

Grade 4 - Chapter 6

Discover

- Catechist Tips: A Good Conscience
- Catechist Tips: Luke 10:30-37
- Catechist Tips: Games with Rules
- Glossary Activity: Conscience
- Additional Activity: Japanese Tale
- Additional Activity: What If?
- Additional Activity: Want Ads
- Additional Activity: Drama - What If Freeze!
- Parish Video Connection: The Good Samaritan

Discover

Catechist Tips: A Good Conscience

After reading The Parable of the Good Samaritan on page 110, ask the children to name the three decisions he used his conscience to make. (*stop and bandage the man or not; take him off the road to an inn; offer to pay for his care*) Lead them in a discussion of his options each time. Challenge them to answer: **Who and what has helped me form my conscience?** Let each one write a note of thanks to one of those persons.

Catechist Tips: Luke 10:30-37

In Jesus' time, members of these two groups had religious differences and refused to speak to one another. Jesus' use of a Samaritan as the hero of his story is remarkable.

- The Jewish audience would not expect a Samaritan to be more caring than Jewish leaders.
- Jesus' inclusion of the Samaritan as a merciful neighbor clearly indicates that the Samaritan is one of God's people.

Catechist Tips: Games with Rules

Playing games can help the children learn about free will and responsibility.

- Have the children discuss times when they can't make their own decisions.
- Ask them to imagine the confusion that would result if each game player created his or her own rules.

Glossary Activity: Conscience

Remind the children of Jiminy Cricket, who was Pinocchio's conscience. Also remind them of the good angel on one shoulder and bad angel on the other, sometimes depicted in cartoons. Assure them that the conscience is not either of these depictions.

- Have the children work in pairs.
- Using the Catholic Faith Word definition, have the children commit the definition of *conscience* to memory, reciting to each other.
- As a way to remember, have them create an abstract picture that will remind them of the meaning of *conscience*.

Additional Activity: Japanese Tale

You may wish to read *The Crane Wife* by Odds Bodkin (Harcourt, 2002) as an alternate story.

This Japanese tale is about a lonely sail maker who nurses an injured crane. The story parallels the themes of this lesson.

Additional Activity: What If?

The first What If? question (What if you had \$100 to spend?) can include math as well as decision making.

- Have the children name ways to use the money—entertainment, clothes, charity, and so on.
- Ask the children how much they would spend on each item. Make sure that the total adds up to \$100.

Additional Activity: Want Ads

Supplies:

- video *Close Encounters with the Commandments* (18 min.), Oblate Media
- video player and monitor

Gather the children around the video player. Introduce the video by saying that one of the guides we have for making good choices are the Ten Commandments. Show the video, which investigates the meaning and importance of the Ten Commandments in a practical and engaging manner. Use the accompanying guide for discussion.

Additional Activity: Drama - What If Freeze!

Introduce the activity by saying: **We are going to act out the situations on page 111 and do a Freeze! That means that when I see that the scenario is going in the wrong direction, I'm going to say, "Freeze!" and the rest of the group will ask, "What's the right choice? Then, you are going to finish the scenario by acting out the right choice.**

Organize the large group into smaller groups of three or four per group.

Give them a couple of minutes to choose one of the situations or assign each group one of the situations. Have each group act out their scenario, purposely choosing the wrong choice. When the scenario seems to be heading in the wrong direction, say, "**Freeze!**"

The other children should say "*What is the right choice?*" and then let the scenario continue in a new direction.

After each scenario, ask questions to spark short discussions. **Was it easier or more difficult to make the right choice? Were there other choices that could be made that would have been good choices?**

Parish Video Connection: The Good Samaritan

Once you've completed the Catechist Edition instruction on page 110, show the children this video. Invite volunteers to name some ways that they can be Good Samaritans towards others.

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/fO4qSAh1sl>