God's People Long to Be Clean of Heart and Holy

GRADE 4

CHAPTER 23 Study Guide

Keep these ideas in mind as you study ***Chapter 23****.*

In one beatitude Jesus teaches us about being clean of heart, or free of sin. To be with God, we need his forgiveness and grace. The clean of heart are filled with God's life and love.

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As the mother of the Son of God, Mary is unique among all humans. From the moment God made her, Mary was full of grace, born without Original Sin. This is called the Immaculate Conception.

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Mary is now with God in heaven, where she sees him in all his beauty and glory. Mary will help us be clean of heart. We can say to her, "Mother most pure, pray for us."

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Saint Aloysius wanted to serve God always and to please our Blessed Mother. He became a priest, leaving behind his wealth to become a member of the Society of Jesus, also known as the Jesuits.

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When we seek God's forgiveness and choose to avoid things that lead us away from him, we begin to see as God does. We see Christ in our neighbors, and we see ourselves as Temples of the Holy Spirit.

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Jesus teaches us that we should want to do God's will and follow his plan for us. Those who desire the salvation that comes from Jesus will receive holiness.

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Righteousness is the holiness that comes only from being in God's friendship and following his will. We show our desire to be holy when we try to love God with all our hearts.

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Even as a child, Saint Thérèse of Lisieux wanted to be holy. She knew that, to become a saint, one had to love Jesus and be like him. She made sacrifices for him and did not wish for riches or glory, only his love.

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