

# Take Home

## We Think About Our Choices

This chapter deals with making choices and presents the Ten Commandments as guides by which we measure our choices. Choices that do not obey God's Commandments are sins. The children will consider the differences between mistakes, venial sins, and mortal sins.



### ACTIVITY Choose a Game

Choose and play together a board game that involves choices. This will help demonstrate how the choices we make lead to consequences.

### THROUGH THE WEEK

**+** **A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK** Jesus, help us to follow the example of Saint Andrew by placing our trust in you. Help us to take responsibility for our actions. Amen.

#### ON SUNDAY

Talk with your family about ways to honor the Lord's Day, such as going to Mass, avoiding conflict, and thinking about what God wants you to do.

#### ON THE WEB

**BlestAreWe.com**  
RCLBLEctionary.com  
SaintsResource.com

#### Saint Andrew the Apostle (first century)

Andrew and his brother, Peter, fished for a living in the Sea of Galilee. A disciple of John the Baptist, Andrew was the first Apostle called by Jesus. He then brought Peter to Jesus.

**Patron Saint of:**  
Russia and Scotland

**Feast Day:** November 30



# Take Home

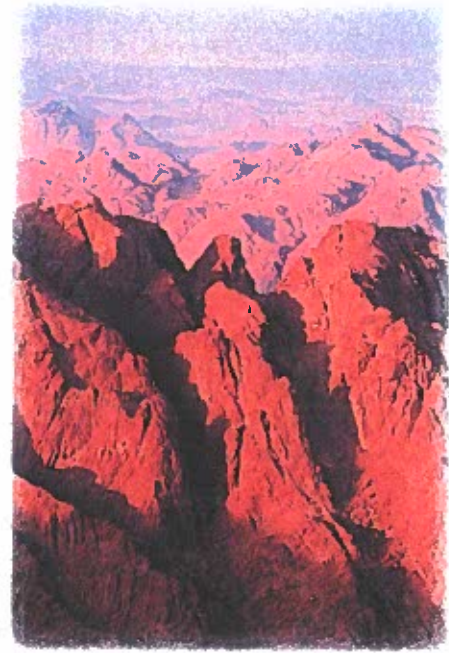


## Scripture Background

### Before the Time of Jesus

**Mount Sinai** Mount Sinai is part of the mountain range of Mount Horeb. The Israelites believed that God dwelt on Sinai because Moses received the Ten Commandments from God there. During the Exodus from Egypt, the Israelites lived at the base of the mountain. In Galatians 4:21–27, Paul compares Mount Sinai to the heavenly Jerusalem, to show Jesus' fulfillment of the redemptive promise.

**For an account of Moses' experience, read Exodus 20:1–17.**



MERCIFUL LIKE THE FATHER



Logo for Jubilee Year of Mercy 2015–2016

## Our Catholic Tradition in Jubilee Years

**Jubilee Year of Mercy** A jubilee year is a special year celebrated by the Church and is a year of remission or forgiveness of sins and universal pardon. In 2015, Pope Francis called for a Jubilee Year of Mercy that began on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (December 8, 2015) and concluded on the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (November 20, 2016). He said, “[T]his is a time for mercy. It is the favorable time to heal wounds, . . . a time to offer everyone, everyone, the way of forgiveness and reconciliation.”

Learn more about jubilee years at [usccb.org](http://usccb.org).

# We Think About Our Choices

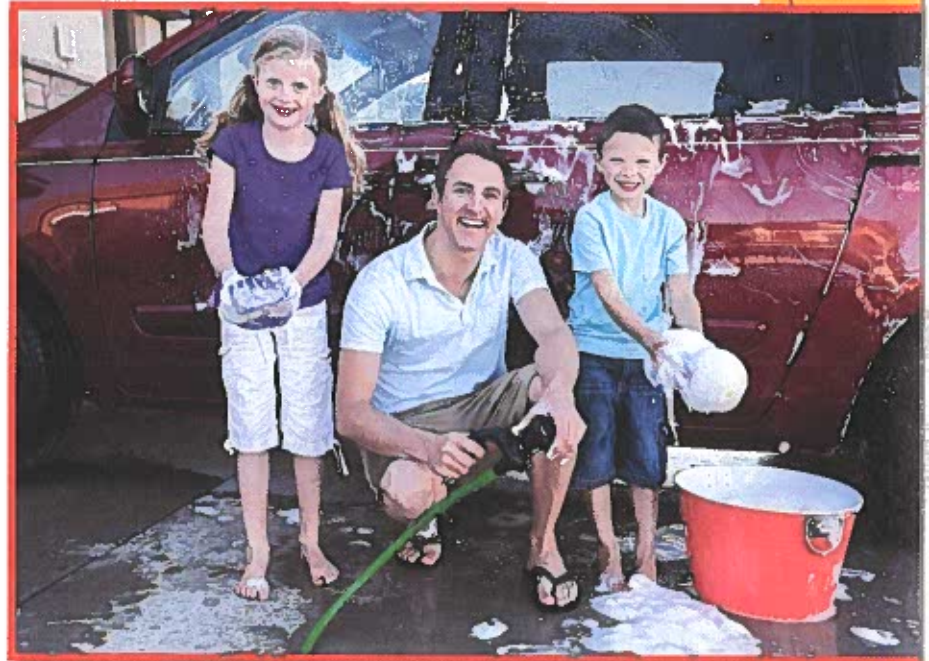
Chapter

7

**Make known to me your ways, LORD;  
teach me your paths.** Psalm 25:4

## Share

As we grow up, we learn to be responsible for our actions. We are responsible when we do our work. We are responsible when we take good care of things.



## ACTIVITY

Check (✓) each sentence that tells how you can be a responsible person.

1. I feed the family pet.

4. I listen to my teacher.

2. I help Mom and Dad.

5. I lose my library books.

3. I do my homework.

6. I hang up my jacket.

Name other ways to show that you are responsible.

What is one way we can be responsible Church members?

## **The Ten Commandments**

Moses was on a mountaintop when God spoke to him. God wanted to help everyone lead good lives. He gave Moses the laws called the Ten Commandments. These laws call for people to love and respect God and others. After receiving the laws, Moses went down the mountain. He told the Jewish people about these laws of God.

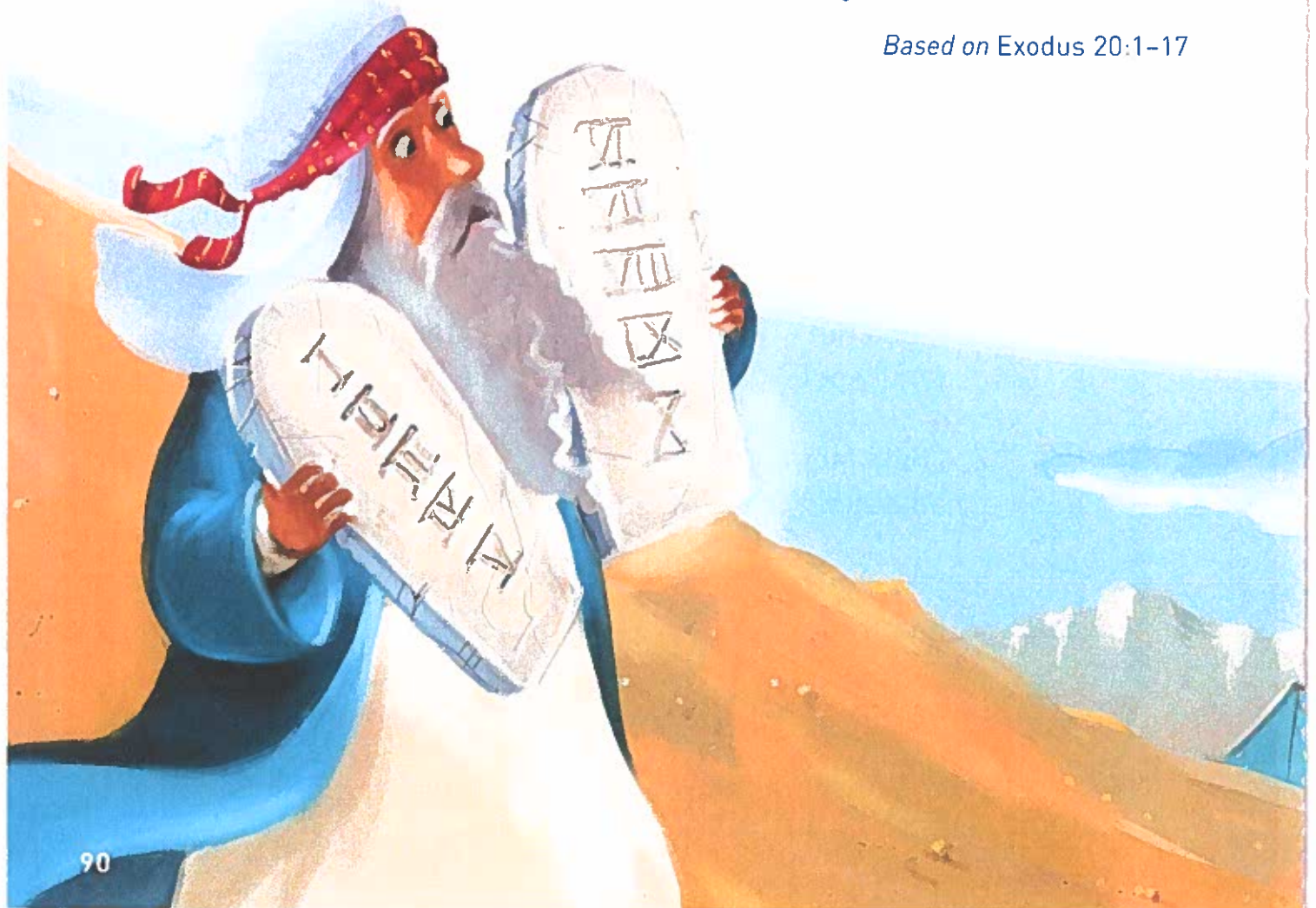
The Ten Commandments remind people to rest and pray on the Lord's Day. They tell people to obey their parents, and to avoid telling lies or stealing. The Commandments also say not to hurt other people nor to be jealous of them.

*Based on Exodus 20:1-17*

### **Scripture Verse**

I am the LORD  
your God, . . .

Exodus 20:2



## We Follow God's Laws

The Ten Commandments are God's laws. As God's only Son, Jesus understood the laws given by his Father in a special way. He taught them to his followers. They help people know right from wrong.

## Our Church Teaches

When we know that something is wrong and we do it anyway, we sin. Sin turns us away from God and other people. A **mortal sin** is the most serious kind of sin. It separates us completely from God's grace. To be a mortal sin, a person must do something that is very wrong. The person must also know that it is wrong and do it anyway. We must go to the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation to ask God's forgiveness for a mortal sin. A **venial sin** is a less serious kind of sin. It weakens our love for God and others, but does not take it away.

## We Believe

God gave us the Ten Commandments to help us know how to lead good lives.

## Faith Words

### mortal sin

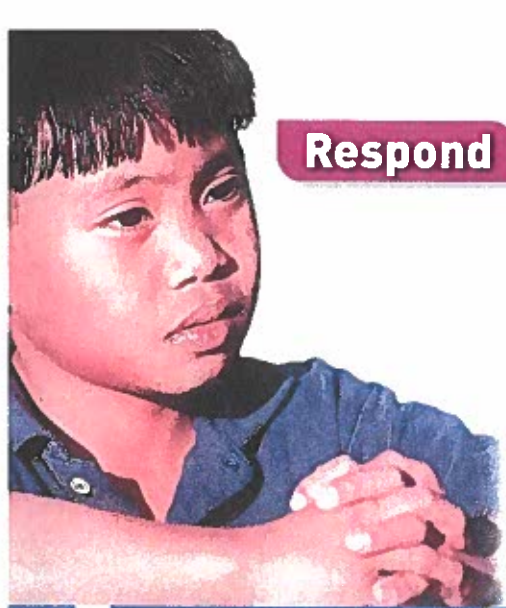
A mortal sin is the most serious kind of sin. It separates us completely from God's grace.

### venial sin

A venial sin is a less serious sin. It weakens our love for God and others.



What do the Ten Commandments help us think about?



**Respond**

## An Examination of Conscience

We prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. We think about the Ten Commandments. We think about how well we have followed each one. This is called an examination of conscience.

God's Laws	My Actions
1. I am the LORD your God: you shall not have strange gods before me.	Do I believe in God and love God with all my heart?
2. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.	Do I use the names of God, Jesus, Mary, and the saints with respect?
3. Remember to keep holy the LORD's day.	Do I participate in Mass on Sunday?
4. Honor your father and your mother.	Do I respect and obey my parents?
5. You shall not kill.	Do I treat all God's creatures with respect?
6. You shall not commit adultery.	Do I take good care of my body and respect the bodies of others?
7. You shall not steal.	Have I taken something that belongs to someone else?
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.	Do I sometimes lie?
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.	Do I treat other families with respect?
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.	Am I ever jealous or greedy?

Mistakes and sins are not the same. You might break a glass by mistake. You sin when you choose to do something you know is wrong.

### ACTIVITY

Follow the stone path. If the stone tells about a mistake, color it yellow. If the stone tells about a sin, color it red.

8. Oops!  
I spilled milk  
on my new  
jacket.

7. I stole my  
brother's cell  
phone and  
played with it.

6. I had a  
big fight with  
a friend.

4. I was jealous  
of my friend's  
new bike.

5. I left the  
window open  
and the rain  
came in.

3. I left my  
homework  
at home.

2. I lost my  
sweatshirt  
at school.

1. I lied about  
how much time  
I spent playing  
video games.



In what ways can  
we ask God for  
forgiveness?

# A Prayer for Forgiveness

**Leader:** God has given us the gift of free will. We use this gift when we choose between good actions and sinful ones. We use it in prayer to ask God to forgive our sins. Let us pray.

**Side 1:** God our Father, sometimes we have not behaved well.

**All:** **Forgive us and show us your mercy.**

**Side 2:** Sometimes we have fought.

**All:** **Forgive us and show us your mercy.**

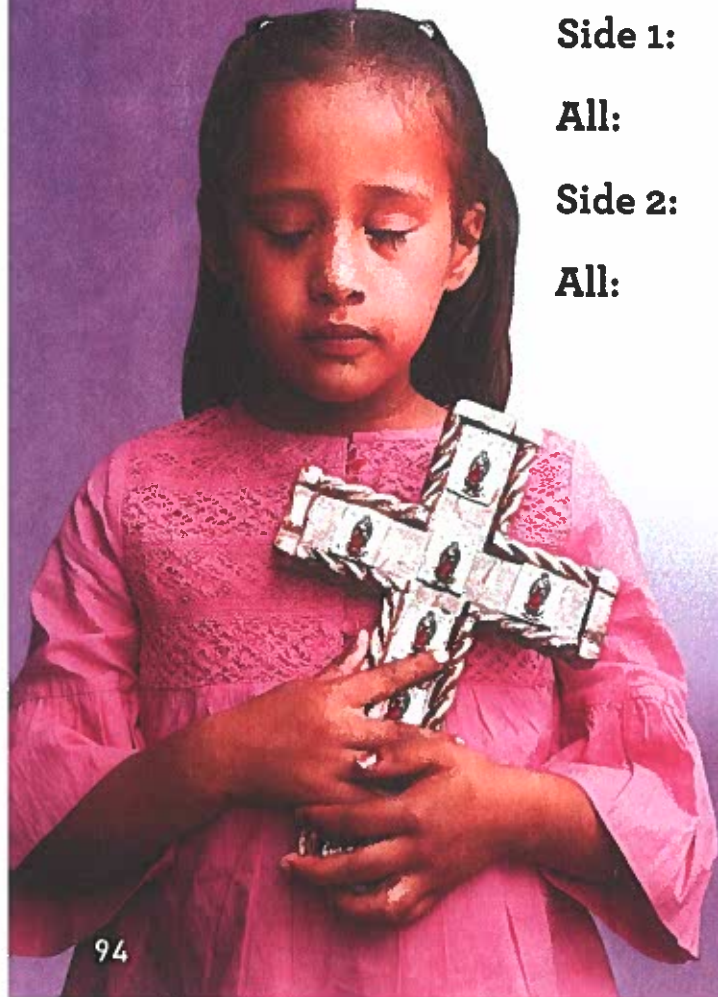
**Side 1:** Sometimes we have been lazy.

**All:** **Forgive us and show us your mercy.**

**Side 2:** Sometimes we have told lies.

**All:** **Forgive us and show us your mercy.**  
**Amen.**

*Based on Rite of Penance, Appendix II, 50*





# Chapter Review

# 7

## A Circle the words that best complete the sentences.

1. Telling a lie is \_\_\_\_\_.

responsible

not responsible

okay

2. God gave Moses laws called the \_\_\_\_\_ Commandments.

Great

Five

Ten

3. The Third Commandment tells us to go to \_\_\_\_\_ on Sunday.

Mass

meetings

movies

4. The Fifth Commandment tells us to \_\_\_\_\_ all God made.

disrespect

respect

use up

5. Mistakes are \_\_\_\_\_ and not sins.

accidents

laws

plans

## B Complete the definitions.

1. A mortal sin is the most serious kind of sin. It

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

us completely from God's grace.

2. A venial sin is a less serious sin. It

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

our love for God and others.

# Faith in *Action*



**Community Outreach** There are many ways for students to serve others. Some children put together Friendship Boxes for the Red Cross to give to homeless children. Some write letters to public officials about the rights people have. Some children go together to visit people living in a nursing home.

## *In Everyday Life*

**ACTIVITY** In the first column are responsibilities we have. In the second column are the rights that match them. Draw a line to match each responsibility with the right that fits it.

### Responsibilities

1. Abby studies for her test.
2. Ben does not waste food at lunch.
3. Miguel goes to church with his family.
4. Hailey does chores around the house.
5. Emily respects her parents.

### Rights

- Food
- Family
- School
- Shelter
- Religion

## *In Your Parish*

**ACTIVITY** Think about ways you treat others in your church and at school. Write about a time you stood up for someone who was being treated unfairly.

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