond** prayer on page 130.

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Page 141

Chapter 17: We Respect What God Has Given Us

Before You Begin

1. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, and writing supplies.
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: The Seventh and Tenth Commandments tell us to respect others' things and to be generous and satisfied with what we have. We are dependent creatures who must look to God for everything we need. Because God is the Creator, with rights over all people and all things, we have the obligation to use the things of this world with care and regard for their intended purpose. The Seventh and Tenth Commandments teach us to be respectful of the right of ownership and to practice generosity toward others.

God Gives Us the Things We Need

As you begin the lesson, explain to your child that you are starting with a scavenger hunt. You haven't hidden clues or objects, but you are both going to spend a minute gathering three things: one that is special or important to you for any reason, one that you really like and are glad to have, and one that you think is important to or a favorite of the other person. These don't need to be possessions or things per se.

Remind your child to look for two "things" that matter to him or her and one "thing" that matters to you. Once collected, take turns sharing why you selected what you did. Discuss what it would be like to share these things with each other, members of your family, friends, or someone you don't know.

Point out that some people have a lot of things and others have fewer things. When we share something special to us, we give something special to another. Sharing something special to you, however small it may seem, can have a great effect on another's life.

Read aloud the story of Pedro Arrupe below.

Pedro Arrupe

Pedro Arrupe was born in Spain over 100 years ago. When he was about 20 years old, he entered the Jesuit order. Arrupe wanted to study medicine. After completing his schooling in Belgium, Holland, and the United States, he was ordained a Jesuit priest. He was then sent to Japan as a missionary.

Arrupe arrived in Japan at an unfortunate time. Japan would soon go to war with the United States and much of the world. At first, Arrupe was imprisoned because he was thought to be an enemy spy. Upon his release, he continued his missionary duties to the people of Japan. He used his medical training to care for those wounded in the war.

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Although he had only meager supplies of food and medicine, only one person died under the care of his team.

Later, Arrupe went to Latin America. He once celebrated Mass in a poor parish. The faith of the people there moved him greatly. When Mass was over, a man came to him and invited him to his home, an old shack. The man invited Arrupe to observe the sunset with him. The man told Arrupe he was so grateful that Arrupe had come to his parish. He wanted to share the only gift he had: the opportunity to share in the beauty of the setting sun. Arrupe would reflect: "He gave me his hand. As I was leaving, I thought: 'I have met very few hearts that are so kind.'"

Talk about why the man's gift moved Pedro Arrupe so much. (The man shared with Arrupe the thing that was most precious to him.)

Have your child read silently the first three paragraphs on page 141, stopping before the Tenth Commandment. Explain that the things in the world are God's gifts of love to us. Ask: ***When you give a gift to someone, how do you hope that he or she will respond?*** (that he or she will be happy and enjoy the gift and take care of the gift) ***How can we take care of the gifts God has given us?*** (by not wasting them; by sharing them)

Discuss how the Seventh Commandment supports everyone's right to the things they need. (It forbids us from taking things from others; it forbids others from taking things from us.) Besides not taking others' things, we also don't damage what belongs to another.

Read aloud the Tenth Commandment and the last paragraph on page 141. Ask: ***How do people feel when they are satisfied with something?*** (They feel happy; they may want to tell others how they are thankful; they feel calm.) Discuss how wanting more than we need leads to negative feelings and goes against God's plan for us. Say: ***When we have what we need to live good lives, God wants us to be satisfied. God gives us things through our parents and others. God also wants us to be thankful for the things we have and not waste or damage them. God expects us to be willing to share with others who do not have what they need.***

Pages 142–143

We Respect the Property of Others

Take turns reading aloud the first five paragraphs on the page. This is a good time to emphasize any family expectations on taking care of your things, cleaning up after yourself, and sharing.

Have your child read aloud **Being Grateful.** If needed, review the definition of *envy* in the **Words to Know** feature on page 143.

Take turns naming what and who you are grateful for. Share an experience you had as a child that you still remember and you are thankful for having. Talk about ways to show gratitude.

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Read aloud **Being Generous** on page 143 and discuss the definition of *justice* in the **Words to Know** feature.

Explain the directions for the **Making Good Decisions** activity. Discuss each situation with your child and have your child identify whether the behavior describes someone who is or is not following the commandments. If your child has been in similar situations, you may wish to discuss the outcome and how things could have been or were different. Say: ***It's important to focus on what we can learn and how we can grow from past experiences so we can make better decisions in the future.*** This is a good time to encourage your child and affirm his or her efforts to make decisions that are in line with Jesus' teachings and the commandments.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page to experience the media.

Page 144 Dorothy Day: Hero for Justice

Take turns reading aloud about Dorothy Day. Discuss reasons why Dorothy Day is called a hero for justice. (She saw people in need and wanted to do something about it; she founded a newspaper that described what life was like for people who were experiencing poverty; she established places for them to go when they were in need; she brought awareness to the plight of those in need.)

Point out that Dorothy Day followed Jesus' example. Talk about ways your family can follow Dorothy Day's example. (have a clothing drive; donate nonperishable items to a food pantry; share with others) Remind your child that no gesture or offering is too small. Every action adds and contributes to social justice efforts around the world.

Page 145 We Respect the Rights of Others

Read aloud the paragraph and explain the directions for the **All Actions Have Consequences** activity. Complete the activity together.

Lead your child in reflection on Jesus as a child using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. Invite your child to sit quietly and spend time with Jesus, close his or her eyes, and imagine a scene with the Holy Family in it. Read aloud the text, pausing when appropriate to give your child time to reflect and pray.

Page 146 Chapter Review

Discuss titles for a book about the Seventh and Tenth Commandments. Have your child choose a title and write it on the cover in the **My Own Book** activity.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by locating the words and their definitions in the **Glossary.**

Have your child read the **We Remember** questions and responses. Point out the **We Respond** feature. Read it aloud together and make it a family commitment to live by the Seventh and Tenth Commandments.

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If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review.**

Discuss the **Your Turn** activity. As your child completes it, write your own thoughts on a separate sheet of paper. When you are both finished, share your ideas with each other.

Page 147 Families in Mission

Complete the **Families in Mission** pages with your child.

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the blue sidebar. Discuss what it means that our lives don't consist of things we own. Talk with your child about how as Catholics it is important to put God and others before our love of the things we own or want.

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Have your child read aloud the sentence above the chart. Then read aloud the first bullet under **We Know Our Faith,** and have your child read aloud the corresponding bullet under **We Proclaim Our Faith.** Repeat this for the remaining points. Say: ***When we are feeling tempted to make a wrong choice or are struggling with jealousy, we can pray to the Holy Spirit to guide our actions.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child read the answer choices and choose the correct answer. [ANSWER: envy them.]

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of the page.

Page 148 Families in Mission

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know.** Point out that Saint Cecilia's story reminds us to be courageous in our faith, even when we are tested greatly.

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then take turns with your child reading aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith,** pausing after each for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith.** As your child composes a prayer, you do so as well on a separate sheet of paper. Share your prayers. Encourage your child to begin or end each day with gratitude. This reminds us that true happiness comes only from God.

End the lesson by praying together your composed prayers.

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Page 149

Chapter 18: We Respect the Gifts of the Earth

Before You Begin

1. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and pictures or video clips of your family enjoying a favorite park or city garden or of places your family would like to visit.
2. Consider conducting all or part of this lesson outdoors to highlight God's gift of creation.
3. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
4. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: We are to use the gifts of the earth carefully and make sure all people have access to them. Justice and generosity are also part of the Seventh and Tenth Commandments. The goods of the earth were given by God for all to enjoy. All have a right to food, clothing, housing, and education. All have a responsibility to share with those who lack what is needed to live with dignity.

We Care for Our Earthly Home

Begin the lesson by naming gifts of God's creation that you are especially thankful for. To give you ideas, you might want to look at pictures of your family on an outing or trip. You might also talk about places your child would like to visit. Or you could watch a video of your child with you, his or her grandparents, or extended family.

Discuss why God has given us these gifts. (to make the world beautiful, to bring us joy, to give us the things we need)

Guide your child in describing the pictures on the page. Talk about what they have in common and how they are different. Explain that all these things—the trees, the crops, the people gardening together—are good and today you will learn more about God's plan for these gifts.

Have your child read aloud the first line, the Scripture verse from Genesis, and the paragraph below it. Then you read aloud the last paragraph on the page. Say: ***God wants us to respect the gifts of the earth and to use them in the right way.*** Explain that this means making the earth a pleasant place to live for every human. Talk with your child about why we must save the gifts of the earth for future generations.

Page 150

The Poor Man Gets His Reward

Take turns reading aloud the story from Luke's Gospel, **The Poor Man Gets His Reward,** on page 150. Say: ***To the rich man, Lazarus was a bother. He gave Lazarus nothing, not even scraps of leftover food.*** Discuss what happened when both men died. (Lazarus went to heaven, and the rich man begged Lazarus for a drop of water. Lazarus was comforted, and the rich man was suffering.)

Have your child read aloud the last paragraph. Point out that those who have more are to take responsibility for those who do not have enough.

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Lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature, inviting your child to sit quietly and spend time with Jesus. Read the prayer slowly and reverently, pausing where appropriate long enough for your child to reflect on the words.

Page 151 Operation Rice Bowl Helps People Live Better Lives

Take turns reading aloud **Operation Rice Bowl Helps People Live Better Lives** on page 151. If your family has participated in this outreach, remind your child what the experience was like.

Point out that we are called to help people all year long. Jesus depends on us to continue his work of caring for those in need.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and watch the video together.

Have your child complete the **Using God's Gifts Wisely** activity. [ANSWERS: 1. respect, 2. share, 3. waste, 4. care, 5. good]

Page 152 We Share God's Gifts with Others

Read aloud the parable of the talents in Matthew 24:14–30. Before the reading, explain that, in Jesus' time, a talent referred to a unit of weight. In the parable, the talents given to the servants probably referred to amounts of gold. While calculating the value given to each man is difficult, no man received less than what he needed. They all had enough to give.

Ask your child who the master and the servants are in the story. (Jesus; us, followers of Jesus) Discuss what the talents given to the servants represent for us. (what God has given us; our gifts; our responsibilities) Ask: ***Why was the master angry with the servant who buried his talent?*** (The master was angry because the servant did not use his gifts responsibly.)

Listen to your child's ideas. If further explanation is necessary, say: ***The servant did not waste or lose the talent the master had given him. However, he didn't use it wisely. He did not increase the gift. The gifts God has given us come with a responsibility to use them wisely, to increase them. We aren't meant to bury our gifts but to share them with others in the world.***

Have your child read silently the first three paragraphs on page 152. Direct your child's attention to the **Word to Know** box to review the definition of *witness.*

Read aloud the last paragraph on the page. Emphasize that sharing our gifts makes us witnesses to the Good News. Discuss why we should share. (God wants everyone in the world to be happy and to be able to live with dignity; God wants us to share the gifts he gave us with others.)

Have your child complete the **Words of Wisdom** activity and read aloud the message "God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)

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Page 153 You Are Never Too Young

Take turns reading aloud about Carlo Acutis. Recall with your child some of the remarkable things about Carlo Acutis. (At age 11, he designed a website about eucharistic miracles around the world; he volunteered at shelters for people who were homeless; he became one of the youngest people ever to become a blessed.)

Read aloud the directions for the **Do Your Part** activity and complete it together with your child.

Page 154 Chapter Review

Use the **Reminder Notes** activity to review ways to respect God's gifts.

Revisit the **Word to Know** in this chapter by locating the word and its definition in the **Glossary.**

Lead your child through **We Remember.** You ask the question from the section and have your child read the response.

Lead your child in prayer using the **We Respond** section.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review.**

Have your child read aloud the question from the **Your Turn** activity and use it as a springboard for discussion. Have your child write what you talked about.

Page 155 Families in Mission

Complete the **Families in Mission** pages with your child.

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the blue sidebar. Say: ***God wants us to share what we have with others. This is one kind of sacrifice God asks of us.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Have your child read aloud the sentence above the chart. Then read aloud the first bullet under **We Know Our Faith,** and have your child read aloud the corresponding bullet under **We Proclaim Our Faith.** Repeat this for the remaining points.

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child read the answer choices and choose the correct answer. [ANSWER: We show God real gratitude by sharing what we have with those in need.] Say: ***Scripture is filled with lessons to help us live better lives.***

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of the page.

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A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on the page. Say: ***Saint Miguel had many gifts to share. He was humble and willingly put others first.***

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then have your child read aloud the faith statements in **My Way to Faith,** pausing after each one for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and complete the activity together. If other family members are at home, have them join in the discussion.

Conclude with the following prayer, "Loving Father, help us to be generous to others as you have been so to us. Help us to give from our hearts and share our time and abilities with others, too. Amen."

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Page 157

Chapter 19: We Speak the Truth with Love

Before You Begin

1. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, and writing supplies.
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: The Eighth Commandment tells us to speak the truth. Christ stood before Pilate and bore witness to the truth patiently and respectfully. He did not force his message on anyone unable to accept it. Christ's example encourages your child to conquer fear of punishment and to grow in the desire to be truthful. Our lives should reflect God's love for the truth. We must act courageously in conformity to the truth as we know it, regardless of what others urge us to say or do.

God Wants Us to Speak the Truth

As you begin the lesson, help your child transition into this special time of faith formation. Have your child put away any devices, toys, or other things that could distract either of you from giving full attention to God. If it will help your child to center him- or herself, play calming instrumental music for a minute. Invite your child to take a deep breath in and out, as you do the same.

Begin the lesson by having your child look at the illustration on page 157 and discuss what it depicts. (Moses is carrying the Ten Commandments after the Father has revealed himself.) Say: ***Moses learned God's Truth and dutifully shared it with others. We must always speak the truth even when it is difficult.***

Have your child read silently the first two paragraphs and the Eighth Commandment. Say: ***"Bear false witness" means to tell a lie, especially one that accuses an innocent person.***

Read aloud the last two paragraphs. Point out the photograph of the boy and his father at the top of the page. Ask: ***Why is it important to always tell your parents the truth?*** (They love you; they trust you; they can help you.) Explain that always telling the truth also includes keeping promises we make. When we do these things, we show love for God and build trust.

Page 158

Jesus Suffers for the Truth

Have your child read aloud the page. Say: ***Sometimes we are tempted to lie, but we must always remember to use Jesus' example to inspire us to do what is right.***

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and listen to the audio together.

Have your child review the directions for and complete the **Help Us Tell the Truth** activity. Ask your child to share the composed prayer with you and pray it together.

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Page 159 Thomas More Suffered for the Truth

Take turns reading aloud about Thomas More. Discuss some of the traits that made people like Thomas More. (He was fair, he was good to the poor, and he spoke the truth no matter the consequences.) Ask: ***What were Thomas's last words?*** ("I die the king's good servant, but God's first.")

Direct your child's attention to the **Word to Know** box to review the definition of *martyr.*

Have your child review the directions for and complete the **A Man of Truth** activity. [ANSWERS: M—Mass; O—Offend; R—Right; E—England]

Pages 160–161 God Wants Us to Speak with Respect and Love

Have your child read silently the first two paragraphs and the Scripture passage. Say: ***Saint Paul described love as patient, kind, and happy with the truth.*** Read aloud the last two paragraphs. Explain that our words are powerful. Say: ***When we use our words with truthfulness, patience, consideration for others, friendship, and kindness, God's love shines through us.***

Lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature, inviting your child to sit quietly and spend time with Jesus. Read the prayer slowly and reverently, pausing where appropriate long enough for your child to reflect on the words.

Have your child complete the **Using Respectful Words** activity on page 161. Invite your child to share his or her responses with you and offer your own ideas as well.

Page 162 Chapter Review

Have your child describe the Eighth Commandment in his or her own words. Then have your child compare this to the **We Remember** statement. Point out the **We Respond** feature and read it aloud together.

Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter by asking your child to explain what it means. If necessary, reread the definition in the **Glossary.**

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review.**

Have your child read the directions for the **Your Turn** activity. Allow your child ample time to complete it and offer support if needed.

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Complete the **Families in Mission** pages with your child.

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the blue sidebar. Say: **God wants us to speak only what is true.**

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KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Have your child read aloud the sentence above the chart. Then read aloud the first bullet under **We Know Our Faith,** and have your child read aloud the corresponding bullet under **We Proclaim Our Faith.** Repeat this for the remaining points. Say: ***A martyr is someone who willingly dies for the faith. Many martyrs died because they refused to deny Christ. To them, speaking the truth was more important than their own lives.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child read the answer choices and choose the correct answer. [ANSWER: speak calmly and say only what is true.] Say: ***When we take our faith to heart, we know better how to show it and share it with others.***

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of the page.

Page 164 Families in Mission, continued

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know.** Say: ***Saint Gertrude reminds us to offer up our sufferings to God. We can show others our faith by not complaining about the difficulties in our lives.***

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then take turns with your child reading aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith,** pausing after each for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and complete the activity. Invite your child to share his or her responses, and then share yours, or work together. Have other family members participate if possible.

To close the lesson, you may wish to conduct a short examination of conscience. Encourage your child to sit quietly, focus on your words, and answer each question silently and honestly. Reread the passage from First Corinthians on page 160. Ask: ***Are my words always patient and kind? Do I boast? Do speak rudely to others? Do I tell the truth even when it's difficult? Do I keep silent when it is kinder not to talk about the wrong things others have done? Do I keep my promises? Do I keep the confidences of my family and friends?*** When you are finished, encourage your child to always remember that we are called to use Jesus' example to inspire us to speak the truth with love.

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