

Grade 4 - Chapter 13

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Discover

Catechist Edition Instruction

Discover (1)

Objectives

- Appreciate that God created humans to live in families and wants family members to love one another
- Understand that the Fourth Commandment teaches children to honor parents and parents to love and share their faith with children

Honor and Respect

Ask: What does the Fourth Commandment require?

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

Ask a volunteer to read aloud the two paragraphs and recite the Fourth Commandment.

Scripture

Invite a child to proclaim “The Boy Jesus and His Family.”

- Tell the children to listen carefully and think of how Mary and Joseph felt when Jesus was missing and when they found him.

• Ask: How did Jesus live out the Fourth Commandment?

Point out the picture on the page. Ask the children to describe how Mary and Joseph must have felt when they walked into the Temple and saw Jesus.

- Ask: Why is it important for you to obey your parents?

► Music Option: Have the children sing “God's Good Rules” or “My Ten Commandments,” downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Living the Fourth Commandment

Read aloud the first paragraph.

- Explain that these instructions tell what children are to do for their parents.

Invite a volunteer to read the second paragraph.

- Explain that this paragraph tells what responsibilities parents have.
- Ask: What does it mean to be a good role model? Who has been a good role model for you?

Work with Words

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the definition for *Cardinal Virtues*.

- Have the children make a vocabulary card.
- Refer to page 319 in the Our Catholic Tradition reference section in the back of the Student Book to find out more about the Cardinal Virtues.

► Music Option: Have the children sing “Obey Your Parents” or “People Who Love Me,” downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Share Your Faith activity.

- Have the children work independently to complete their drawings.

Quick Review

God meant humans to live as families. Jesus is the perfect example for living the Fourth Commandment.

Discover (2)

Objectives

- Understand that the Sixth and Ninth Commandments are about faithful love between husband and wife, but require all of us to be faithful, and act appropriately
- Recognize that the Cardinal Virtues help us to act wisely, use self-control, give God and others their due, and be disciplined in our lives

Faithful Love

Ask: What do the Commandments teach about love?

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

Point out the wedding photo.

- Ask the children to raise their hand if they have been to a wedding.
- Invite the children to share what they saw or heard at the wedding.

Invite volunteers read aloud the text.

- Explain that *covet* means to want something that belongs to someone else.
- Ask the children how they have been faithful in their friendships.
- Then ask why faithfulness is important in relationships.
- Ask: Why is the Sacrament of Matrimony important?

Virtues and You

Read aloud the last paragraph on page 192.

- Emphasize that we can live the Sixth and Ninth Commandments by keeping promises to family, friends, and God.

Invite volunteers to read aloud the first two paragraphs on page 193.

★ Have the children underline how the Cardinal Virtues help us. Then have them circle ways to practice modesty and chastity.

Work with Words

Invite volunteers to read aloud the Catholic Faith Words and their definitions.

- Have the children make a vocabulary card for each term.

God's Love Strengthens

Read aloud or summarize this section.

- Ask: What can families do to be signs of God's love?
- Be sensitive to family privacy issues.

Activity

Read aloud the Connect Your Faith activity directions.

- Have the children work in pairs to complete the puzzle.

Quick Review

The Sixth and Ninth Commandments help families to grow in love. God loves families and helps them to grow stronger.

Catechist Tips: Adaptations

If you have a child with developmental or cognitive disabilities, ask an administrator what adaptations have been implemented.

- Special chairs, large-print texts, and headphones are examples of adaptive equipment that might be used.
- Consider having an aide help.

Catechist Tips: Adultery

Parents will probably prefer that you do not discuss the sexual meaning of adultery with children of this age. We must be respectful of this, as the Church teaches that parents have the right and responsibility to direct the education of their children regarding sexuality.

- Explain adultery as breaking a vow or as acting in ways that weaken a marriage.
- The children will understand comparisons between marriage and friendship. They will almost certainly have witnessed (or experienced) someone's trying to break up a friendship.

Catechist Tips: Parents Today Are Like Mary and Joseph

Parents take care of their children in so many ways day after day. Read the Scripture story on page 190 together. Ask the children to name how Mary and Joseph showed how much they cared about

Jesus (*i.e. took him to worship with them, worried about him, looked for him until they found him and other day-to-day examples from their lives*). Discuss ways that their own parents show how much they care about their children every day. Let each child write a note to give to his or her parents naming such things, and thanking his or her parents for their love and care.

Catechist Tips: TV Families

Sometimes it is easier for the children to discuss fictional problems than to address real difficulties.

- Have the children recall and discuss an episode of a favorite show that demonstrated hurt and reconciliation.
- Ask the children to report on TV family situations that relate to the family life Commandments.

Glossary Activity: Cardinal Virtues

Ask a married couple to visit your class.

- Have the couple talk about why the Sacrament of Matrimony is important to them and how they honor one another.
- Have them talk about the Cardinal Virtues and why it is important to practice them in matrimony.
- Emphasize that a wedding is a wonderful event, but that it is just the foundation and beginning of life as a family.

Additional Activity: Conscience

Play the segment in Walt Disney's *Pinocchio* in which Jiminy Cricket sings about following one's conscience.

- Encourage the children to write songs or poems about developing a good conscience.
- Invite each songwriter to perform his or her song for the class.

Additional Activity: Role-Plays

Invite groups of children to role-play the situations to portray how to live the Cardinal Virtues.

- Assign one virtue to each group. Have the children develop role-plays that show how the virtue helps us.
- Discuss how each virtue helps us and our families grow stronger.

Additional Activity: Drama—What If?

Supplies:

- script
- a space that provides movement

Begin this activity by saying, **The Fourth, Sixth, and Ninth Commandments give us basic rules about family love and respect. Sometimes we complain about family rules, don't we? What are some of the rules you complain about or disagree with?** Allow time for response.

Say, **I know one rule many children have trouble with: keeping things clean. How many of you have ever groaned when your parents told you to go clean your room? Take a show of hands. Cleaning your room can be hard work, especially when it's a mess. But there are**

reasons your parents want you to keep it clean. Today, we're going to do an activity that will help us understand why.

Ask the children to space themselves out throughout the room. Explain that you are going to walk them through a day. However, there are no rules in their houses about cleaning! Ask them to pantomime the actions they hear you say and what their reactions might be to the situations around them.

Follow the scripted situations below or, better yet, come up with your own! You know the children in your group best and what situations would be most familiar to them. Give the children time to act out the scene before moving on to the next.

When the activity is finished, use the situations they just pantomimed to discuss why keeping their room, house, and clothes clean might be a good rule after all. **What are some negative things that happened in the activity because there wasn't a rule about keeping things clean? What are some positive things that could have happened had there been a rule?**

SCRIPT

Say: You wake up and get out of bed. You leave your bed unmade and go to your dresser and closet to pick out clothes for today. There is one shirt, a blue one, you really wanted to wear today, but as you dig through the clothes, you can't seem to find it. So you start throwing all the other clothes out. Aha! It's at the bottom. Well, since there isn't a rule about picking things up, you leave all your clothes wherever they landed. But now you need jeans. And you know just the ones. However, you wore them yesterday...and the day before...and the day before. They are your favorite jeans, after all! But where did you put them? You look under your bed and find them all rolled up. As you unroll them, a day old peanut butter and jelly sandwich falls out. Oh yeah, you remember, you'd had it in your pocket from lunch yesterday. Well, the pants are wrinkled and they smell kind of funny, but there isn't a rule that says you have to wear clean, nice smelling, unwrinkled pants. Without a second thought, you put the jeans on and go downstairs for breakfast.

Say: Coming into the kitchen, you open the cupboard door only to find it empty. Where have all the dishes gone? You look at the sink. Oh, that's right. No one has done the dishes, so they're all dirty. You find your favorite cereal bowl and spoon, still with food stuck on them from yesterday, and bring them over to the table. After all, there isn't a rule that says you have to wash out your dishes before using them again. You pour new cereal in your bowl and then some milk. Oh, no! The milk jug slips out of your hands and falls to the floor. Milk goes everywhere! You pick up the jug and set it on the table. There's no need to worry about cleaning up the milk since there isn't a rule that says you have to. You don't even have to put the milk back in the fridge or even put its lid back on!

Say: After finishing your cereal, you walk through the milk (your socks getting soaked in the process) and to the front door to get your backpack. But it's empty. Your homework is all over the hall from when you pulled your sneakers out yesterday and didn't clean things up. Oh well, you say, and start shoving things back in. Papers get ripped and wrinkled, the lunch your mom made gets squished at the bottom, and your sneakers are piled on top of it all.

Say: You pull your backpack on and start for the bus stop. As you get to the sidewalk, you nearly trip over the bike you left out last week. Well, there's no rule that says you have to put it back. You notice that it's starting to rust from all the rain. Oh well, you say, and

continue on.

Say: At school, your teacher asks for yesterday's homework. You pull it out of your backpack to find it is not only ripped and wrinkled but missing a page. You must have left it in the hallway at home. Your teacher isn't too happy about that. At lunch, you pull out your lunch bag from your backpack and find the sandwich is squished, and your potato chips are almost all crushed. The only thing left to eat is a few carrots, and you hate carrots!

Say: When you get back from school that afternoon, you walk past your bike again. Hmm. A ride sounds good. You throw your backpack onto the lawn and pick up your bike. You try to start, but the pedals won't turn. No matter how hard you push, the pedals won't go. You look at the gears and realize they've rusted too much. Well, since you can't ride your bike anymore, you might as well go inside.

Say: You drop your backpack off in the hall and go straight for the kitchen. You're so hungry for milk and cookies! You grab some cookies out of the cookie jar and go to grab the milk from the fridge when you remember you left it on the table. But as you get close to it, you realize the milk smells really bad from being out all day. Now you'll have to eat the cookies without milk. You take a step to leave, and your foot sticks to the floor. The milk you spilled earlier has dried and become extremely sticky.

Say: Before dinner, you decide to go up to your room and find your new game. However, your room is such a mess; you can't remember where it is! So you start looking. You look through the dirty clothes piled next to your bed, but it's not there. You move things around on your desk, but it's not there, either. You try to look under your bed, but it's too full of other things to even be able to see if the game is in there. Well, since you don't want to clean up the mess, you decide not to play the game since you can't find it anyway.

Parish Video Connection: Jesus in the Temple

After you've completed the Catechist Edition instruction on page 190, show the children this video.

Ask: What are some ways that you like to spend time with God?

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/T908tgPIHFc>

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