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## UNIT 1 Growing in Jesus Christ 17

### 1 Jesus—the Way, the Truth, and the Life

Plan and Prepare	19A, 19B, 19D
Chapter Reproducible Master	19C
Lesson Plan	19
• God sent his only Son to us. • Jesus shows us how to live. • Jesus Christ is our Savior. • The disciples spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.	
John 6:35; 8:12; 10:11; 11:25; 14:6–7	
As Catholics	The Name Jesus Christ

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Dorothy Day

**Take Home** Praying to the Holy Spirit

**Chapter Test**

### 2 Jesus Leads Us to Happiness

Plan and Prepare	27A, 27B, 27D
Chapter Reproducible Master	27C
Lesson Plan	27
• Jesus trusted God his Father. • Jesus taught the Beatitudes. • Jesus taught about the Kingdom of God. • Jesus' disciples share his mission.	
Matthew 4:10; 5:1–10, 12; John 11:41–42;	
Luke 17:20–21; 22:42	
As Catholics	Social Justice

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Archbishop Oscar Romero

**Take Home** Sharing in Jesus' mission

**Chapter Test**

### 3 Sin in Our World

Plan and Prepare	35A, 35B, 35D
Chapter Reproducible Master	35C
Lesson Plan	35
• God gives us the freedom to choose. • Sin leads us away from God. • Sins can be things people do or fail to do. • We are called to value and respect all people.	
Luke 10:30–34; Galatians 3:26–28	
As Catholics	Immaculate Conception

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Saint John Vianney

**Take Home** Overcoming differences

**Chapter Test**

## 4 Our Conscience, Our Guide

Plan and Prepare	43A, 43B, 43D
Chapter Reproducible Master	43C
Lesson Plan	43
• God calls us to be close to him. • God gives us the gift of conscience. • We form our conscience. • We examine our conscience.	
Psalms 139:1–3; Luke 15:11–12, 14, 17–20;	
1 Timothy 1:5	
As Catholics	The Teaching Church

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Saint Thomas More

**Take Home** Making good choices

**Chapter Test**

## 5 Celebrating Penance and Reconciliation

Plan and Prepare	51A, 51B, 51D
Chapter Reproducible Master	51C
Lesson Plan	51
• Jesus tells us about God's forgiveness and love. • We receive God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. • We celebrate the Sacrament of Penance. • Reconciliation brings peace and unity.	
Psalms 51:3, 4, 8, 12; Luke 15:4–7; John 20:21–23;	
2 Corinthians 13:11; Rite of Penance	
As Catholics	Seal of confession

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Ministering to the Sick

**Take Home** Planning a prayer corner

**Chapter Test**

## SEASONAL CHAPTERS

### 6 The Liturgical Year

Plan and Prepare	59A
Lesson Plan	59
• Throughout the liturgical year we remember and celebrate Jesus Christ.	
Psalms 113:3; Revelation 22:20; The Roman Missal	
Chapter Reproducible Master	64A
Family Reproducible Master	64B

### 7 Ordinary Time

Plan and Prepare	65A
Lesson Plan	65
• During the season of Ordinary Time, we celebrate the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.	
Psalms 25:4; Matthew 7:12; Mark 6:50; Luke 6:36;	
John 15:12; Galatians 6:14, 16, 18	
Chapter Reproducible Master	70A
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### 8 Learning About God's Law

Plan and Prepare ..... 75A, 75B, 75D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 75C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 75

• God calls his people. • The Ten Commandments are God's Laws for his people. • Jesus teaches us about God's Law. • Jesus teaches us to love one another.

Psalms 119:33–35; Exodus 3:7–10; Isaiah 9:5;

Matthew 22:36–37, 39; John 13:34–35

*As Catholics* ..... The Prophet Isaiah

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring The Covenant Today

**Take Home** Living out the Great Commandment

**Chapter Test**

### 9 The First Commandment

Plan and Prepare ..... 83A, 83B, 83D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 83C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 83

• We believe in the one true God. • We honor the one true God. • We love God above all things. • We place our hope and trust in God.

Psalms 86:10–12; Exodus 20:2–5; Deuteronomy 6:4–5;

Luke 1:30, 38; 4:1–8

*As Catholics* ..... Veneration of the Saints

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring The Monastic Life

**Take Home** Praying the Angelus

**Chapter Test**

### 10 The Second Commandment

Plan and Prepare ..... 91A, 91B, 91D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 91C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 91

• God's name is holy. • We respect God's name. • We call upon God's name. • We respect and honor sacred places.

Exodus 3:14; Psalms 105:3; 113:3; Luke 11:2;

Matthew 21:12, 13

*As Catholics* ..... A Christian Name

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring The Jesus Prayer

**Take Home** Making a banner

**Chapter Test**

### 11 The Third Commandment

Plan and Prepare ..... 99A, 99B, 99D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 99C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 99

• God gave us a special day to rest and to worship him. • We keep the Lord's Day holy by participating in Sunday Mass. • The Lord's Day is a day for rest and relaxation. • We keep the Lord's Day holy by caring for the needs of others.

Genesis 2:2–3; Exodus 20:8; Acts of the Apostles 2:42; Luke 22:19

*As Catholics* ..... The Lord's Day

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Altar Servers

**Take Home** Getting ready for Mass

**Chapter Test**

### 12 Strengthened by the Eucharist

Plan and Prepare ..... 107A, 107B, 107D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 107C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 107

• The Introductory Rites unite us and prepare us for worship. • During the Liturgy of the Word, we hear the Word of God. • During the Liturgy of the Eucharist, we offer gifts of bread and wine and receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. • In the Concluding Rites we are sent to live as disciples of Jesus.

1 Corinthians 11:23–26; The Roman Missal

*As Catholics* ..... The Living Word of God

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Saint Paschal Baylon

**Take Home** Visiting the Most Blessed Sacrament

**Chapter Test**

## SEASONAL CHAPTERS

### 13 Advent

Plan and Prepare ..... 115A

**Lesson Plan** ..... 115

• In Advent we prepare for the coming of the Lord.

Revelation 21:4; Matthew 18:20; Luke 1:46–49

Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 120A

Family Reproducible Master ..... 120B

### 14 Christmas

Plan and Prepare ..... 121A

**Lesson Plan** ..... 121

• During the Christmas season we celebrate the Son of God's coming into the world.

Matthew 2:1–12; Isaiah 60:1–4

Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 126A

Family Reproducible Master ..... 126B

Unit 2 Test ..... 127

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## UNIT 3 The Commandments Help Us to Love Others ..... 129

### 15 The Fourth Commandment

Plan and Prepare ..... 131A, 131B, 131D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 131C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 131

• God wants us to love and respect others. • In our families we learn to love God and others. • In our families we have the responsibility to love and respect one another. • Citizens and leaders work together for peace.

Luke 2:46–52; Exodus 20:12

*As Catholics* ..... The Feast of the Holy Family

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Blessed Louis and Zélie Martin

**Take Home** Praying to the Holy Family

**Chapter Test**

### 16 The Fifth Commandment

Plan and Prepare ..... 139A, 139B, 139D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 139C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 139

• Human life is sacred. • The right to life is the most basic human right. • We respect the gift of life. • Promoting peace is a way to respect life.

Jeremiah 1:5; Psalm 139:14; Exodus 20:13; Deuteronomy 5:17; Matthew 5:21–22, 43–45; 6:11

*As Catholics* ..... Feelings

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Prayer Vigil for Life

**Take Home** Respecting the gift of life

**Chapter Test**

### 17 The Sixth Commandment

Plan and Prepare ..... 147A, 147B, 147D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 147C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 147

• God creates each person with the ability to show and share love. • We are all called to chastity. • Friendships are one way we grow in love. • The love between a husband and wife is very special.

Genesis 1:27–28; 30–31; Exodus 20:14

*As Catholics* ..... Vocations

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Rights and Responsibilities

**Take Home** Rating television shows

**Chapter Test**

### 18 The Seventh Commandment

Plan and Prepare ..... 155A, 155B, 155D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 155C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 155

• We are called to act with justice. • We respect the property of others. • God's creation is meant for all people. • We are called to help all people meet their basic needs.

Isaiah 58:5–7; Exodus 20:15; Luke 3:11; 19:8; Matthew 5:6; James 2:15–17

*As Catholics* ..... Saint John the Baptist

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring The Dignity of Work and the Right of Workers

**Take Home** Being stewards of creation

**Chapter Test**

### 19 The Eighth Commandment

Plan and Prepare ..... 163A, 163B, 163D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 163C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 163

• God teaches us what it means to be true. • We are called to witness to the truth of our faith. • We have a responsibility to tell the truth. • We have a responsibility to respect the truth.

Psalms 119:89, 90, 142, 145; Exodus 20:16; Matthew 5:37; 7:12; John 18:37;

Acts of the Apostles 1:8

*As Catholics* ..... The Golden Rule

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Blessed Frédéric Ozanam

**Take Home** Living out the Eighth Commandment

**Chapter Test**

## SEASONAL CHAPTERS

### 20 Lent

Plan and Prepare ..... 171A

**Lesson Plan** ..... 171

• Lent is the season of preparation for Easter.

Isaiah 43:20; Matthew 1:18–21, 24

Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 176A

Family Reproducible Master ..... 176B

### 21 Triduum

Plan and Prepare ..... 177A

**Lesson Plan** ..... 177

• The Easter Triduum celebrates the joy of the cross.

John 13:4–5; Isaiah 53:1, 10; The Roman Missal

Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 182A

Family Reproducible Master ..... 182B

Unit 3 Test ..... 183

Unit 3 Alternative Assessment ..... 237



## UNIT 4 We Are Called to Holiness ..... 185

### 22 The Ninth Commandment

Plan and Prepare ..... 187A, 187B, 187D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 187C

#### Lesson Plan ..... 187

• Feelings are a gift from God. • God created us to share love. • God calls us to be pure of heart. • The virtue of modesty helps us to be pure of heart.

Ezekiel 36:26–28; Matthew 5:8

*As Catholics* ..... Mary, Our Model

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Catholic Relief Services

**Take Home** Checking out movies

**Chapter Test**

### 23 The Tenth Commandment

Plan and Prepare ..... 195A, 195B, 195D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 195C

#### Lesson Plan ..... 195

• We are called to have generous hearts. • Jesus taught us to trust in God above all things. • Depending upon God brings happiness. • Jesus teaches us that God's law is love.

Exodus 20:17; Luke 12:15, 22–24; Matthew 5:3, 17;  
Romans 13:10; Acts of the Apostles 20:33–35

*As Catholics* ..... Religious Vows

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Saints Isidore and Maria

**Take Home** Charting the commandments

**Chapter Test**

### 24 We Grow in Holiness

Plan and Prepare ..... 203A, 203B, 203D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 203C

#### Lesson Plan ..... 203

• Jesus is our model of holiness. • We open our hearts and minds in prayer. • The sacraments draw us closer to God. • The Holy Spirit shares special gifts with us.

Matthew 18:20; Galatians 5:22–23

*As Catholics* ..... Liturgy of the Hours

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Sacramentals

**Take Home** Visiting *Gather In My Name*

**Chapter Test**

### 25 We Are the Church

Plan and Prepare ..... 211A, 211B, 211D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 211C

#### Lesson Plan ..... 211

• The Church is a worldwide community. • We have responsibilities as members of the Church. • We celebrate the sacraments. • We have an active role in the Church community.

John 14:26

*As Catholics* ..... Marks of the Church

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Saint Monica and Saint Augustine

**Take Home** Learning about saints

**Chapter Test**

### 26 We Are Called to Discipleship

Plan and Prepare ..... 219A, 219B, 219D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 219C

#### Lesson Plan ..... 219

• The virtues of faith, hope, and love bring us closer to God. • Mary is our model for virtue and discipleship. • The Cardinal Virtues guide us. • We are called to live a life of love.

John 13:6–17; Matthew 5:16; 1 Corinthians 13:13;  
Luke 2:51

*As Catholics* ..... The Pope and Young People

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Prayer for Discipleship

**Take Home** Living our discipleship

**Chapter Test**

## SEASONAL CHAPTER

### 27 Easter

Plan and Prepare ..... 227A

#### Lesson Plan ..... 227

• During the season of Easter, we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus.

John 21:1–14; Acts of the Apostles 1:3–12; 2:1–4

Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 232A

Family Reproducible Master ..... 232B

Unit 4 Test ..... 233

Unit 4 Alternative Assessment ..... 238

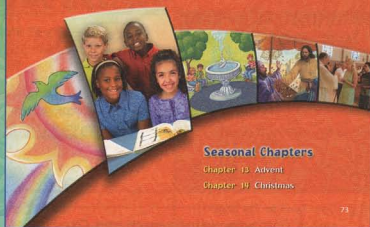


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# The Commandments Help Us to Love God

## UNIT 2

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Chapter 9: The First Commandment	83
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Chapter 12: Strengthened by the Eucharist	107



### Seasonal Chapters

Chapter 13: Advent  
Chapter 14: Christmas

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## CLASS CONNECTION

Read aloud the unit title and the chapter titles. Ask the students: *What do you think you will be learning about in this unit?* Invite a few volunteers to respond. Then explain to the students that they will be learning more about God's covenant, God's Law, following the First, Second, and Third Commandments, and celebrating the Eucharist.

## HOME CONNECTION

### Project Disciple Dear Family

Sadlier *We Believe* calls on families to become involved in:

- learning the faith
- prayer and worship
- living their faith.

Highlighting of these unit family pages and the opportunities they offer will strengthen the partnership of the Church and the home.

For additional information and activities, encourage families to visit Sadlier's

[www.WEBELIEVEweb.com](http://www.WEBELIEVEweb.com)



### PROJECT DISCIPLE

## DEAR FAMILY

### In Unit 2 your child will grow as a disciple of Jesus by:

- showing love for God and others by following the Ten Commandments and the Great Commandment
- believing in the one true God, and loving him more than anything
- respecting God's name, and honoring sacred places
- keeping the Lord's Day holy by participating in Mass, relaxing, and caring for others' needs
- learning the ways to participate more fully at Mass, and to live as Jesus' disciples when we are sent forth from Mass.

### What's the Word?

In Chapter 8 the children review the Ten Commandments, and also Jesus' teaching of the Great Commandment, and the new commandment which Jesus gave us at the Last Supper. Read about Jesus giving the Great Commandment on page 78, or in your Bible (Matthew 22:34-40). Discuss why Jesus would say to the young man that this is the greatest commandment. Then read the new commandment on page 78 or in your Bible (John 13:34-35). Decide on one way you can live the new commandment this week.

### Celebrate!

Prepare for the coming Sunday to be the Lord's Day in a special way. Look over the Sunday Scripture readings together, and talk about the ways you will participate in Mass. (See "This Week's Liturgy" on [www.webelieveweb.com](http://www.webelieveweb.com)). What Corporal or Spiritual Work of Mercy (pages 102-103) might you do on Sunday to show that your family cares for people in need?



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### Reality Check

"The Christian family is a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit."

(Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2205)

### Fast Facts

One of the Corporal Works of Mercy is to visit the imprisoned. Many diocesan Catholic Charities offices or Peace and Justice Offices train volunteers to visit those who are imprisoned. These volunteers provide Bibles and opportunities to learn the faith and to pray. Say a prayer together that all those who are imprisoned will place their love and trust in God.

### Question Corner

Chapters 9, 10, and 11 present the first three commandments. Talk about these commandments together. (See the chart on page 77.) How can each commandment make us happy? Which commandment is most challenging to our world today?

### Take Home

Be ready for this unit's Take Home:

Chapter 8: Living out the Great Commandment

Chapter 9: Praying the Angelus

Chapter 10: Making a banner

Chapter 11: Getting ready for Mass

Chapter 12: Visiting the Most Blessed Sacrament

## Overview

In Chapter 5 the students learned about the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. In this chapter they will learn about God's covenant with Moses and the Israelites, the promise God kept by sending his Son, and Jesus' teaching about God's Law.

### Doctrinal Content

For Adult Reading and Reflection  
*Catechism of the Catholic Church*

The students will learn:

- God calls his people. . . . . 2057
- The Ten Commandments are God's Laws for his people. . . . . 2060
- Jesus teaches us about God's Law. . . . . 2052–2053
- Jesus teaches us to love one another. . . . . 2055

Paragraph

**Key Words**

**covenant**  
**Ten Commandments**  
**human rights**

## Catechist Background

**T**hink of an agreement you have made with another person. What did each of you promise to do?

"After the patriarchs, God formed Israel as his people by freeing them from slavery in Egypt. He established with them the covenant of Mount Sinai and, through Moses, gave them his law so that they would recognize him and serve him as the one living and true God, the provident Father and just judge, and so that they would look for the promised Savior" (CCC 62).

Later, through his prophets, God promised to establish a new and everlasting covenant, one that was intended for all people. God, the provident Father, kept his promise and sent his only Son to be our Savior.

Jesus was the Father's last Word. In the Letter to the Hebrews we read: "In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he spoke to us through a son, whom he made heir of all

Go to [www.webelleveweb.com](http://www.webelleveweb.com), Catechist/Teacher, We Believe Correlations for this chapter's correlation to:

- Six Tasks of Catechesis
- Catholic Social Teaching
- Catechetical Formation in Chaste Living.

things and through whom he created the universe" (Hebrews 1:1–2). Through his Death and Resurrection, Jesus established a new and eternal covenant.

In Jesus, the Father has said everything. God needs to tell us no more. Everything we need to know about God can be found in Jesus. We need not look for any further Revelation from God, although we will continue to come to a deeper understanding and appreciation for this revelation. Until Jesus returns in glory, the Father's new covenant established through his Son will not pass away and it will not be surpassed.

**W**hat are some practical ways that you can respond to God's covenant of fidelity and love?



# Lesson Planning Guide

## Lesson Steps

## Presentation

## Materials

### 1 WE GATHER

page 75

 **Prayer**

 **Focus on Life**

- Listen to Scripture.
- Respond in prayer.
- Discuss the question about the importance of following instruction.

For the prayer space: image of Jesus, a Bible

### 2 WE BELIEVE

pages 76–77

*God calls his people.*

 **Exodus 3:7–10**

*The Ten Commandments are God's Laws for his people.*

- Read and discuss the text about God's call to his people.
- Read the biblical account of the call of Moses.



Discuss how God guides us today.

- Discuss the covenant and the Ten Commandments.



Discuss ways to show respect.

- world map



"Psalm 100: We Are His People," Mark Friedman, #6 and #7, Grade 4 CD (option)

pages 78–79

*Jesus teaches us about God's Law.*

*Jesus teaches us to love one another.*

- Read about God sending the prophets and his Son.
- Read and discuss Jesus' giving us the Great Commandment.



Identify individuals who encourage trust and faith in God.

- Read and discuss Jesus as the perfect example of love of God and neighbor and respect for human rights.
- Read and discuss the prophet Isaiah in the *As Catholics* text.

### 3 WE RESPOND

page 79



Complete the word find puzzle.

- copies of the Reproducible Master 8, guide page 75C

pages 80–81

**Project Disciple**

- Complete the **Project Disciple** activities.
- Explain the *Take Home* activity.
- Discuss/send home **Sharing Faith with My Family** reproducible master for this chapter.

- colored pencils or crayons
- copies of **Sharing Faith with My Family** reproducible master, Chapter 8 (back of book)

page 82

**Chapter 8 Test**

- Complete **Chapter 8 Test**.
- Work on *Alternative Assessment* activity.

- optional: copies of Scripture reproducible master, *What's the Word?*, Chapter 8 (back of book)





# PROJECT DISCIPLE

## Additional Activities

### What's *the* Word?

Scripture reproducible master, Chapter 8

**Materials needed:** copies of *What's the Word?* (back of book)

Distribute copies of the Scripture reproducible master. Point out that after God gave Moses the Ten Commandments, he gave the Israelites instructions to build a box to hold the stone tablets on which the commandments were written. Explain that David lived about two hundred years after Moses. Ask a volunteer to read the letter. Pause about three minutes for the students to reflect. Then discuss ways we can show the commandments are important to us.

### Show What *you* Know

Have the students work in pairs. Invite each pair to write a poem or rap about the Ten Commandments or the Great Commandment. Emphasize that each partner should contribute to the work. When the students are finished writing, ask the pairs to share their poems or raps with the group.

### Take Home

Remind the students that love should begin where we spend most of our time—at home. Have the students discuss in small groups the challenges fourth graders face in loving siblings, parents, and other family members. Then have the groups identify ways that they could surprise family members with an act to show their love. Encourage the students to choose one of these acts and do it this week.

### Make it Happen

**Material needed:** poster board; markers; magazines or newspapers; scissors; glue sticks

Emphasize that the most basic human right is the right to life. Point out that water is necessary for life. Have the students conduct a water usage survey at home, at school, and in the neighborhood. Then have the students make poster collages to promote eco-friendly water usage and conservation.

#### WE GATHER

##### Pray

• Gather the students in the prayer space by saying, "We gather to pray."

minutes

#### Focus on Life

• Have the students reflect on the importance of life. Reading instructions in this chapter, the students learn about the way God instructed his people.

## Meeting Individual Needs

### Students with Language Needs

Students with language needs may be helped with one or more of the following skills: using words in correct context, using correct grammar, understanding vocabulary, or expressing ideas. When possible, consider asking seventh or eighth-grade students to mentor fourth graders who have language impairments, to help the younger students practice these skills.

## We Believe Resources

- Grade 4 *Review & Resource Book*, pages 19–21
- Grade 4 *Family Book*, pages 24–26
- Grade 4 *Assessment Book*, pages 15–16
- Grade 4 CD-ROM *Test Generator and Resource*: Use Chapter 8 Test or customize your own.
- [www.webelieveweb.com](http://www.webelieveweb.com)



# Enrichment Ideas

## Chapter Story

It was September, and the new school year was beginning for the children of Holy Cross Primary School in Belfast, Northern Ireland. The school was located in an area where Catholics were a minority, but most of the time Catholics and non-Catholics managed to get along with one another. But as the students walked to school with their parents on this day, angry protesters shouted at them, called them names, and made fun of them. The police had to be called to protect the children. This ugly incident made the news all around the world. Many non-Catholics in Belfast were ashamed of those who had acted so violently.

A few days later a reporter noticed a sign inside the front door of Holy Cross School. It read, "If we had been born and taught where they were born and taught, we would believe what they believe." The parents, priests, and teachers wanted the children to forgive those who had attacked them. They did not want the children to return hatred for hatred. Instead, the children needed to be told that the intolerant attackers had not been taught to respect the human dignity of their Catholic neighbors. In the end, the children at Holy Cross School learned to respect others even when they did not act respectfully. As one ten-year-old girl named Nicole said, "There's a little bad and a lot of good in everybody."

- ▶ *What have the students and staff of Holy Cross School taught by their example?*

## FAITH and MEDIA

- ▶ As part of your discussion of the *As Catholics* text about Isaiah the prophet, point out that, in a way, Isaiah and the other prophets of the Old Testament were acting as "press secretaries." They brought God's message to his people much as a press secretary for the pope, the president of the United States, or another prominent person today conveys messages to representatives of the media or directly to the people at press briefings, at news conferences, and via the Internet.
- ▶ If the students are going to do the Storytelling Bible search in the *Activity Bank* (page 79), you might show them how to search the Bible online at the Web site of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org).

## CHAPTER

## PROJECT: A GOOD LEADER

Discuss good leadership skills. Point out that good Christian leaders love and respect God, themselves, and others. Invite the students to suggest words to describe good leaders. List the words on the board. Have the students review the words on the list before choosing a "leader." Invite the students to

make nominations, explaining why they think these people are good leaders. Then vote by a show of hands for the leader. These leaders can be people the students have learned about or people in the parish or the local community.

# Learning About God's Law

8

## WE GATHER


**Leader:** Let us listen to a reading from the Book of Psalms.

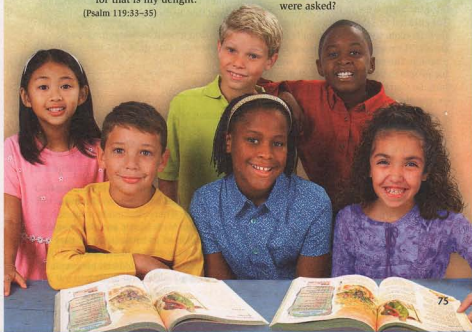
**Reader:** "LORD, teach me the way of your laws;  
I shall observe them with care.  
Give me insight to observe your teaching,  
to keep it with all my heart.  
Lead me in the path of your commands,  
for that is my delight."  
(Psalm 119:33-35)

**All:** "LORD, teach me the way of your laws." (Psalm 119:33)

**Leader:** Let us pray.  
Father, we want to respect your laws. Help us to love you and our neighbors. We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

 Think of a time when someone asked you to follow some instructions. Why was it important to do as you were asked?



## PREPARING TO PRAY

In this gathering prayer, the students will pray Psalm 119 to ask God for help and guidance in following his Law.

- Choose a prayer leader and a reader. Allow them time to practice what they will read and pray.

## The Prayer Space

- On the prayer table place an image of Jesus and a Bible opened to Matthew 22.



## This Week's Liturgy

Visit [www.webelieveveweb.com](http://www.webelieveveweb.com) for this week's liturgical readings and other seasonal material.

## Lesson Plan

### WE GATHER

\_\_\_ minutes

#### Pray

- Gather the students in the prayer space by saying, *We gather in prayer.*
- Pray the Sign of the Cross and, if necessary, prompt the leader to begin.



#### Focus on Life

- Have the students reflect on the importance of following instructions. In this chapter, the students will learn about the way God instructed his people.
- Read the *Chapter Story* on guide page 75E. You may want to use it to discuss human dignity in the later part of this lesson.

## Family Connection Update

Invite volunteers to share the way they decorated a prayer space in their home.



## Catechist Goal

- To teach that the Ten Commandments are God's Laws for us and that Jesus teaches about loving God and one another

## Our Faith Response

- To identify ways we can show love for God and others



## covenant

### Ten Commandments human rights

## Lesson Materials

- world map
- copies of Reproducible Master 8
- Scripture and Family reproducible masters (back of book)

## Teaching Tip

## The Need for Rules and Laws

Ask the students about laws that affect their lives every day. Discuss laws that govern society. Talk about rules observed at home and at school. Stress that laws, rules, and commandments are necessary for order and harmony to prevail.

## WE BELIEVE

## God calls his people.

In the Old Testament we learn about the relationship between God and his people. We read the history of God's people in the time before the birth of Jesus.

The people whom God chose as his own were called the Israelites. God showed his great love for them, and they showed their love for God. They called on God for help and guidance. They gave praise to God's name. God remembered his people and heard them. He cared for and protected them.

God's people were living in the area of the Middle East that is now the country called Israel. However, in the time of the Old Testament, this land was called Canaan. Once a great famine forced God's people to leave their homes in Canaan. They went to Egypt to find food. They stayed in Egypt, but they later lost their freedom there. God's people became slaves. They were forced to work for the pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt. God wanted his people to be free to love and worship him. So God chose Moses to lead the people out of Egypt to freedom.



God told Moses that he had seen the way his people were suffering in Egypt. God said, "Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the hands of the Egyptians and lead them out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey."

Then God said to Moses, "Come, now! I will send you to Pharaoh to lead my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt" (Exodus 3:7, 8, 10).

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With Moses to lead them and God guiding their way, the people left Egypt. They were heading back to Canaan, the land God had promised them.

- God guided Moses and his people. Write ways God guides us today.

### The Ten Commandments are God's Laws for his people.

In the desert between Egypt and Canaan, the Israelites came to Mount Sinai. God asked Moses to climb the mountain. There God made a special agreement with Moses and the people. God promised to be their God if they would be his people. This special agreement between God and his people is called a **covenant**.

## Lesson Plan

## WE BELIEVE

— minutes

**Read** aloud the *We Believe* statement. Ask volunteers to read aloud the *We Believe* paragraphs up to the passage from Exodus. Discuss how God showed his love for his people and how they showed their love for God

**Point** out on a world map the country of Israel. Explain: *The Israelites were farmers or sheep herders. But there was a long period of time when it did not rain. The crops did not grow and so there was little or no food. Point to Egypt on the map. Explain: The Israelites went to Egypt to find food. After a while the Israelites became the slaves of the Egyptians. But God wanted his people to be free. He chose Moses to lead the people back to their own land.*


**Have** the students read along quietly as you read the passage from the Book of Exodus. Ask: *What did God ask Moses to do? (God asked Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt to a life of freedom in their own land.)* Then read the paragraph following the Scripture.

(At this point, you may also want to share with the students Exodus 13:21–22 which describes the way God led his people both during the day and at night.)

**Do** the activity. Encourage the students to give examples of God giving guidance to people in the world today.

**Have** a volunteer read the second *We Believe* statement. Write the word *covenant* on the board. Pronounce it and explain that it is an agreement between God and his

God gave us the Ten Commandments so we can know how to live a life of love. The first three commandments help us to show love and respect for God. The other seven commandments help us to show love and respect for ourselves and others.

 With a partner discuss ways to show respect for God and others.



In this covenant God promised to protect his people and to help them live in freedom. In return the Israelites promised to live as God wanted them to live. They promised to worship him, the one true God.

God gave Moses and his people the Ten Commandments. The **Ten Commandments** are the Laws of God's covenant given to Moses on Mount Sinai. The Israelites, later known as the Jewish People, followed these Laws. The Ten Commandments are God's Laws for us, too. We find them in the Old Testament.

### THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD: YOU SHALL NOT HAVE STRANGE GODS BEFORE ME.
2. YOU SHALL NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD YOUR GOD IN VAIN.
3. REMEMBER TO KEEP HOLY THE LORD'S DAY.
4. HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER.
5. YOU SHALL NOT KILL.
6. YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.
7. YOU SHALL NOT STEAL.
8. YOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST YOUR NEIGHBOR.
9. YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S WIFE.
10. YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S GOODS.

#### Key Words

covenant (p. 259)

Ten Commandments (p. 261)

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## ACTIVITY BANK


### Curriculum Connection

#### Geography

**Activity Materials:** maps

Encourage small groups of students to find on a map the places referred to in this chapter (Egypt, Israel, the desert region between Egypt and Israel, and Mount Sinai). Suggest that the students trace an outline of the area from a map, and label the places on the map. Encourage the students to add drawings to their maps to illustrate key parts of the Israelites' story such as: their escape from slavery in Egypt, their wandering in the desert, God calling Moses to lead them out of Egypt, and Moses receiving the Ten Commandments from God. Display the maps.

people. Make a chart with two columns. At the top of the left-hand column write *God promises*; at the top of the right-hand column, *God's people promise*. Ask four students to read aloud the next four *We Believe* paragraphs. Have volunteers fill in the columns.

 **Have** the students work with partners to discuss ways to show respect.

**Present** the Ten Commandments. Emphasize that the Ten Commandments are God's Laws for us, too. Form the students into two groups. Have one group read aloud the first three commandments. Explain: *These Laws help us show love and respect for God.* Have the second group read aloud the Fourth through the Tenth Commandments. Explain: *These seven Laws help us show love and respect for ourselves and others.*

(At this time you may want to play the song "Psalm 100: We Are His People," #6 and #7 on the Grade 4 CD. The words to the song can be found in Sadlier's *We Believe* Program Songbook.)

### Quick Check

- ✓ How did God help the Israelites when they were slaves in Egypt? (*God chose Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.*)
- ✓ What are the Laws God gave to Moses called? (*the Ten Commandments*)

## As Catholics...

## The Prophet Isaiah

After you have presented the day's lesson, have the students break into groups. Have them read and discuss the *As Catholics* text. Have the students talk about why they think Isaiah's message is so important.

## Jesus teaches us about God's Law.

God loved his people so much that he never turned away from them. When he saw his people failing, God sent prophets to remind them to keep the covenant. The prophets told the people about God's love for them. They encouraged the people to trust in God and have faith in him. They reminded the people that God had promised to save them from sin.

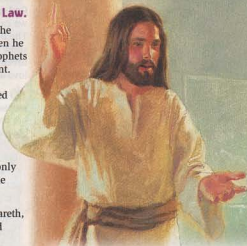
God kept his promise. He sent his only Son into the world to save all people from sin. Jesus is the Son of God.


When Jesus was growing up in Nazareth, he studied the teachings of the Old Testament. He learned about the covenant God made with his people. He followed the Ten Commandments. He lived his life according to the covenant.

One day someone asked Jesus, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" We call Jesus' answer the Great Commandment. Jesus said to the man, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:36, 37). This is the first part of the Great Commandment. It sums up the first three of the Ten Commandments.

Jesus also told the man, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:39). This part of the Great Commandment sums up the Fourth through Tenth Commandments.

Jesus himself lived out the Great Commandment. He showed us that keeping the Ten Commandments means loving God above all else and loving others as ourselves.



 Who are some people today who encourage us to trust in God and have faith in him?

## Jesus teaches us to love one another.

On the night before he died, Jesus told his disciples, "I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:34–35).

Loving one another as Jesus did helps us to follow the Ten Commandments. Jesus was a perfect example of love for God and neighbor. He showed his love in many ways. He listened to those who were lonely. He went out of his way to help people in need. He spoke out for the freedom of all people and for those who were treated unjustly. He respected the dignity of each person.

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## Lesson Plan


## WE BELIEVE (continued)

**Read** together the *We Believe* statement. Emphasize that Jesus lived according to the covenant and helped others to do the same. Explain: *God's people did not always keep their part of the covenant. God sent prophets to help them. Have volunteers read aloud the first two We Believe paragraphs.*

**Ask** the students to recall what they had learned about the Great Commandment in previous grades. Ask: *What do you remember about the Great Commandment Jesus taught us?* After the students have responded, ask volunteers to read aloud the next four *We Believe* paragraphs.

**Share** with the students the verses from the Old Testament that relate to the Great Commandment. Remind the students that Jesus would have studied these verses as a boy.

- "Therefore, you shall love the LORD, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength" (Deuteronomy 6:5).
- "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Leviticus 19:18).

 **Have** the students identify people who encourage them to trust and have faith in God. Discuss the ideas and share responses.




We are called to respect the human dignity of all people. All people are created by God to share in his life and love. Each and every person has the same basic rights. We call the basic rights that all people have **human rights**.

These rights include the

- right to life. This the most basic of all human rights.
- right to faith and family
- right to education and work
- right to equal treatment and safety
- right to housing and health care.

### WE RESPOND

 With a partner, discuss the ways you can respect the rights of others as Jesus did. Talk about ways that we can follow Jesus' example of love for God and others. Then make a Word Find using those ways. Exchange your puzzle with another group and have them find and circle the words.



human rights (p. 260)

### As Catholics...

God sent many prophets to his people. One of the greatest of these was Isaiah. Isaiah told the people that God would never abandon them, that God would send them a Savior. Jesus is the Savior Isaiah told the people about.

Every year during Advent and Christmas, we hear the words of Isaiah: "For a child is born to us, a son is given us" (Isaiah 9:5). Jesus is the Son of God and our Savior.

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## ACTIVITY BANK

### Scripture Search

#### Storytelling

**Activity Materials:** Bibles

Invite the students to do a "Jesus in action" Bible search. Working in pairs, they can look up one of the following references to see that Jesus lived the Great Commandment. Have them prepare to tell or act out their stories to the class and suggest one way fourth graders might follow Jesus' example in their own lives. (Gospel references to be researched are Matthew 9:1-8; Mark 8:1-10; Luke 4:1-13; John 13:1-15.)

**Help** the students to recall what Jesus taught us about neighbors. Ask: *How are we to treat our neighbors? (as ourselves) How are we to know how to treat others? (by thinking of how we want to be treated)* Have a volunteer read aloud the second *We Believe* statement.


**Have** the students work in pairs. Let the pairs read the next two *We Believe* paragraphs together. Encourage them to underline in their texts three of the main points from their reading. Discuss what people might have thought and learned when they saw the way Jesus treated others.

**Read** aloud the *We Believe* paragraph on page 79. Then have different students read aloud each human

right. Discuss the meaning of each of the basic human rights. Before beginning the *We Respond* you may want to share the *Chapter Story* found on guide page 75E.

### WE RESPOND

\_\_\_ minutes

 **Read** the *We Respond* activity directions. Have the students complete the word find puzzle. Share results.

**Distribute** copies of the Reproducible Master 8, guide page 75C. Encourage the students to be creative in designing the borders of their work.

## Catechist Goal

- To review the chapter ideas that are key to growing as disciples of Jesus Christ

## Our Faith Response

- To decide on ways to grow as disciples by living out what we have learned

## Show What you Know

Help the students complete the symbol code activity. When they are finished writing, check their answers. Clarify any misconceptions.

**Fast Facts** Ask a volunteer to read the paragraph. Discuss ways that we can keep God's Law.

**Pray Today** Encourage the students to consider ways to live out the commandments. Then have them compose their prayers.

## Make it Happen

Read aloud the list of human rights. Allow time for writing a plan. Then invite volunteers to share their plan with the group.

## What's the Word?

Have a volunteer read the passage from Matthew and complete the activity.

## Take Home

Read and discuss the activity. Encourage the students to do the activity with their families.

Discuss and send home copies of *Sharing Faith with My Family* reproducible master for this chapter (back of book).

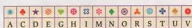


Grade 4 Chapter 8

## PROJECT

## Show What you Know

To find the **Right** to complete each sentence, use the code below. Fill in the letter that matches each symbol.



- The special agreement between God and his people is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
- The laws of God's covenant given to Moses on Mount Sinai are the \_\_\_\_\_.
- The basic rights that all people have are \_\_\_\_\_.

## Fast Facts

The covenant that God made with Moses is still honored and lived today by the Jewish People. The Ten Commandments are part of what is called The Torah, which in Hebrew means, "The Law." The scrolls on which the law is written have a place of honor in every synagogue.



## Pray Today

Holy Spirit, help me to live by the Ten Commandments. Help me to \_\_\_\_\_

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## DISCIPLE



## Make it Happen

God calls us to respect everyone's human rights. Choose one of the human rights listed below.

- right to life
- right to faith and family
- right to education and work
- right to equal treatment and safety
- right to housing and health care



Make a plan to promote this right in your school and neighborhood this week.

## What's the Word?

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." (Matthew 22:37) "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:39)

- Circle the phrases that answer: Who shall we love?
- Underline the phrases that tell how you should love God.

## Take Home

Discuss with your family ways to live the Great Commandment. Write one way your family will love God and others this week.

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Circle the correct answer.

- In the Old Testament we learn about the relationship between God and \_\_\_\_\_.  
the Apostles    Jesus    the Israelites    fear    love    trust
- A covenant is a special \_\_\_\_\_ between God and his people.  
agreement    prayer    vision    faith    equal treatment    life
- Jesus taught us to love God above all else and to \_\_\_\_\_ our neighbors as ourselves.
- The most basic of all human rights is the right to \_\_\_\_\_.  
faith    equal treatment    life

Write True or False for the following sentences.

Then change the false sentences to make them true.

- \_\_\_\_\_ The Ten Commandments help us to live a life of love.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Great Commandment sums up the Ten Commandments.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Following the first three commandments helps us to love our neighbors.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ God gave the Ten Commandments to Jesus on Mount Sinai.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Answer the following.

- Write one way the prophets helped the Israelites.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Write one way Jesus showed people his love.  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## CHAPTER TEST

Provide ten to fifteen minutes for the students to complete the test. After all have finished, check the answers. Clarify any misconceptions.

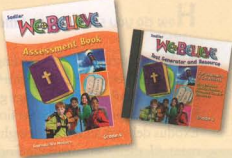
## Alternative Assessment

You may want the students to complete the following alternative-assessment activity.

*Make a board of respect. Cut out pictures and phrases from magazines and newspapers that show examples of the following: respect for God, respect for self, and respect for others.*

## Additional Testing

- Chapter 8 Test in *Assessment Book*, pages 15–16
- CD-ROM *Test Generator and Resource*: Use Chapter 8 Test or customize your own.



## Review



Review the definitions as they are presented in the chapter and/or Glossary:

- covenant
- Ten Commandments
- human rights.

## We Believe Statements

Review the four statements.

- God calls his people.
- The Ten Commandments are God's Laws for his people.
- Jesus teaches us about God's Law.
- Jesus teaches us to love one another.

To use the Chapter 8 Study Guide, visit

[www.webelieveweb.com](http://www.webelieveweb.com)