

Overview

In Chapter 4 the children learned about the beginning of the Church. In this chapter they will learn about the Apostles who led the Church and about those who remained true followers of Jesus despite the risk of losing their lives.

Doctrinal Content

For Adult Reading and Reflection
Catechism of the Catholic Church

The children will learn:

- | | Paragraph |
|---|-----------|
| • The Apostles led the Church. | 551 |
| • The disciples of Jesus share the Good News. | 763–765 |
| • The followers of Jesus stood up for their faith. | 769 |
| • Many of our ancestors in faith
are examples of holiness. | 2030 |

Key Words

**Acts of the
Apostles
Gospel
martyrs**

Catechist Background

What is your favorite memory of the Church?

What has kept the Church moving forward is its recalling that we are a pilgrim Church. During this journey we realize that “The Church is in history, but at the same time she transcends it. It is only ‘with the eyes of faith’ that one can see her in her visible reality and at the same time in her spiritual reality as bearer of divine life” (CCC 770).

After the Apostles came bursting out of the upper room on Pentecost, it wasn’t long before opposition to the followers of the crucified Jesus of Nazareth intensified. Some Jewish leaders banned the use of his name. Greeks and Romans declared

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

- Six Tasks of Catechesis
- Catholic Social Teaching

the Christians to be atheists because they would not honor the gods who protected their cities. Although the Church grew at a brisk pace, the early Christians paid a high price for their faith. From Stephen’s stoning in Jerusalem to the martyrs of the Roman coliseum, those who professed belief in Jesus as Lord were considered traitors.

Pray for the grace to stand up for your faith.

Lesson Planning Guide

Lesson Steps

Presentation

Materials

1 WE GATHER

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Prayer



Focus on Life

- Pray the Jesus prayer.
- Discuss what leaders do.

For the prayer space: early Christian symbol of a fish; stones or rocks; a newspaper

2 WE BELIEVE

page 52

The Apostles led the Church.



- Read and discuss the text about the Apostles and the early Christians.
- Write ways the Apostles were good leaders.

page 53

The disciples of Jesus share the Good News.



- Read and discuss the text about the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ, Son of God and Savior.
- Make a Gospel chain with a partner.

- strips of construction paper, markers
- stapler or tape

page 54

The followers of Jesus stood up for their faith.



- Read and discuss the text about the Romans' persecution of Christians.
- Complete the activity.
- Read about an early Christian symbol in *As Catholics*.

- copies of Reproducible Master 5, guide page 51C

pages 54–55

Many of our ancestors in faith are examples of holiness.

- Read and discuss the text about our ancestors in faith.

3 WE RESPOND

page 55



- Circle the words in the puzzle to complete the sentences.

pages 56–57

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 5 (back of book)

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Chapter 5 Test

- Complete **Chapter 5 Test**.
- Work on *Alternative Assessment* activity.

- optional: copies of Scripture reproducible master, *What's the Word?*, Chapter 5 (back of book)