

We Respect the Gift of Life

Keep these ideas in mind as you study *Chapter 15*.

❖ All life is precious to God. God wants us to take care of our own lives and the lives of others.

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❖ The Fifth Commandment says that you shall not kill.

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❖ Life is not a gift we keep for ourselves. It always belongs to God. The life of everyone belongs to God.

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❖ God wants us to be healthy, happy people and to love ourselves. If we do, then we can enrich the world by helping others and giving glory to God. Eating healthful foods, exercising, and listening to our parents are ways we can take care of ourselves.

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❖ There are other ways of breaking the Fifth Commandment besides killing. Teasing, fighting, risk taking, and being prejudiced also harm life.

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❖ Peter Claver was a Spanish priest who helped African slaves who arrived in the West Indies. Father Claver saw how cruel slavery was when he met the slave ships. The slaves were starving, sick, and dying. He gave them fresh fruit and medicine. He baptized more than 40 thousand people.

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❖ A lawyer asked Jesus what he had to do in order to win eternal life. Jesus told him the story of the Good Samaritan, who treated a wounded man with mercy. In the story, a man was hurt and left to die on the side of the road. A religious man and another traveler passed him by. Then a man from Samaria came along and treated him with kindness.

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