

Overview

In Chapter 2 the students learned that Jesus teaches in the Beatitudes the way to true happiness. In this chapter the students will learn that God gives us the freedom to choose to love and follow him. They will learn that choices that lead us away from God are called sins.

Doctrinal Content

For Adult Reading and Reflection
Catechism of the Catholic Church

The students will learn:	Paragraph
• God gives us the freedom to choose.	387
• Sin leads us away from God.	1850
• Sins can be things people do or fail to do.	1853
• We are called to value and respect all people.	1878



free will
sin
temptation
mortal sin
venial sin

Catechist Background

How do you make good decisions?

A piece of wisdom we could hand on to our students is that life is sometimes difficult. A significant part of this difficulty is that we are often torn by attractions pulling us in opposite directions. A good example of this is the tension between our baptismal promises to reject sin and live as God's children and our freedom to choose between good and evil. Through Baptism, we are freed from sin and become disciples of Jesus and members of the Church, committed to following Jesus' teachings. We are endowed by God with free will that allows us to choose either to honor or violate our baptismal promises.

When temptations come along, we are presented with the choice of giving in to selfish urges or following God. We are able to face temptation because of our relationship with God. We pray, practice virtue, reflect on Scripture, participate in the sacraments, and observe the teachings of the Church. The prophet Micah clearly states what God requires of us:

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

- Six Tasks of Catechesis
- Catholic Social Teaching
- *Catechetical Formation in Chaste Living.*

“Only to do the right and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God”
(Micah 6:8).

Committing a sin may initially give us pleasure. Sin, however, can become a habit and erode our commitment to follow Jesus. And sin not only is *doing* something unworthy of our Baptism but also *not doing* what we know is right.

It is not only individuals who commit sin. Societies or groups of individuals are also capable of committing sin. A society does this by permitting or promoting injustices that undermine the dignity and respect of some of its members of the greater world community.

What moral choices are you facing? How will you seek the strength to choose what is right?

Lesson Planning Guide

Lesson Steps

Presentation

Materials

1 WE GATHER


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Prayer



Focus on Life

- Meditate on Jesus.
-  Respond in song.
- Reflect on the question about choices.

For the prayer space: photographs of roads/pathways and sources of light; picture or statue of Jesus; a Bible




"Come, Follow Me," Barbara Bridge, #3, Grade 4 CD

2 WE BELIEVE

pages 36–37


God gives us the freedom to choose.

Sin leads us away from God.

- Read and discuss free will, sin, temptation, and mortal and venial sins.
- Read and discuss Immaculate Conception in the *As Catholics* text.
-  Write about what helps to make good choices.

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Sins can be things people do or fail to do.

- Read and discuss sins of commission and omission.
- Read and discuss the Good Samaritan parable.
-  Describe ways to act like the Good Samaritan.

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We are called to value and respect all people.

- Read and discuss valuing and respecting all people.
- Read and discuss social sin and consequences.

3 WE RESPOND

page 39



List ways to correct injustices and role-play one of them.

- copies of Reproducible Master 3, guide page 35C

pages 40–41

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 3 (back of book)

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Chapter 3 Test

- Complete **Chapter 3 Test**.
- Work on *Alternative Assessment* activity.

- optional: copies of Scripture reproducible master, *What's the Word?*, Chapter 3 (back of book)