

Grade 4 - Chapter 12

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Discover

Catechist Edition Instruction

Discover (1)

Objective

- Identify Peter as the Apostle Jesus chose to lead the Apostles and the Church

Jesus Chooses a Leader

Ask: Whom did Jesus choose as the leader of the Apostles?

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

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the paragraph.

- Ask: Who has taught you about the God, Jesus, or the Church?

Scripture

Proclaim "You Are the Messiah!"

- Ask a volunteer to read aloud the next paragraph.
- Tell the children that Jesus trusted Peter to teach and govern his Church.
- Ask: If Jesus asked you the same question he asked Peter, what would you say?

Point out the picture.

- Ask the children to tell what they see in the picture.

Peter and Jesus

Explain that although Peter understood that Jesus was the Messiah, he still had more to learn about Jesus.

- Read aloud this paragraph.
- ★ Have the children underline what Peter did the night before Jesus died.
- Emphasize that even though he denied Jesus, Peter later repented and learned from his mistake. Ask two children to play the parts of Jesus and Peter in a skit for the group.
- Ask the children what Jesus meant when he said, "Feed my lambs. Feed my sheep." **Take care of my people.**
- Ask: Why do you think Jesus asked Peter the same questions three times?
- Music Option: Have the children sing, "Jesus Is with Us Today," downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Share Your Faith activity.

- Allow time for the children to write their prayers.

Quick Review

Jesus chose Peter to be the teacher and leader of his Church and also gave other Apostles a share in the authority to teach and lead.

Discover (2)

Objectives

- Recognize that Jesus gave Peter and the Apostles, and their successors the Pope and bishops, the authority to teach and lead in his name
- Identify the Magisterium as the teaching office of the Church
- Explain how the Holy Spirit directs the Magisterium in teaching and guiding the People of God
- Retell the Precepts of the Church.

The Church and You

Ask: What is your role as a member of the Church?

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

Read aloud the first two paragraphs.

- For more on Church authority, refer to page 310 in the Our Catholic Tradition reference section in the back of the Student Book.

Work with Words

Introduce the word *Magisterium* and have the children make vocabulary cards.

Have a child read aloud the last paragraph.

- Ask: Who has taught you what the Church teaches?

Draw the graphic organizer on the board or chart paper.

- Ask the children who works through the people listed. Write *Holy Spirit* in the outermost circle.

Rules for Living

Tell the children that those who lead and teach the Church have written rules to help people live as faithful followers of Jesus.

- Ask a volunteer to read aloud the paragraph.
- Read the definition of the *Precepts of the Church* and have the children make vocabulary cards for this term.

Precepts of the Church

Have each of five volunteers read aloud one Precept.

- Organize the children into five groups, and assign one Precept to each group.
 - Have each group tell how fourth graders can obey the assigned Precept.
- Music Option: Have the children sing, "The Family of God," downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Activity

Point out the Connect Your Faith activity and read aloud the directions.

- Have the children complete the word search activity.

Quick Review

The Pope and the bishops have the authority to lead and teach the Church in spreading Jesus' message.

Catechist Tips: Fidelity

Psalm 43:3 personifies light and fidelity as guides to lead the faithful to the Lord. The Psalm expresses a longing to be in God's presence.

- Ask the children to consider these images in prayer.
- Explain that the word *fidelity* means "faithfulness" or "truth." This knowledge may help the children understand the Psalm better.

Catechist Tips: Authority

Catholics depend on the teaching authority of the Church.

- The Church's teachings are rooted in Scripture and in Jesus' life.
- Pope Saint John Paul II said that the Magisterium's duty is to "discern and promote philosophical thinking which is not at odds with faith."

Catechist Tips: Precepts of the Church

The Precepts were first formally listed in the Middle Ages.

- Tell the children that *fasting* means limiting food and drink and *abstaining* means refraining from eating meat.
- Point out the age requirements: Abstinence applies to those fourteen years old and above; fasting is for those between the ages of eighteen and sixty.

Catechist Tips: Support Parish Programs

Many parishes conduct campaigns to encourage donations of time, talent, and treasure. If one is planned, offer the children to assist with it.

- Make posters to encourage donations.
- Insert flyers and brochures into bulletins.
- Write articles for a parish newsletter.

Catechist Tips: Which Is Most Important?

Point out to the children that all three ways of contributing to the Church community are important. Monetary contributions do not always have the greatest value.

- Spending time on a project is a special gift of self. Only you can give your time.
- Using talents on a project means giving your personal perspective and way of working. Again, this is a unique gift.

Catechist Tips: The Holy Spirit

Discuss with the children common symbols and imagery for the Holy Spirit, such as water, fire, a cloud, and a dove.

Glossary Activity: Precepts of the Church

Tell the children to think about Catholic values. Do the messages in TV shows support these values?

- Are families on TV ever shown attending church?
- Do viewers see characters donating money to charity or providing services to others?
- Have the children report their findings.

Additional Activity: Names of Jesus

Messiah is only one of many titles or names for Jesus.

- See how many other the children can remember: Christ, King of the Jews, Lamb of God, Savior, and Good Shepherd are examples.
- Sing hymns that use some of Jesus' different titles.

Additional Activity: Leaders

The children can research the ways in which leaders are chosen.

- One group can report on elected heads of state.
- Another group can report on monarchies.
- Have one group explain the process of choosing a new pope.

Additional Activity: Write to the Bishop

Have the children write a group letter to your bishop or archbishop.

- Prepare by brainstorming questions to ask and topics to discuss. For example, the children might suggest ways to improve their local church.

- Have the children include information about themselves and a statement of support.

Additional Activity: Anthology

Suggest that the children collect their stories and skits from this chapter in an anthology.

- Arrange the works by content.
- Encourage artistic children to add illustrations.
- Duplicate the pages, and have the children assemble a copy for each of them to keep.

Parish Video Connection: Magisterium

Once you've completed the Catechist Edition instruction on page 178, show the children this video.

Ask: What is the "deposit of faith"? (Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition) What does the Magisterium do? (provides and promotes Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition)

Say: The Holy Spirit works through every member of the Body of Christ.

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/1tE88gVGvjo>

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