

God Speaks to Us Through the Church

Keep these ideas in mind as you study *Chapter 3*.

❖ The Church is the people of God. The baptized members who believe in Jesus and follow the leadership of the pope and the bishops are called Catholics.

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❖ God speaks to us through the Church, and he sent the Holy Spirit to be with it and to guide it. He calls us to work together to spread the Good News.

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❖ The pope and the bishops teach and govern the Church. They are shepherds who care for God's people and lead them to a holy way of life.

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❖ All of God's people can love and serve God. Our parents and teachers show children what it means to be a Christian by teaching them to be like Jesus.

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❖ Caring for God's creation is serving God. Visiting an elderly person, collecting canned goods for those who are needy, and planting greenery are just a few ways to serve God's kingdom.

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❖ By loving each other, married men and women show us how Jesus loves the Church. Others show love through their lives as religious. Single people also serve the Church.

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❖ Jesus is the head of the Church, and he chose Peter to be the visible head. Peter would teach and lead the Church in the name of Jesus.

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❖ When the Holy Father, the pope, speaks as the head of the Church, Jesus speaks through him. The Holy Spirit guides the pope and other bishops who teach and lead.

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❖ After the apostles finished fishing, Jesus asked Peter if he loved him. Peter replied that he did, and Jesus asked him to feed and tend to his sheep.

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