

Grade 4 - Chapter 19

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Discover

Catechist Edition Instruction

Discover (1)

Objective

- Recognize that being detached from our possessions enables us to work for peace and justice in God's Kingdom

What Really Matters

Ask: What does Jesus want you to know about riches?

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

Read aloud or summarize the first paragraph.

- Tell children that they are about to hear a Scripture story about a man who obsessed about his wealth.

Scripture

Invite volunteers to read the parts of the Rich Fool, God, and the narrator. Have them proclaim "The Parable of the Rich Fool."

- Ask: "What did the rich fool do when he ran out of space to store his harvest?"
- Discuss the question that follows the Scripture story.

Call attention to the illustration.

- Invite the children to describe what they see in the illustration.

Poor in Spirit

Read aloud the first paragraph.

- Have the children listen to discover what Jesus taught about possessions.

Invite volunteers to share what they remember about Jesus and the rich young man. (Matthew 19:16-22).

- Ask: What did Jesus tell the rich young man to do?

Have the children read silently the second and third paragraphs to learn which Beatitude talks about the right attitude toward possessions and dependence on God.

- Refer to page 317 in the Our Catholic Tradition reference section of the Student Book for more about the Beatitudes.

► Music Option: Have the children sing, "Building God's Kingdom" or "See Ye First," downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Share Your Faith activity.

- Have the children work independently to write their ideas. After a short time, have them discuss with a partner.
- Provide time for the children to role-play the right choice in one of the situations.

Quick Review

Everything God made is good, but being too attached to possessions makes it difficult for people to love.

Discover (2)

Objectives

- Identify that the Seventh and Tenth Commandments teach about the right attitude toward material possessions and require generosity
- Name theft, greed, and envy as sins against these Commandments
- Appreciate that God created the world for all creatures and called humans to stewardship

Generosity and Humility

Ask: What do the Seventh and Tenth Commandments teach you?

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

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the first paragraph.

- Have the children listen to find out which two Commandments tell about the right attitude to have toward material possessions.

Work with Words

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the second paragraph.

- Have the children make vocabulary cards for *greed*, *envy*, *humility*, and *justice*.

Called to Share

Explain that almost everyone feels greed or envy at times. Point out that we can overcome these feelings.

- Tell the children to read to find out how to be happy for their own gifts and to appreciate those of other children.

- Discuss the question.

Called to Stewardship

Read aloud the first paragraph.

- Invite a volunteer to read aloud the next paragraph.

Work with Words

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the definition of *stewardship*.

- Have the children make vocabulary cards.

Scripture

Invite a volunteer to proclaim “The Poor Widow's Contribution.”

- Ask: Why do you think the widow contributed more than the rest?
- ▶ Music Option: Have the children sing, “Act Justly” or “Raise Your Voice for Justice,” downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Activity

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

- Have the children complete the matching activity independently.
- Provide time for the children to check their answers with a partner.

Quick Review

The Seventh and Tenth Commandments deal with generosity and stewardship.

Catechist Tips: Save Resources

In *Economic Justice for All*, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops asks Catholics to “examine our way of living in light of the poor” (75).

- Ask the children to name resources that people consume.
- Then ask the children to name resources that should be conserved.

Catechist Tips: Congratulations!

The children may need practice in showing others that they are pleased for them. Point out the many ways to show others that you are glad.

- Send a note of congratulations. Make a card and include a few words of praise.
- Speak to the person. Make a quick telephone call or talk face-to-face.

Catechist Tips: TV Commercials

Have the children write TV ads promoting generosity.

- Have the children study how messages are presented in TV commercials.
- Allow time for groups of children to decide on a message and a way to present it.
- If possible, videotape the children's performances.

Glossary Activity: Generosity

Remind the children that the newspapers occasionally run stories of people who have worked for justice by sharing.

- Encourage the children to look for such stories and share them with the group.
- Have the children share stories on generosity and caring that they have read in books.

Additional Activity: Gold

Why is gold so valuable? Have the children investigate this question.

- Have the children study the physical properties of gold.
- Have the children compare the amount of gold mined every year with the amount of lead or iron mined.

Additional Activity: Ads

The children can study how ads influence people's desires.

- Distribute magazine ads. Help the children evaluate these to determine their appeal.
- Look at the written messages in the ads. What do they promise?
- Have the children write about their conclusions.

Additional Activity: Generous Spirit Posters

Supplies:

- old magazines
- markers
- scissors
- glue
- poster board
- obtain permission for a place in the parish where the children can hang their completed posters

Remind the children that they have been talking about how generous spirits can care for the Earth and share their gifts and talents. Explain that they will make posters to share what they learned with others in the parish.

Point out the supplies you have gathered for making posters. Brainstorm ideas for stewardship messages for the posters. Tell the children where their posters will be displayed in the church building. Encourage the children to cut out photos, draw pictures, write suggestions and decorate their posters in any way they want. Divide into groups of three to four children and give each group a piece of poster board. When the posters are finished, hang them for all to see.

Parish Video Connection: Stewardship

Once you've completed the Catechist Edition instruction on page 261, show the children this video.

Say: It is important to make time for stewardship and make it a priority in your life. It shouldn't be something we only work on when it is convenient. Think about some time that you can dedicate to being a good steward.

YouTube Link: <http://youtu.be/Or3tCrlsVIY>

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