

Grade 2 - Chapter 7

Discover

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Discover

Catechist Tips: Practicing Empathy

Young children may not know the meaning of the word *empathy*, but they can use their imaginations to put themselves in another's place.

- Reinforce lessons on empathy by asking the children to ask themselves, "How would I feel if this were happening to me?"
- Remind the children of the Golden Rule: Treat others as you want them to treat you.

Catechist Tips: Observance of the Law

In the Old Testament, God reveals himself as the liberator of the oppressed and the defender of the poor.

- Throughout history, God invites his people to demonstrate their faith by showing justice toward their neighbors. (See *Justice in the World*, #30.)
- The Ten Commandments are laws that help God's People live in peace and practice justice.

Catechist Tips: Jews and Samaritans

In Jesus' time, these groups disliked each other for racial and religious reasons.

- Jesus' listeners would have been surprised that the Jewish men in the story did not help. They would have been more surprised that someone considered an enemy did help.
- The Samaritan took care of the wounded man despite the troubled history between the two groups of people.

Catechist Tips: Who Obeys?

Organize the large group of children into two equal sized groups. Inform them that they are going to

play a game. Designate one group to follow all of your directions exactly. Tell the other group not to follow any of your directions.

Use simple commands such as: *say your name, stand up, raise your hands*. The second group can be creative with what they do, as long as they don't do anything unsafe.

Discuss what it was like to be in each of the groups.

- **What did it feel like to follow all the directions?**
- **What did it feel like to not follow the directions?**
- **What rules do you follow each day?**
- **Who made the rules?**
- **Sometimes rules are made to help keep you safe. Can you think of any examples?** (*Don't play in the street; don't play with matches, etc.*)
- **Some rules help us get along better. What are some examples?** (*Listen when others are speaking; treat others with respect, etc.*)

Catechist Tips: Commandments

In place of proclaiming the Scripture reading on page 123 in the student book, have the children do a choral reading of the passages. Organize the children into one group of boys and one group of girls. Take the part of the Leader. Invite the children to stand with their books.

Leader: A reading from the Gospel according to Luke and the Gospel according to John

Girls: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart

Boys: With all your being

Girls: With all your strength

Boys: And with all your mind

Girls: And your neighbor as your self

All: Jesus also gave his followers the New Commandment: "Love one another as I love you."

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Glossary Activity: Great Commandment

Have children act out examples of following the Great Commandment.

- Ask children to work in small groups. Have the groups choose examples from the chart on the "Our Catholic Life" page in the student book or come up with some of their own.
- Allow time for groups to act out their situations.

Additional Activity: What If?

Have children make a list of what might happen on the playground if there were no rules.

- Discuss points such as: if there were no rules, children might get injured; some children might not get turns; someone might wander away or talk to a stranger.

Additional Activity: Dioramas

A diorama is a 3-D representation of a scene from a story or a historical setting.

- Have children work in pairs to create a diorama of the story of the Good Samaritan.

- A shoebox can serve as a frame for the diorama.
- Have children share their dioramas with children in other classes.

Additional Activity: Good Advice Poster

Have children make “Good Samaritan” posters to hang in the parish hall.

- Have children work in three groups to record their advice on the poster board or banner paper. If time permits, have them decorate the posters, too.
- Invite each group to present its poster.

Additional Activity: Feelings Poem

Have children write poems about feelings when giving or receiving help.

- One poem should express the feelings of the person who needs help.
- The other poem should express the feelings of the person who gives help.
- Invite volunteers to share their poems.