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# Morality, Our Lived Faith

## Begin

- ▶ Ask: *If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go? Why?* Read aloud the unit title on page 170. Say: *In our new unit, we will learn how following the Ten Commandments can help us live like Jesus. First, we'll learn about a saint who traveled the world to help others learn how to live like Jesus.*

## Introduce the Saint

- ▶ Focus your child's attention on the picture of Saint Francis Xavier on page 170. Ask: *What do you notice about Saint Francis Xavier in this picture?* (He is teaching or preaching to children. He is in Asia.) Say: *Saint Francis Xavier was a missionary.* Ask: *What does a missionary do?* (travel to other places to teach people about God and Jesus)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Saint Francis Xavier on page 171. Ask: *Who was one of Francis Xavier's friends?* (Ignatius of Loyola) *What religious order did Francis Xavier join?* (the Society of Jesus) *What did Francis Xavier do to share Jesus' love with others?* (He taught children by telling them religious stories and teaching them religious songs. He helped people who were poor, sick, or in prison.) *What was his great wish?* (to do missionary work in China) Say: *Saint Francis Xavier is the patron saint of missionaries to foreign lands.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Be Inspired feature. Discuss reasons to choose to do good, kind things.
- ▶ With your child, add Francis's feast day, December 3, to your calendar. Plan an event together to celebrate the teachings of Saint Francis Xavier.

**Unit Opener: Page 172**

- ▶ Discuss the difference between traveling today and traveling in the time of Saint Francis Xavier. Say: *Saint Francis Xavier traveled far from home to tell people about God's Word.* Ask: *What does this tell you about him?* (He cared so much about God's Word that he wanted all people to hear it.)
- ▶ Say: *Saint Francis Xavier brought Christianity to people around the world.* Have your child read aloud Our Lived Faith on page 172.
- ▶ Read aloud We Travel Through Life with Jesus and give your child time to complete the activity. Talk about his or her responses.
- ▶ Direct your child's attention to the Reading God's Word feature. Say: *Saint Francis Xavier, apostle to the Far East, sought out people who were poor and forgotten. Let's remember them as we pray.* Read aloud the Scripture. Then invite your child to pray aloud the Scripture with you.

## The Ten Commandments

### Engage: Page 173

- ▶ Ask: *Why are there rules for games?* (so the game is fair; to help players know what to do and how to get along) Say: *In this session, we're going to learn about the Ten Commandments. These are 10 rules we've received from God that help us grow in our relationship with him, with our families, and with one another.*
- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture.
- ▶ Read aloud Psalm 1:1–6 from your Bible. Then say: *The Word of the Lord.* Invite your child to respond *Thanks be to God.*
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the paragraphs on page 173. Ask: *How does following God's laws help us?* (We make good moral choices. We love and honor God and one another.) Say: *We are examples of God's love in the world when we follow his commandments. Let's pray to God for help in following the Ten Commandments.* Pray aloud the prayer together. Conclude by praying *Amen.*

### Explore: Pages 174–175

- ▶ Ask: *What is the Torah?* (the Law revealed by God in the Old Testament; the first five books of the Old Testament) Say: *The Book of Exodus is part of the Torah.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 174. Ask: *Why did God want Moses to lead the Hebrews out of Egypt?* (They were being treated cruelly as slaves.) Look up the word *plague* in the Glossary. Give examples of plagues that God sent to convince Pharaoh to free the Hebrews, such as frogs, gnats, hail, locusts, and darkness.
- ▶ Read aloud Crossing the Red Sea and Mount Sinai on page 175. Ask: *What are the Ten Commandments?* (God's instructions on how to live in relationship with him and with one another) Look up the word *covenant* in the Glossary. Say: *The agreement between God and the Hebrews is a covenant.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Say: *We see in the Bible that God made promises of care in the Old Testament, especially through Noah, Abraham, and Moses.*

### Art Exploration: Page 176

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Moses with the Ten Commandments.
- ▶ Ask: *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage children to describe the picture in detail, including the setting and Moses's appearance.
- ▶ Say: *God gave the Hebrews the Ten Commandments to help them remain faithful to the covenant he made with them.*

- ▶ Ask: *What can you do to follow the Ten Commandments?*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud God’s Covenant on page 176. Ask: *What did the Hebrews agree to do when they entered into the covenant with God?* (live in relationship with him and with one another according to his instructions)
- ▶ Read aloud Symbols of Your Relationship. Allow time for your child to design a symbol and discuss its meaning with you.
- ▶ Explain that many artists have made images of Moses with the Ten Commandments. Have your child use art supplies to draw or paint a picture of Moses with the Ten Commandments.

### Reflect: Pages 177–178

- ▶ Together look at page 177. Say: *Remember that we always have the Holy Spirit to give us strength and guidance to make good moral choices.*
- ▶ Read aloud Come, Holy Spirit. Take the role of Leader and have your child read the All parts. Pray aloud the Prayer to the Holy Spirit. Give your child time to reflect silently. Conclude by praying together the Glory Be to the Father.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud We Make Moral Decisions on page 178. Say: *These four questions can help us make good moral choices. They can be part of our examination of conscience.*
- ▶ Read aloud Seek Advice and have your child complete the activity. Ask your child to share his or her question with you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God’s Word feature. Ask: *Who is speaking?* (Jesus) *What do you think he means when he says, “I have come not to abolish but to fulfill”?* (Jesus revealed the deeper meaning of the Ten Commandments when he gave us the new commandment.)

### Respond: Page 179

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 179. Review the Words I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to tell you some specific good moral choices he or she will make. Then invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Then pray the Sign of the Cross together.

### With My Family: Page 180

- ▶ Read aloud With My Family on page 180. As a family, complete the page and do the activity. Finally, pray the family prayer. Say: *Jesus taught us how to be faithful to God the Father. We are faithful to God by making good choices. Let’s show our love for God this week by making good choices.*

## Loving God Above All

### Engage: Page 181

- ▶ Together, name some of the important people in your child's life and talk about ways your child shows his or her love to these people. Ask: ***Why is it important to show our love to people?*** (When we express our love, we share God's love with others.)
- ▶ Read aloud the session title. Say: ***There are many ways we can show our love to God. Whenever we do so, we give thanks for the many ways he shows his love to us.***
- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture.
- ▶ Read aloud Psalm 95:1–7 from your Bible. Then say: ***The Word of the Lord.*** Invite your child to respond ***Thanks be to God.***
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the paragraphs on page 181. Say: ***When we worship God, we direct all our attention to him.*** Ask: ***Which commandments help us focus our attention on God?*** (the first three) Say: ***Let's pray to express our love to God.*** Pray aloud the prayer together. Conclude by praying ***Amen.***

### Explore: Pages 182–183

- ▶ Ask: ***What do you believe is most important in our lives?*** (worshipping God, attending Mass, celebrating the sacraments, following Jesus' example, loving one another)
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud page 182. Look up the term *Great Commandment* in the Glossary. Ask: ***What is the main message of the first part of the Law?*** (You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.) ***What is the main message of the second part of the Law?*** (You shall love your neighbor as yourself.)
- ▶ Read aloud The First Three Commandments on page 183. Ask: ***What do the first three commandments help us do?*** (grow in our relationship with God)
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: ***This passage sums up the first three commandments by reminding us to keep God at the center of our lives.***
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Ask: ***Why do we honor sacred images?*** (to honor the holy person represented in the image, to express that we worship and adore God)

### Art Exploration: Page 184

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of people entering a church.
- ▶ Ask: ***What do you see in this picture?*** Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including how the people are following the first three commandments.
- ▶ Say: ***The first three commandments teach us to love God above all.***
- ▶ Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question on page 184.

- ▶ Read aloud Love and Worship God. Look up the word *idolatry* in the Glossary. Ask: ***What are examples of idolatry?*** (valuing things more than our relationship with God; practicing forms of magic, fortune-telling, and superstition) ***How do we honor God?*** (by using his name with reverence and love)
- ▶ Read aloud God Above All Else and have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Give your child time to reflect on the picture of the people entering the church. Say: ***Think about the last time you were at Mass.*** Ask: ***What did you see? What did you hear? Were you able to smell flowers or incense?*** After allowing time for reflection, say: ***Take a moment to pray. Thank Jesus for giving us the gift of himself in the Eucharist.*** Conclude by praying the Glory Be to the Father.

### Reflect: Pages 185–186

- ▶ Read aloud We Praise God on page 185. Look up the term *Divine Praises* in the Glossary. Take the role of Leader and have your child read the All parts. Pray the Divine Praises together. Give your child time to reflect silently. Conclude by praying the Glory Be to the Father.
- ▶ Read aloud Love God Above All and How We Love God on page 186. Have your child read aloud the words in the word box. Allow time for your child to write his or her answers and then go over them together.

### Respond: Pages 187

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 187. Review the Words I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest another way to show love for God. Then invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer with your child. Then pray the Sign of the Cross together.

### With My Family: Page 188

- ▶ Read aloud With My Family on page 188. As a family, complete the page and do the activity. Finally, pray the family prayer. Say: ***Let's remember to walk in love with Jesus and be a reflection of his abundant love.***

## Loving Our Family

### Engage: Page 189

- ▶ Display images of different families. Ask: *What is different about these families? What is the same about the families?* Say: *We are called to be loving to our family members even when it is difficult to do so.*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title. Say: *In this session, we will learn about the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Commandments. These three commandments teach us how to love.*
- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture.
- ▶ Read aloud 1 John 4:20–21 from your Bible. Then say: *The Word of the Lord.* Invite your child to respond *Thanks be to God.*
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the paragraphs on page 189. Ask: *What do the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Commandments teach us?* (how to love and be in good relationship with the people in our life) Say: *Let's ask Jesus to help us treat others well.* Pray aloud the prayer together. Conclude by praying *Amen.*

### Explore: Pages 190–191

- ▶ Tell a story about a difficult decision you had to make and then invite your child to do the same. Ask: *Why was the choice difficult? What did you do to help you choose?* Discuss your child's responses.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Saint Thomas More on page 190. Ask: *What was Thomas More forced to choose between?* (loyalty to the Church and loyalty to the government) Say: *Thomas More's faith gave him the strength to forgive King Henry and the man who was about to execute him.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Say: *Saint Thomas More is the patron saint of lawyers because of his example. He made the right decision even when doing so was difficult.*
- ▶ Read aloud Relationships with Others on page 191. Look up the word *obedience* in the Glossary. Say: *Parents and other leaders help us follow God's plan for us. We are obedient when we do what they ask of us.* Ask: *What does the Fifth Commandment say?* (Killing is wrong.) *What does the Sixth Commandment say?* (We are called to respect our bodies and other peoples' bodies. A husband and a wife are called to be faithful to each other and to respect their marriage promises.)
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Say: *In our life of prayer, sacrifice, and service to others, our family is a sign of the Holy Trinity's love for the world.*

## Art Exploration: Page 192

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of a heart, a traditional symbol of love.
- ▶ Say: *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including what the heart symbolizes.
- ▶ Say: *Jesus calls us to forgive, love, and pray for our enemies.*
- ▶ Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question on page 192.
- ▶ Read aloud Love and Forgive Your Enemies. Ask: *What does Jesus say in the Scripture passage?* (Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.)
- ▶ Read aloud Prayer of Forgiveness. Allow time for your child to write a prayer.
- ▶ Look again at the picture of the heart. Say: *This artist used a heart to symbolize love, but there are many other symbols we can use for love and forgiveness.* Give your child art supplies. Have him or her make a piece of art that uses symbols of love and forgiveness. Encourage your child to make abstract art and to use multiple media, such as crayons, markers, colored pencils, or watercolors.

## Reflect: Pages 193–194

- ▶ Together look at page 193. Say: *King Solomon is one of Jesus' ancestors. He is also the son of King David. Solomon was known to be a wise king. Many people turned to him for advice.*
- ▶ Read aloud God, Be with Us. Then pray aloud the prayer with your child. Close the prayer by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud the heading and first paragraph on page 194. Then take turns reading aloud the dialogue between Ryan and Olivia. Ask: *What else can Olivia do to help her make the right choice?* (pray to the Holy Spirit, follow the saints' example, practice the virtue of fortitude, follow the Fourth Commandment)
- ▶ Read aloud Follow the Fourth Commandment and give your child time to complete the activity. Discuss his or her response.

## Respond: Page 195

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 195. Review the Word I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways to treat family and friends with compassion and respect. Then invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer with your child. Then pray the Sign of the Cross together.

## With My Family: Page 196

- ▶ Read aloud With My Family on page 196. As a family, complete the page and do the activity. Finally, pray the family prayer. Say: *Let's follow Jesus' example and make a special effort to honor one another in the coming week.*

## Jesus Calls Us to Love Others

### Engage: Page 197

- ▶ Ask: *What is one way that you cooperate with a family member?* (share a bathroom, bedroom, or computer; take turns using a toy or choosing TV shows to watch)
- ▶ Read aloud the session title. Say: *Cooperating with one another helps us live together peacefully. In this session, we'll learn about the Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Commandments. These commandments help us be loving people.*
- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture.
- ▶ Read aloud James 1:22–25 from your Bible. Then say: *The Word of the Lord.* Invite your child to respond *Thanks be to God.*
- ▶ Say: *Remember that the Seventh through Tenth Commandments teach us how to live in peace with others.* Invite your child to read aloud the paragraphs on page 197. Ask: *How are we doers of God's Word?* (We do good deeds. We follow God's commandments.) Say: *Let's ask Jesus to help us speak and act with love.* Pray aloud the prayer together. Conclude by praying *Amen.*

### Explore: Pages 198–199

- ▶ Ask: *What do the first three commandments help us do?* (grow in our relationship with God) *What do the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Commandments help us do?* (grow in our relationship with our family)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Relationships with Our Neighbors on page 198. Ask: *Who are our neighbors?* (all those who are affected by our actions) Look up the word *covet* in the Glossary. Say: *God invites us to look to him for our happiness, not to other people or possessions.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Ask: *As people of God, what do we do to have good lives?* (follow God's commandments)
- ▶ Read aloud We Live the Commandments on page 199. Look up the word *temperance* in the Glossary. Say: *We practice the virtue of temperance when we show gratitude for what we have rather than wanting more.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Living the Ten Commandments and complete the activity. Discuss the words he or she chose.

## Art Exploration: Page 200

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Moses.
- ▶ Ask: *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including Moses's appearance and any details in the background.
- ▶ Say: *After wandering in the desert for a long time, Moses looked toward the Promised Land.*
- ▶ Ask: *How might you have felt seeing this land for the first time?*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud God's Promises on page 200. Ask: *Where did Moses and the Hebrews arrive after wandering in the desert for 40 years?* (the land that God had promised to them)
- ▶ Read aloud The Importance of the Ten Commandments. Have your child complete the activity and then share his or her response.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. Ask: *What are some ways that we can glorify the Lord by our lives?* (be kind to others, obey the Ten Commandments, reach out to people who are sick or suffering)
- ▶ Give your child art supplies and invite him or her to make a poster about keeping the covenant. Tell your child to draw ways that people can keep the covenant by obeying the Ten Commandments and following Jesus' example. Have your child write a title and caption for the poster. Display the poster in your home.

## Reflect: Pages 201–202

- ▶ Together look at page 201. Say: *As the Hebrews were getting ready to cross the Jordan River, they were preparing to cross to a new life. You will soon be crossing to a new grade and new challenges. God will always love you and be with you.*
- ▶ Read aloud Go with God. Then pray the prayer slowly and reverently, pausing between sentences to allow time for reflection. Close the prayer by praying *Amen* and joining your child in praying the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud We Follow God's Plan on page 202. Ask: *How has the child who wrote the message chosen not to follow the commandments?* (The child plans to keep the jacket, which is theft, and covets Pat's clothes rather than being thankful for what he or she already has. The child plans to lie to his or her parents, which does not honor them. The child also asks the friend to lie.)
- ▶ Read aloud Send a Response and give your child time to write a message.

**Respond: Page 203**

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 203. Review the Words I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can show respect for others. Then invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Then pray the Sign of the Cross together.

**With My Family: Page 204**

- ▶ Read aloud With My Family on page 204. As a family, complete the page and do the activity. Finally, pray the family prayer. Say: *Remember to follow the Ten Commandments. When we follow them, we live as God wants us to live.*

## Celebrating Easter

### Engage: Page 205

- ▶ Together sing an Alleluia your parish uses as a Gospel Acclamation during the Easter season. Ask: *How else can we praise God?* (pray a prayer, attend Mass, celebrate the sacraments)
- ▶ Read aloud the session title. Ask: *What do we celebrate during the Easter season?* (Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension) Say: *We rejoice and sing our praise to God to thank him for what he has done for us through Jesus' Resurrection. In this session, we will learn more about the Easter season.*
- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture.
- ▶ Read aloud 1 Peter 1:3 from your Bible. Then say: *The Word of the Lord.* Invite your child to respond *Thanks be to God.*
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the paragraphs on page 205. Ask: *During Easter, what word do we sing to express our joy for Jesus' victory over death? (Alleluia)* Say: *Let's thank Jesus for giving us new life.* Pray aloud the prayer together. Conclude by praying *Amen.*

### Explore: Page 206

- ▶ Together read aloud from your Bible one of the accounts of the Resurrection. [Matthew 28:1–10; Mark 16:1–8; Luke 24:1–12]
- ▶ Have your child read aloud We Live in Peace During Easter. Ask: *Why were Jesus' disciples excited to see him?* (They missed him. They thought he was dead.)
- ▶ Read aloud Gift of Peace. Look up the term *gift of peace* in the Glossary. Ask: *Why do you think Jesus shared his gift of peace with his disciples?* (so that they would know he was always with them and share his peace with others)
- ▶ Read aloud Jesus' Gift of Peace and have your child complete the activity. Discuss your child's response.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Say: *In Jesus' time, a lamb was often used as a sacrificial offering to God. We compare Jesus to the lamb because he died so that our sins would be forgiven. He is the Lamb of God.*

### Reflect: Page 207

- ▶ Display a bouquet of flowers or look at pictures of flowers. Ask: *Why do many people like flowers? What do flowers remind you of?* Say: *Flowers are a symbol of the new life we receive through the Resurrection. They are also a reminder of the beauty of God's creation.*

- ▶ Read aloud Mass During Easter. Ask: *What are the Scripture readings about during the Easter season?* (Jesus' Resurrection, how Jesus appeared to Mary and the disciples, the Ascension, Pentecost)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud What We Experience. Say: *The light of the paschal candle reminds us that we are called to share the joy of Christ's Resurrection with others. It is lit during the first part of the Easter Vigil and for every Mass celebrated during the Easter season.* Ask: *Why do we use the color red on Pentecost?* (It reminds us of the Holy Spirit.)

### Art Exploration: Page 208

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture that shows signs of new life during spring.
- ▶ Ask: *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the new signs of life.
- ▶ Say: *During the Easter season, we celebrate the new life we receive through Christ's Resurrection.*
- ▶ Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question on page 208.
- ▶ Read aloud Celebrate Easter. Ask: *When do we share God's love with others?* (whenever we choose to follow God's plan for us, follow Jesus' example of service, and practice the Ten Commandments)
- ▶ Read aloud Share God's Love and allow time for your child to complete the activity. Ask him or her to tell you about the picture.
- ▶ Ask your child to imagine that he or she has gone to Jesus' tomb and found it empty. Say: *Think about what you're feeling as you walk to the tomb. An angel tells you that God has raised Jesus from the dead.* Ask: *What do you think and feel on hearing this?* Say: *Now, in the quiet of your heart, thank Jesus for the new life we receive through him. Tell him one way you will share his gift of peace with others.* Pray together the Glory Be to the Father.

### Respond: Page 209

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 209. Review the Words I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. If you choose, make plans for one of your child's friends to accompany your family to Mass during Easter. Ask your child to suggest other specific ways he or she can share Jesus' peace with others. Then invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer with your child. Then pray the Sign of the Cross together.

**With My Family: Page 210**

- ▶ Read aloud With My Family on page 210. As a family, complete the page and do the activity. Finally, pray the family prayer. Say: *I am looking forward to seeing some of the ways you will share Jesus' gift of peace during Easter.*