A House Built on Rock

GRADE 8

CHAPTER 12 Study Guide

*Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Chapter 12**.*

Christian persecutions began because Christians were different, didn't pay homage to the Roman gods or fight in the military, and were blamed for a great fire.

Page **109**

As unbelievers saw the courage of the persecuted Christians, some were inspired to turn to God and be baptized.

Page **109**

In the 20th century, there were more martyrs than in all other centuries combined. In many countries, Christians are still persecuted for their faith.

Page **110**

The Roman emperor Constantine was gradually drawn to Christianity. When he let his soldiers wear a Christian symbol into war and they won against a much larger force, he took that as a sign. He decided to let Christians worship freely. He issued a decree called the Edict of Milan, declaring that Christianity was no longer a forbidden religion.

Page **111**

A heresy is a false teaching that rejects a truth that has been revealed by God and taught by the Church.

Page **112**

Some Christians spend many hours in prayer, do penances, and make sacrifices to focus on their souls and to deepen their relationships with Jesus.

Page **112**

Religious communities consecrate themselves to Jesus by living lives of poverty, chastity, and obedience within a community recognized by the Church.

Page **112**

Local bishops gather for meetings called synods. During the Arian heresy, the bishops gathered together for a synod to discuss ways to present the truth to confused Christians.

Page **113**

The Nicene Creed was the creed that the bishops began to compose as a result of the Council of Nicaea. The Nicene Creed clearly expresses that Jesus is true God and true man. He is God's own Son and is God just as much as his Father is God.

Page **113**

The Church Fathers were the thinkers and teachers who explained the message of Jesus. They were brought forth by the Holy Spirit to build, strengthen, and give life to the Church.

Page **113**

©LOYOLAPRESS. All Rights Reserved w3557 www.christourlife.com