

Justice and Peace

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 207,
the Family + Faith page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 415

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Recognize natural moral law as the understanding that God places in every human heart
- Define justice as giving God and others what is due to them
- Explore the relationship between peace and justice through the writings of the minor prophets
- Describe social sin as the unjust structures that can occur as the result of personal sin

Read the **Consider This** feature. What thoughts or reactions do you have to the opening question?

Parents, Consider This: *The Church follows the path of the prophets by recognizing that all humans live in solidarity with one another. To live in justice means to respect the dignity of all, to protect life in all its forms, and to be champions of those whose basic needs are being denied. The presence of injustice in society is a sign of social sin. Social sins are structures in society that promote injustice or make it difficult for people to care for one another. It is the responsibility of all Christians to work for the common good at every level of society.*

Read these other sections on the Family + Faith Page.

- *Your Child Learned.* This highlights some of the content of Sacred Scripture and Tradition in the lesson.
- *Children At This Age.* This will help you to understand how your child processes and learns at this developmental level.



Let's Sing: These songs connect the session topics and can be downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

- Raise Your Voice for Justice
- Whatsoever You Do

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

After gathering the supplies that you will need, find a quiet place to be with your child. This is a sacred time—a time when you will be present to each other and to the Lord. You may want to light a candle as you begin.



Let Us Pray Invite your child to make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the Psalm verse from the book. Help your child to respond.

Say: Over and over, the Scriptures remind us that God is just. Over and over, the Scriptures challenge us to work for justice for all of God's People.

Turn to Page 199,
Justice and Peace
Vivos en Cristo, Page 399



Guide your child through the Preparing for God’s Word Ritual you learned in the Introduction Session or play Track 1 of the *Songs of Scripture* CD.

- Proclaim God’s Word in the Parchment Paper box on the page.
- Maintain several moments of silence.
- Ask: What did you hear God say to you today?

Invite your child to respond and also share what you heard.

Now, look at the *What Do You Wonder?* box.

Say: We sometimes confuse justice with fairness. It is important to understand the difference. Today we will talk about God’s constant demand that we work for justice in the world.

Invite your child to respond to the questions. Ask what else they might wonder about justice and acting as a peacemaker.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 200,
Seeking Justice
Vivos en Cristo, Page 401

Ask: What does it mean to act justly?

Alternate reading the paragraphs with your child. When you come to the highlighted Catholic Faith Words, **justice**, **virtue**, and **grace**, go to the Catholic Faith Words box and read their definitions.

Emphasize that the search for justice is a response to the natural moral law, which expresses the God-given dignity of all persons.

Turn to Page 201,
The Beatitudes
Vivos en Cristo, Page 403

Invite your child to find Matthew 5: 3-10 in your Bible.



Proclaim the Scripture to your child.

Ask your child what message he/she heard about justice in this passage. (“Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,” is another way of saying “justice.”)

Activity

Read aloud the Share Your Faith activity instructions. Both of you think of a situation and share the injustice with each other.

Turn to Page 202,
Peace
Vivos en Cristo, Page 405

Tell your child you are going to explore the relationship between peace and justice.

Have your child silently read the text under the “Peace” heading.

Give your child a blank sheet of paper. Have him/her fold it into threes. At the top of each column write: Hosea, Amos and Micah. Ask your child to read “Three Prophets,” and in each column under the name of the prophet, ask her/him to record the central idea of what the prophet says.

Go to your Bible and find Micah 6:8 and read the text. Look for the books of the other prophets as well.



Complete the gold-star activity.

Turn to Page 203,

Justice Seekers
and Peacemakers
Vivos en Cristo, Page 407

Read aloud the first paragraph.

Direct your child to read aloud one of the boxes in the side column.

Discuss why the word “duty” is used in each box and not “suggestion.”

Read the last paragraph silently together. Discuss examples of social sins.

Go to Catholic Faith Words box and review the definitions of **common good** and **social sin**. Ask your child to tell you what they mean in his/her own words.

Activity

Ask your child to complete the Connect Your Faith activity. Have her/him check their answers against the work that they did on the three-column paper.

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 204,

Our Catholic Life
Vivos en Cristo, Page 409

Read aloud the opening paragraph.



Ask your child to complete the gold-star activity. When he/she has completed the work, review the Y’s and then the O’s. Praise your child if you witness these behaviors and speak to the need of those you may not see. Research tells us that as his/her parent, your expectations have a significant influence on your child.

Turn to Page 205,

People of Faith
Vivos en Cristo, Page 411

Read the paragraph about Blessed Dorothy Chavez Orozco.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Give examples of how you show dignity and respect to members of your family.

Activity

Direct your child to complete the Live Your Faith activity.

Turn to Page 207,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 415

Parents, Consider This: *It's important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray the Act of Love (see Page 325), during your night prayer this week.*



To access and send an eAssessment to your child, go to the Student and Family section of aliveinchrist.osv.com.