

Overview

In Chapter 18 the students learned that the Seventh Commandment calls us to respect others, their property, and the world God created. In this chapter the students will learn that the Eighth Commandment teaches the importance of learning and living the truth that comes from God.

Doctrinal Content

For Adult Reading and Reflection
Catechism of the Catholic Church

The students will learn:

- God teaches us what it means to be true. 2465
- We are called to witness to the truth of our faith. 2472
- We have a responsibility to tell the truth. 2483
- We have a responsibility to respect the truth. 2469

Paragraph



martyrs
witnesses

Catechist Background

Have you ever been hurt by another person's lie?

The Eighth Commandment is “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor” (Exodus 20:16). Jesus commented on this commandment by saying, “Let your ‘Yes’ mean ‘Yes’ and your ‘No’ mean ‘No.’ Anything more is from the evil one” (Matthew 5:37). By saying this, Jesus was calling his followers to be truthful.

Christians are the living representatives of Christ. We bear his name and proclaim his message. We have been anointed through the Gift of the Holy Spirit at Baptism. We express our belief in God who is “*the source of all truth*” (CCC 2465). When we engage in dishonesty and lies, we betray our deepest calling because truth is one of the most important characteristics of a Christian.

Jesus is identified with truth. “In Jesus Christ, the whole of God’s truth has been made manifest” (CCC 2466). In testimony to this, John’s Gospel describes Jesus as “full of grace and truth” (1:14)

Go to www.webelieveweb.com, Catechist/Teacher, We Believe Correlations for this chapter’s correlation to:

- Six Tasks of Catechesis
- Catholic Social Teaching.

and Jesus calls himself “the way and the truth and the life” (14:6). The devil is identified with lying. “There is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he speaks in character, because he is a liar and the father of lies” (John 8:44).

When we choose to speak a falsehood with the intention of misleading or deceiving, we are lying. Lies may seem to be small “twists of the truth,” but inexorably they edge us away from Christ and closer to the father of lies. Truthfulness often is difficult, but ultimately it is rewarding. As Jesus promised, “you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” (John 8:32).

What can you do today to be a witness of the truth?

Lesson Planning Guide

Lesson Steps

Presentation

Materials

1 WE GATHER

page 163



Prayer



Focus on Life



- Pray the psalm.
- Respond in song.
- Discuss question about a world in which everyone is truthful.



For the prayer space: a Bible
"Come Follow Me," Barbara Bridge, #23, Grade 4 CD

2 WE BELIEVE

page 164

God teaches us what it means to be true.



- Read and discuss the Eighth Commandment and being faithful and true witnesses before God.
- Identify a way to show being trustworthy and truthful.

page 165

We are called to witness to the truth of our faith.



- Read and discuss Jesus' call to live the truth and witness it as the Apostles and martyrs did.
- Role-play witnessing to the Catholic faith.

pages 166–167

We have a responsibility to tell the truth.

We have a responsibility to respect the truth.



- Read and discuss the need to tell the truth and avoiding lying, spreading gossip, and telling secrets.
- Name times when it is easy and when it is difficult to tell the truth.
- Read and discuss the responsibility to respect the truth.

3 WE RESPOND

page 167



- Complete endings to real-life situations.
- Read and discuss the Golden Rule in the *As Catholics* text.

- copies of Reproducible Master 19, guide page 163C

pages 168–169
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 19 (back of book)

page 170
Chapter 19 Test

- Complete **Chapter 19 Test**.
- Work on *Alternative Assessment* activity.

- optional: copies of Scripture reproducible master, *What's the Word?*, Chapter 19 (back of book)