

Lesson 6 – A Life of Virtue

Grade 5 - Chapter 6

KEY CONCEPT

The Great Commandment states that you should love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, soul, and mind. The Cardinal Virtues play a central role in helping people lead morally good lives.

QUICK SESSION OVERVIEW

STEP 1 - WELCOME

STEP 2 - INVITE

STEP 3 - DISCOVER

STEP 4 - LIVE

STEP 5 - CLOSING

HELPFUL HINT OF THE DAY

Redirect Behavior

- Kids don't always hear what you say but how you say it. A firm, confident voice is different than just a frustrated, angry one.
- Tell them to stop. If you find yourself yelling, you are losing control of the group.
- Being specific about your directions lets them know what is needed. Being prepared and stating this upfront will help you lead effectively.
- Sometimes we all just need to move around, so lead them in an activity that might get them out of their seats or the classroom.

STEP 1 - WELCOME

TIP

Community Activity – coloring sheet

STEP 2 – INVITE

TIP

Let Us Pray

Our Father, Hail Mary, Memorare

Chapter Story: Act with Love

- **Use this story after the opening prayer, before explaining what it means to do the right thing**

Act with Love

Mr. Morris shuffled past the boys sitting on the steps and opened the door to the apartment building. He didn't speak to them as he usually did.

"Hi, Mr. Morris," said one of the boys. "What's new?" The old man turned and gave the boys a half-hearted smile.

"I'm afraid I'm a little sad today, boys," he said. "I've lost my little dog, Rex. He's been sick, you know, and the vet called earlier to say that she couldn't save him."

"That's terrible," said another boy. "I'm really sorry." All the other boys said they were sorry, too. Mr. Morris nodded his thanks and patted one of the boys on the shoulder as he went inside.

After he was gone, one of the boys said, "Let's see what we can do about helping Mr. Morris get another dog. He won't know what to do with himself without Rex. That little dog was a real friend to him."

Read the Scripture passage and ask the "What do you wonder" questions

STEP 3 – DISCOVER

TIP

The Way to Goodness

- **Read and discuss the passage**
- **Relate the Scripture passage specifically into the children's lives**
 - **Specifically, how do they keep these commandments in their lives?**

Worship that Pleases God

- **Read the paragraphs**
- **Go through the Cardinal Virtues section. When the children place the “R” or “P” next to the virtues, have them give examples or how they plan to work on them**
- **Go through the “Share Your Faith” activity**

Activity 6: The Cardinal Virtues

Living the Cardinal Virtues

- **Read and discuss the different examples of how to better live out the virtues**
- **Connect Your Faith: Encourage the kids to use specific examples from their lives**

Do the “Our Love Grows” Activity – this can be done with their family rather than during class

- **Will be more focused around their own lives and specifically writing / drawing these things**

STEP 4 – LIVE

TIP

Our Catholic Life

- **Read through the section and have them go through the “Decision Making Tips”**
 - **Remind them that they can always look back at their book during their week to remind them of this process**

People of Faith

- **Read discuss about St. Thomas More**

Live Your Faith

- **Encourage the students to look back at what they write in this section throughout the week**

If you have extra time:

- **Use the Catholic Social teaching on pg. 294-295**

STEP 5 – CLOSING

TIP

Pray the Act of Contrition and Memorare

Take Homes:

- **Share Family and Faith section**
- **Chapter and Unit review**

Name _____ Date _____

The Cardinal Virtues

In each of the situations below, someone could have displayed virtue but chose not to do so. Use the lines below each situation to describe what a virtuous response might have been.

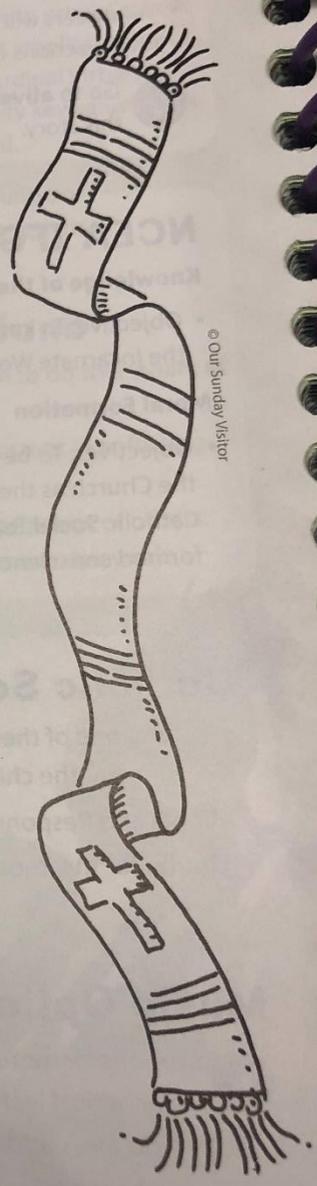
1. Ramón's brother told him that it was time they went home for dinner. Ramón was having so much fun shooting hoops that he ignored his brother and kept on playing.

2. Jimmy and Allison didn't think about how dangerous it could be to ignore the warnings when using Allison's home chemistry set.

3. Amy had promised to go to the park with Colleen, but Amanda persuaded Amy to go skating instead. Amy felt bad about deserting Colleen, but she knew that Amanda would be angry if she mentioned her promise.

4. Jen and Miguel loved pizza so much that they each ate six slices. As a result, they both got stomachaches and couldn't sleep all night.

5. Chris wanted to make friends with Sandy, but he decided not to do so because his other friends called Sandy a "nerd."



Our Love Grows

Activity Objective and Outcome

To teach children how important it is to share their love with others who in turn will spread love to still more people. The children will describe how Saint Paul spread joy and love to his Church family and how they can spread love to the families of which they are a part.

Materials (Drawing paper, Crayons, Pencils)

Directions

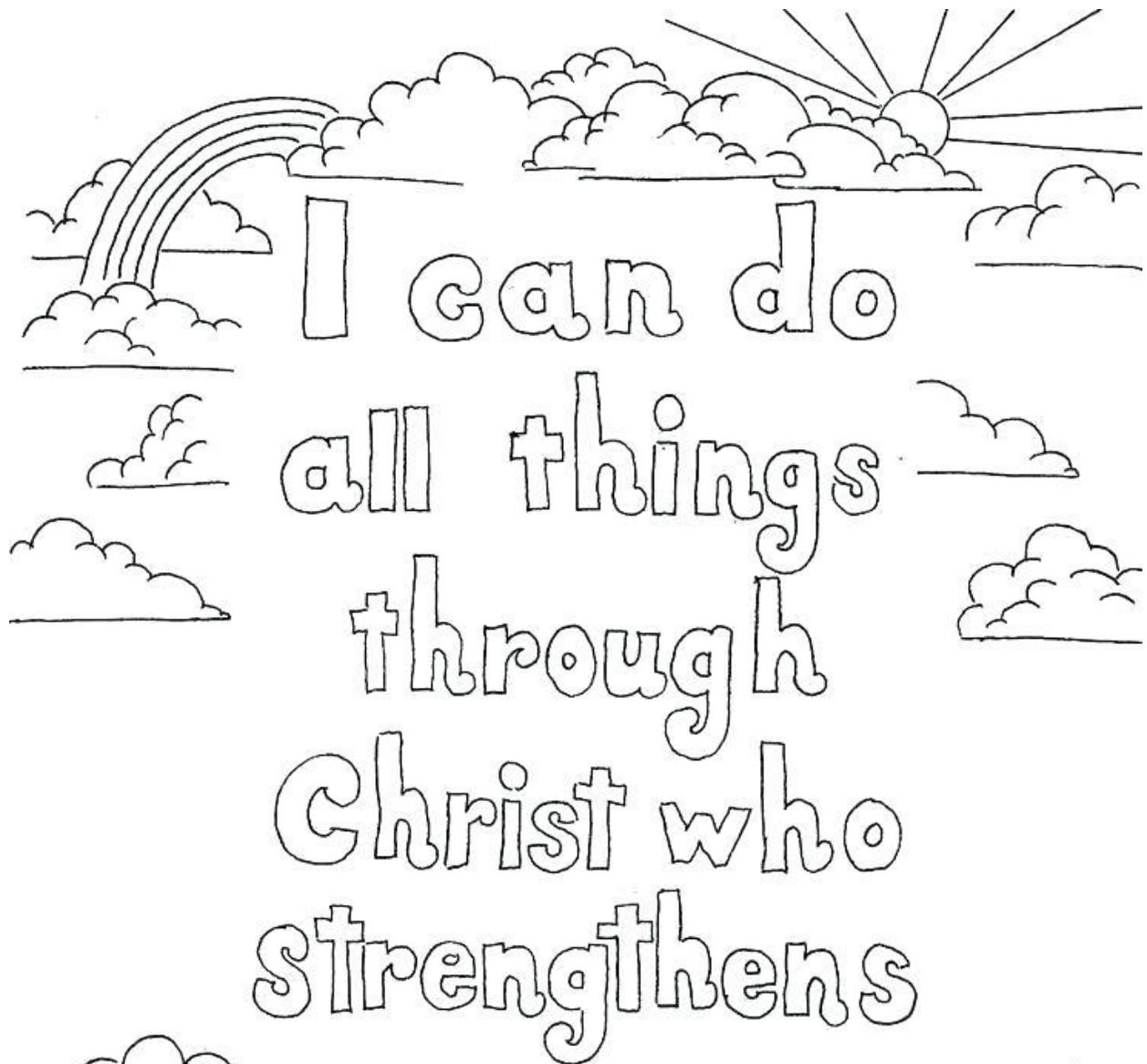
- Tell the children that this activity will help them to see how they can help spread God's love to many others.
- Draw a large triangle on the board. Ask: *Which virtue was the base of the triangle?* (charity or love) *Why?* (It is the basis of the other virtues.) Write charity under the base of the triangle.
- Ask the children to think of their love as starting small with their own families and getting bigger, just as the triangle does, as it spreads to many more people.
- Distribute drawing paper, crayons, and pencils. Have the children draw a large triangle on their papers.
- Have them start at the top of the triangle and write inside it the families to which they belong. (my family; my bigger family; my soccer family; my third- grade family; my Church family)
- Ask: *How did Saint Paul spread joy and love to his Church family?* (by writing letters and visiting them). Suggest that outside the triangle the children write or illustrate ways in which they spread love and joy in their different families (congratulate teammates when they do well; help classmates who have trouble with schoolwork; do chores around the house willingly).
- Conclude by asking the children to take their papers home to share with their families and to keep as a reminder to spread love to others as Saint Paul did.

Approximate Time

20 minutes

Hints

Walk around as the children work, helping them to determine the different families of which they are a part.



Philippians 4:13

