

Grade 6 - Lesson 5

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Proclamation:

The Fourth Commandment teaches that we have obligations to our families and those in authority. We are to obey the legitimate authority of the state, which receives its authority from God.



Catechetical Points

- **The Fourth Commandment: Honor your father and mother.**

Materials

- Catechism board game
- **In the World But Not Of It** by Fr. Mike Schmitz:
<https://youtu.be/dAjSAIbWNGg>

Before class starts:

- Students who arrive early can play Train Wreck with students from the other grades.

[5 min] **Opening Prayer**

- Ask the students if there is anything they would like to pray for.
- Pray the **Memorare** (p. 151 in the student text / p. 262 in the teacher's manual.)

[15 min] **The Fourth Commandment: Honor your father and mother**

- **How many people are in your family? How well do you get along with your family?**
- Use the notes on page 63-64 in the teacher's manual and the Chalk Talk diagram to explain that the family is a reflection of the Holy Trinity.
- Read the second column on page 43 of the student text (paragraphs 5-7). (Page 70 in the teacher's manual).
- **God gave parents the gift of children. What are parents' duties towards their children?**
- **What does it mean to honor our parents?**
- **Why is it important for children to respect their parents?**
- Have the students discuss in pairs or groups of three: **Talk about a time when it was difficult to obey or respect your parents.**

[10 min] **Silent Prayer**

- Bring the class into church for a few minutes of silent prayer.
- Before praying, give the students some ideas of what to pray for:
 - Is there something troubling you this week?
 - Is there someone you know who needs God's help?
 - What are you grateful to God for?

[15 min] **The Fourth Commandment: Obey Authority**

- **What is authority?**
- Read the first 3 paragraphs on page 46 of the student text (page 73 in the teacher's manual).
- Read **Matthew 22:15-21** about the question about paying taxes. Jesus recognized the necessity to obey the laws of the government.
- **When are we called to not obey the government?** (If the government mandates something immoral or restricts religious freedom.)
- **What is the difference between *legal* and *moral*?**
- **What are some examples of things that are legal in the US, but the Church regards as immoral?**

- **What does freedom mean to you?** *See the notes on page 67 of the teacher's manual.*
- **In America we have freedom to practice our religion, but can being a practicing Catholic ever cause division between us and others? Can that be a good or a bad thing?**
- Watch **In the World But Not Of It** by Fr. Mike Schmitz:
<https://youtu.be/dAjSAIbWNGg>

[10 min] **Catechism Board Game**

- If you have extra time, split the class into teams and play the Catechism board game, using the easy set of questions.

[10 min] **Closing Prayer**

- Pray a decade of the Rosary.