

Lesson 19 – The Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Commandments of God

Grades 3-5

Lesson Preparation:

Read Lesson 19 in the Baltimore Catechism. You will need to have a Bible for this session. Also, be sure to print and copy the activity sheet.

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: “Honor your father and your mother, that you may have a long life in the land which the Lord, your God, is giving you. You shall not kill. You shall not commit adultery.” Exodus 20:12-14

Leader: Father, You call us to holiness. You ask us to be obedient, kind, and pure. Help us to do those things so we can be like You, and so we can please You. Amen.

Together: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolations, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening:

To get students thinking about some of the topics of this lesson, begin by reading them Matthew 21:28-32. Discuss briefly with students what this parable teaches about the obedience God is asking of us, both to Him and to our parents.

Watch the Lesson 19 Video on Catholic Brain

Comprehension Questions: *Note: These questions are asked after the video, just to check student comprehension. They are not discussion questions, but be sure students understand the answers to these questions before moving on*

- 1) What is the fourth Commandment?

Honor your father and mother.

2) Who else does it apply to, besides our parents?

Those who have positions of legitimate authority

3) What is the fifth Commandment?

You shall not kill

4) What is the sixth Commandment?

You shall not commit adultery

Discussion Questions: *Note: These questions are for student discussion. The students should consider these questions and comment on them. There are some key points included in this lesson, after each question, that you can use to help guide their discussion toward truth. It's important that the students think about and discuss these things, but that they don't leave the discussion with false impressions about what is true.*

1) Why is the fourth Commandment so important?

Our parents deserve our respect and obedience. Keeping this Commandment also honors God's plan for the family.

2) Is it ever okay to disobey authority?

Yes – authority has its limits. If those in authority are abusive or oppose the Law of God, we do not have to obey.

3) Give some examples, other than murder, which break the fifth Commandment.

Answers will vary, but would include any action intended to harm another person – physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually.

Activity:

Keeping the fifth Commandment means building others up. Using the attached sheet, write life-affirming responses to the scenarios. Then discuss as a group.

Closing Prayer:

Leader: We thank You, God, for our parents. We honor them with respect, and we know that even though they are not perfect, as You are, they stand for You whenever they strive to lead us closer to You. Amen.

Together: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.