

Grade 6 - Chapter 14

Discover

- Catechist Edition Instruction
- Catechist Tips: Peace
- Catechist Tips: Wheelchair Users
- Glossary Activity: Dignity
- Additional Activity: Fair (Unfair) Game
- Additional Activity: Justice Candleholders
- Parish Video Connection: The Beatitudes

Discover

Catechist Edition Instruction

Discover (1)

Objectives

- Recognize natural moral law as the understanding that God places in every human heart
- Define justice as giving God and others what is due to them

Seeking Justice

Ask: What does it mean to act justly?

- List the children's responses on the board or on chart paper.

Emphasize that the search for justice is a response to the natural moral law, which expresses the God-given dignity of all persons.

For more on moral law, have the children turn to page 315 in the Our Catholic Tradition section of the Student Book.

Work with Words

Have volunteers share what they know about the words *justice*, *virtue*, and *grace*.

- Then have the children go to page 201 to silently read the definitions in the Catholic Faith Words box.

► Music Option: In the background, play "Act Justly," downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

- Ask the children if they have any questions on the meanings of these terms. Offer further explanation if necessary.

Scripture

Invite a volunteer to proclaim the Scripture passage.

- Have another volunteer repeat the last four lines.
- Ask the children what message they heard about justice in this passage. **Those who are**

persecuted will see the Kingdom of Heaven.

► Music Option: Sing with the children “It Is Right and Just,” downloaded from **aliveinchrist.osv.com**.

Activity

Read aloud the instructions for the Share Your Faith activity.

- Brainstorm with the children some unjust actions recently reported in the media.
- Allow time for partners to work together to write their answers and continue with the Share portion of the activity.
- Encourage volunteers to share with the group what they came up with.

Quick Review

Because God has endowed all humans with dignity and an understanding of natural moral law, anyone who robs another of dignity is acting unjustly.

Discover (2)

Objectives

- Explore the relationship between peace and justice through the writings of the minor prophets
- Describe social sin as the unjust structures that can occur as the result of personal sin

Peace

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the question at the top of the page and elicit responses.

Have the children silently read the text.

- Tell them that the custom in Old Testament days was to pay workers at the end of each day.

► Music Option: While the children read, play “Seek Ye First,” downloaded from

aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Three Prophets

Have two volunteers read the paragraphs about the Old Testament prophets Hosea, Amos, and Micah.

Scripture

Ask a volunteer to proclaim the Scripture.

★ Instruct the children to underline the words in Micah's message that state what the Lord requires.

- Point out the artwork of Micah at the bottom of the page.

Justice Seekers and Peacemakers

Read aloud the first paragraph.

The Common Good

Invite three readers to each read aloud one of the boxes in the side column.

- Ask volunteers for examples of how they can begin to fulfill these duties now.

Invite another volunteer to read the final paragraph from the main column of the student page.

- Emphasize the definition of social sin. Point out that one person's sins can cause others to sin. Discuss examples.
- Ask: Who do you know that's a peacemaker?
- Invite volunteers to share their personal stories.

Activity

Read aloud the directions.

- Allow time for the children to complete the activity.
- Review the answers with the group.

Quick Review

The responsibility of the Church is to work for justice and peace as the Old Testament prophets and Jesus did. Unjust structures can occur because of personal sin.

Catechist Tips: Peace

One of Christ's final gifts to the disciples was peace. (See John 14:27, 16:33.) Peace was also the first greeting of the Risen Lord to the fearful disciples. (See John 20:19.)

- The early Christians greeted one another with words of peace, an extension of the Jewish custom.
- The Latin prayer *Dona nobis pacem* (grant us peace) is often sung as a round.

Catechist Tips: Wheelchair Users

There may be children in your group who must use a wheelchair for mobility. Review with the rest of the children proper etiquette for talking with wheelchair users.

- Remind them to speak to the person directly and converse as they would with any of the other children in the group.
- Suggest that the children converse at eye-level with wheelchair users, when possible, to show respect.

Glossary Activity: Dignity

Ask the children to share favorite books, stories, or films that explore the issue of human dignity.

- Invite each child to tell the story to the class in his or her own words.
- Make a group list of materials on the subject of human dignity.

Additional Activity: Fair (Unfair) Game

Supplies:

- index cards with the following situations written on them:
 1. You have two friends visiting and twelve cookies to share.
 2. There is a long lunch line, but your friend is at the front of the line.
 3. Movie tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under. You are 11.
 4. You have to go home after school, but your friends are going swimming.
 5. Some kids are teasing a small boy with glasses.
 6. Your friend wants to copy your homework.

- pen or pencil
- container for index cards

Preparation:

- Place the index cards in the container.
- Remind the children that Christians should challenge injustice.
- Tell them they are going to act out some situations in unfair and fair ways.

Organize the large group into two smaller groups. Pull a situation from the container and pick the same number of children from each group. Read the situation out loud. Ask: **What do you do?**

- Have the first group of children act out the situation in an unfair way.
- Have the second group act out the same situation in a fair way.
- After each situation, ask questions to spark a short discussion: **How did you feel when you watched each group? What might you have done differently in this situation?**

Additional Activity: Justice Candleholders

Supplies:

- small glass jars (mayonnaise, jelly, baby food)
- white, gold, and silver tissue paper cut into 1" x 1" (2.5 x 2.5 cm) squares (multicolored is another option)
- glue bottles
- gloss decoupage product or glue mixed with water
- sponge brushes
- gold or silver ribbon
- votive candles
- gold or silver acrylic paint and fine tip brushes (optional)

Summarize the lesson. Say: **Goodness fills our world. Yet, sadly, the world also contains people and events that are not fair or just. As Christians, we are called to challenge injustice. When a person, or group of people, is wronged, it is our job to speak out, work to make a change, and keep trying until the wrong is made right. Often people join the global community in setting candles on windowsills to draw attention to unjust happenings, or they light candles at rallies and concerts for justice and peace. We are going to make special candleholders you can use by yourself or with your family to remind you of a special cause or group of people you want to pray for or assist.**

- Distribute art materials.
- Instruct the children to dab glue onto the glass jar and cover it with a tissue square.
- Then have them completely cover the jar with tissue squares. Allow brief time for glue to set.
- Have the children use a sponge brush to press and cover all tissue paper with decoupage product or glue water.
- They should then tie a ribbon in a bow and attach it to the top of the jar.
- Place a votive candle inside the jar and allow the children to take their candleholders home.

Parish Video Connection: The Beatitudes

You may wish to play this video as an option to the Catechist Edition instruction on page 201 under *Scripture* to invite a volunteer to read the Beatitudes aloud. Be sure to ask the children the question

posed in the second bullet point.

Ask: What is your favorite section of the Beatitudes? Why?

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/s3gfMakdIH0>

DISCLAIMER