

YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter explains the Great Commandment and Cardinal Virtues and their role in a person's decision-making process.

Scripture



Read **Micah 6:8** to find out what the Lord requires of you.

Catholics Believe

- The Great Commandment states that you should love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, soul, and mind.
- The Cardinal Virtues —prudence, temperance, justice, and fortitude— play a central role in helping people lead morally good lives.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #1805–1809, 2055 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child learned about Saint Thomas More, who refused to accept King Henry VIII as the head of the Church. Because he followed his conscience, the king had him beheaded.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand Moral Behavior Children at this age often understand moral behavior in terms of rules and norms that are agreed upon by a group. For this reason, it is important that they are identifying strongly with the Catholic community, forming friendships with other Catholic children, and cultivating an understanding of how Catholics define “doing good.” The Great Commandment and the Cardinal Virtues are great starting points because they help children identify key values from which other guidelines for behavior may be derived.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

Have you ever seen the damage caused by a tree with weak roots?

In a strong wind or storm, trees with weak root systems can be blown over, roots and all. Like a tree, we need a strong root system, or foundation, to live a spiritually healthy life. The Cardinal Virtues can help us do just that. As Catholics, we understand that “compassion, responsibility, a sense of duty, self-discipline and restraint, honesty, loyalty, friendship, courage, and persistence are examples of desirable virtues for sustaining a moral life” (*USCCA, p. 316*).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to explain the Great Commandment.
- Share one way your family lives the Great Commandment.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Saint Thomas More, pray for us that we may follow our conscience and always obey God's laws. Amen.



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