

FAMILY+FAITH

LIVING AND LEARNING TOGETHER

YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter helps students deepen their understanding of the Theological Virtues and how these virtues help us live the Great Commandment and practice Works of Mercy.

Scripture



Read **Ephesians 5:1–5** to find out what those who say they love God must have.

Catholics Believe

- The Great Commandment is to love God with all your heart, strength, and mind and to love your neighbor as yourself.
- The Theological Virtues of faith, hope, and charity help us to love God and grow closer to him.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #2055, 2083, 2196 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child learned about Saint Katharine Drexel, who dedicated her life and her fortune to educating African Americans and Native Americans.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand the Great Commandment The continued concrete thinking of children at this age means that they will probably continue to see love for God and for neighbor as a series of outward actions. This is not far from the truth, for it is certainly the things that we do that tell whether we really have love for God and neighbor. Children your child's age are growing in their ability to see relationships between these larger Commandments and smaller choices in everyday life. They can better determine whether or not an individual action is loving toward God or toward their neighbor. This new ability will help them to begin to make decisions in new situations.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

How does your relationship with God affect how you love others?

The more aware we are of God's love for us, the more that love moves through us. As Catholics, we know that "Scripturally and theologically, the Christian moral life begins with a loving relationship with God, a covenant love made possible by the sacrifice of Christ. The Commandments and other moral rules are given to us as ways of protecting the values that foster love of God and others. They provide us with ways to express love, sometimes by forbidding whatever contradicts love" (*USCCA, p. 318*).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to name some of the Works of Mercy.
- Talk about a time of need when someone helped you by performing one of the Works of Mercy.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Saint Katharine, pray for us that we may follow the way of Jesus. Help us live out the Corporal Works of Mercy in our daily lives. Amen.



For a multimedia glossary of Catholic Faith Words, Sunday readings, seasonal and Saint resources, and chapter activities go to aliveinchrist.osv.com.