

Grade 1 - Chapter 14

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Discover

Catechist Edition Instruction

Discover (1)

Objective

- Recognize the Ten Commandments as God's laws that tell us how to love God and others

Types of Choices

Ask: How does God help us make choices?

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

Tell the children that some choices are easy to make because they don't require you to do something that you don't want to.

★ Have the children circle how certain choices can affect others.

- Have the children make two choices that are easy. Present them with a choice between two kinds of pizza, and ask children to choose which pizza they prefer.

- Invite volunteers to think of other choices, such as which of two games to play or which of two television shows to watch.

Read aloud both paragraphs.

- Remind the children that choices between right and wrong are sometimes hard to make.

- *Ask:* What are some choices children your age make?

► Music Option: Have the children sing, "Choices," downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

A Gift from God

Read aloud the first paragraph.

- Ask the children to share a rule they have at home.

Work with Words

Present a wrapped box or gift bag (containing an index card with *Ten Commandments* written on it). Tell the children that a gift from God is inside.

- Have the children open the gift and discover an index card with *Ten Commandments* written on it.
- Explain that the Ten Commandments are a gift from God that help people make good choices.

God's Word

Tell the children that the Ten Commandments were given to a leader named Moses.

- Proclaim “God's Commandments.”

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

Activity

Read aloud and discuss the directions for the Share Your Faith activity.

- Have the children work with a partner to complete the activity.
- Provide time for the group to discuss what God asks us to do.

Quick Review

The Ten Commandments are God's laws. They help people know how to show love for God and others.

Discover (2)

Objectives

- Define free will as the ability to choose whether to obey God or disobey God
- Appreciate that God created us with free will because he wants us to make good choices
- Examine consequences as a significant part of a decision making process

Good Choices

Ask: How do your choices affect you and others?

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

Read aloud all three paragraphs.

Work with Words

Show index cards to the children with the words *obey* and *free will* on them. Read aloud and explain the definitions.

Draw the graphic organizer on the board or on chart paper.

- Use it to introduce the concept of choices and their consequences.
- Give the children examples. Ask them what they would do if they were at a bake sale with their favorite cookies sitting out and no one watching. Or ask them what they would do if someone left money on a desk and left the room.
- Have the children respond with what they think the right choice would be.

- Ask them what the consequences would be of the wrong choice.
- Discuss the steps for making a good choice.

Consequences

Read aloud the paragraph.

- Explain that the word *consequence* means the results of a choice.

Point out the photo and read aloud the caption.

- Ask the children to describe what they see in the picture.
- Discuss what kinds of choices this child made that lead to the consequences they see in the picture.

► Music Option: Have the children sing, “Come to Us, Holy Spirit,” downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Activity

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

- Have the children circle the picture that shows the good choice.

Quick Review

Because you are created free, you are able to choose. Three steps can help guide you to make good moral choices: (1) Decide whether the choices shows love. (2) Ask if the choice follows the Ten Commandments. (3) Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Catechist Tips: Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy is the fifth book of the Old Testament. It is a Greek word that means “the second law.”

- The book got its name because it is mostly concerned with the laws that God gave to the ancient Israelites when he established his covenant relationship with them. When Jesus was asked which of God’s commands was most important, he answered by quoting from the book of Deuteronomy.

Catechist Tips: Show the Way

You could let the children choose how to complete the activity on page 197.

- Some children may wish to act out the activity. Have them work as a group to act out the right or wrong choices and their consequences.

Catechist Tips: Being Accountable

Young children are just beginning to exercise independent judgment, and need help with accountability.

- Encourage the children to develop systems to remind themselves of rules and responsibilities.
- When the children fail to carry out responsibilities, help them face the consequences and look for practical ways to improve their accountability.

Catechist Tips: Obey the Commandments

God gave us the Ten Commandments because he loves us. Commandments and rules tell us how we

are to behave, what we are to do, and not to do. When we obey the Commandments, we show that we love God. We also have rules both at school and at home. Together name some of those rules. After a rule is named, talk about how the rule shows that our teachers love us. If it is a rule at home, ask how the rule also shows that our parents love us. From time to time have the children say how we show our love when we obey the rules. (See Deuteronomy 10:12-13)

Glossary Activity: Free Will

Tell the children about the role of *free will* and good nutrition in helping healthy bodies grow.

- Introduce the Food Guide Pyramid and point out healthy food *choices*.
- Distribute large sheets of paper. Have the children cut pictures of healthy food options out of magazines to make their own food pyramid.

Additional Activity: Love

You may want to read aloud *Harriet, You'll Drive Me Wild!* by Mem Fox (Harcourt, 2000).

- This is the story of a young girl and her mother who both do things they wish they wouldn't, but who still love each other.

Additional Activity: The Ten Commandments

In first grade, the Commandments are introduced only in a general way.

- You may want to explain the Ten Commandments as God's laws that tell people how to act toward God, themselves, and others.
- Stress the fact that God gave the Ten Commandments out of love.

Additional Activity: Make Reminder Bracelets

Have the children make bracelets with 10 beads to remind them of the Ten Commandments.

- Help the children make bracelets by threading ten large wooden beads on a string, tying knots between each bead and at the beginning and end of the row.

Additional Activity: Rules

Remind the children that all groups and communities have rules to help everyone get along.

- Invite the children to name some school rules.
- As a class, brainstorm a list of Ten Commandments for a Happy Classroom.
- Post the list where it can serve as a reminder.

Additional Activity: Words of Wisdom

To enrich the children's understanding of the positive values behind the Ten Commandments, share with them the book *The Ten Commandments: Words of Wisdom from the Bible* by Lois Rock (Paulist Press, 2000).

Parish Video Connection: Moses and the Ten Commandments

After you read *God's Word* on page 195, tell the children to pay close attention to the Ten

Commandments listed in this video. Then play the video for them. After the video is over, ask the children which Commandments they can name. Send them to page 314 in their books to check and see if they missed any.

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/gS1eop9MNqU>