

## The Ten Commandments

### Engage: Page 173

- ▶ Ask: *Why are there rules for games?* (so the game is fair; to help players know what to do and how to get along) Say: *In this session, we're going to learn about the Ten Commandments. These are 10 rules we've received from God that help us grow in our relationship with him, with our families, and with one another.*
- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture.
- ▶ Read aloud Psalm 1:1–6 from your Bible. Then say: *The Word of the Lord.* Invite your child to respond *Thanks be to God.*
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the paragraphs on page 173. Ask: *How does following God's laws help us?* (We make good moral choices. We love and honor God and one another.) Say: *We are examples of God's love in the world when we follow his commandments. Let's pray to God for help in following the Ten Commandments.* Pray aloud the prayer together. Conclude by praying *Amen.*

### Explore: Pages 174–175

- ▶ Ask: *What is the Torah?* (the Law revealed by God in the Old Testament; the first five books of the Old Testament) Say: *The Book of Exodus is part of the Torah.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 174. Ask: *Why did God want Moses to lead the Hebrews out of Egypt?* (They were being treated cruelly as slaves.) Look up the word *plague* in the Glossary. Give examples of plagues that God sent to convince Pharaoh to free the Hebrews, such as frogs, gnats, hail, locusts, and darkness.
- ▶ Read aloud Crossing the Red Sea and Mount Sinai on page 175. Ask: *What are the Ten Commandments?* (God's instructions on how to live in relationship with him and with one another) Look up the word *covenant* in the Glossary. Say: *The agreement between God and the Hebrews is a covenant.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Say: *We see in the Bible that God made promises of care in the Old Testament, especially through Noah, Abraham, and Moses.*

### Art Exploration: Page 176

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Moses with the Ten Commandments.
- ▶ Ask: *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage children to describe the picture in detail, including the setting and Moses's appearance.
- ▶ Say: *God gave the Hebrews the Ten Commandments to help them remain faithful to the covenant he made with them.*

- ▶ Ask: *What can you do to follow the Ten Commandments?*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud God’s Covenant on page 176. Ask: *What did the Hebrews agree to do when they entered into the covenant with God?* (live in relationship with him and with one another according to his instructions)
- ▶ Read aloud Symbols of Your Relationship. Allow time for your child to design a symbol and discuss its meaning with you.
- ▶ Explain that many artists have made images of Moses with the Ten Commandments. Have your child use art supplies to draw or paint a picture of Moses with the Ten Commandments.

### Reflect: Pages 177–178

- ▶ Together look at page 177. Say: *Remember that we always have the Holy Spirit to give us strength and guidance to make good moral choices.*
- ▶ Read aloud Come, Holy Spirit. Take the role of Leader and have your child read the All parts. Pray aloud the Prayer to the Holy Spirit. Give your child time to reflect silently. Conclude by praying together the Glory Be to the Father.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud We Make Moral Decisions on page 178. Say: *These four questions can help us make good moral choices. They can be part of our examination of conscience.*
- ▶ Read aloud Seek Advice and have your child complete the activity. Ask your child to share his or her question with you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God’s Word feature. Ask: *Who is speaking?* (Jesus) *What do you think he means when he says, “I have come not to abolish but to fulfill”?* (Jesus revealed the deeper meaning of the Ten Commandments when he gave us the new commandment.)

### Respond: Page 179

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 179. Review the Words I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to tell you some specific good moral choices he or she will make. Then invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Then pray the Sign of the Cross together.

### With My Family: Page 180

- ▶ Read aloud With My Family on page 180. As a family, complete the page and do the activity. Finally, pray the family prayer. Say: *Jesus taught us how to be faithful to God the Father. We are faithful to God by making good choices. Let’s show our love for God this week by making good choices.*