

# WALKING by FAITH

## Grade 5 / Home Lesson

### CHAPTER 18 OUR CALL TO DO GOOD

#### Objectives

- Discover the role of wisdom in helping one be one's best and do good.
- Explore the lives of four saints who exemplified the cardinal virtues.
- Analyze situations in which the cardinal virtues can be practiced.

#### Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experiences), pages 134–135

Hold up a dime and a nickel. Ask: If you could have only one coin, which would you choose? (the dime) Why? (because it's worth more) Explain that if you gave young children the same choice, some would choose the nickel. Why? (because it's bigger) Point out that the choice between a nickel and a dime is like the moral choices we face each day. Sometimes what appears to be the best choice is not.

Pray together the opening **Prayer** on page 134. Note the chapter title: **Our Call to Do Good**.

Read the opening text. Ask: Why was marrying Sophie a wise choice for Phil? (She brought out the best in him and helped him be a good person.) What does it mean to be wise? (to know what is right and good, or truly valuable)

Call attention to the definition of *philosophy*. (love of wisdom)

Read **Becoming Who We Really Are** and use the **Language of Faith** section at the back of the textbook to clarify the term *virtue*. Ask: What are some other virtues that help guide us? (honesty, patience, compassion, perseverance)

Point out that the children in the photographs show wisdom by doing good deeds, but their *attitude* about what they are doing is important, too. For example, if the boy is cheerful about helping the woman with her groceries, he is enhancing the good deed. His cheerfulness will have a positive effect on the woman. Ask your child to suggest attitudes that make the deed in each picture a positive experience for both the giver and receiver. (patience, cheerfulness, willingness to help, and so on)

Have your child do the **Activity** on this page.

## **Step 2: We Explore** (Doctrine), pages 136–139

Ask your child to name people (real or fictitious) who show wisdom and do good deeds for others. Ask: What can we learn from these people? (how to better ourselves)

Read **Pictures of Virtue** on pages 136–137. Refer to the **Language of Faith** section at the back of the textbook for clarification on each highlighted term.

Read **Catholics Believe** on page 136. Then read the **Activity** on page 136 and have your child complete this profile.

Read the **Scripture Signpost** on page 137 and discuss the question with your child.

Before reading **Making a Virtue a Habit** on page 138, ask: What is a habit? (something we do routinely, perhaps without thinking, as part of our everyday life)

After reading **Where Is Justice**, have your child answer the bulleted question. Point out that mercy is related to the virtue of justice. Tina's argument reflects the Christian virtue of justice.

Before reading **A Prudent Choice**, ask your child if he or she has ever been in a situation where someone was encouraged to steal or lie. (Stress that he or she does not need to reveal names.) Then read the paragraph and answer the bulleted question. (Prudence can help Kevin measure his choices against the commandments and other moral teachings so that he can act according to his conscience.)

Read **Our Moral Guide** and have your child answer the question. (listen to God's word, pray, get advice from older people who are wise and from true friends)

Point out the pictures on these two pages. Invite your child to share times when he or she sought advice from friends, teachers, older family members, or other wise people when he or she needed help making difficult decisions.

After reading **It Takes Courage** on page 139, discuss with your child the real dangers of deliberately inhaling fumes from hair spray, lighter fluid, glue, paint, gasoline, and other household products. These include severe brain, liver, and kidney damage, muscle spasms, and an increased risk of cancer. Inhalant abuse can also cause sudden death from heart or lung failure. Emphasize that it is foolish, not courageous, to do something we know is dangerous. Real courage means standing up for what we believe and doing the right thing. Discuss the bulleted question with your child.

Read **Out of Balance** and explain the dangers of anorexia (depriving oneself of food to lose weight), bulimia (overeating followed by forced vomiting), and habitual overeating to the point of obesity. These extreme behaviors can lead to heart disease, other serious health problems, and even death. Then discuss the bulleted question. (Temperance; she should let them know she likes them for who they are, not for what they look like.)

### **Step 3: We Reflect** (Integration of Faith into Daily Life), page 140

Review the material taught in this lesson by discussing **Recall, Think and Share**, and **Continue the Journey**. Have your child complete the activity.

Read **We Live Our Faith: At Home** and **In the Parish**. Try to follow through on the suggestions found there.

Complete the **Faith Journal**, pages 35–36.

### **Step 4: We Celebrate** (Prayer and Conclusion), page 141

Point out we are not alone in our efforts to develop virtues. Many aids—the Holy Spirit, the Church, the Gospels, the saints, and other Christians—are there to help and guide us. Have your child study the photo on page 141 and ask: How are these aids like street signs? (They point us in the right direction; they show us the way.)

Discuss with your child how each of these aids points us in the right direction. (The Holy Spirit gives us the gift of wisdom; the Church teaches us right from wrong; the Gospels give us the Beatitudes and other teachings of Jesus; the saints are role models for developing and practicing virtues; other Christians give us advice and support.)

In discussing **Where Can We Turn?** on page 141, emphasize that God gives us the gift of wisdom to use all aids that will help us lead moral lives.

Close your lesson by inviting your child to think about how wisdom will benefit them in their faith journey. Ask them to choose one virtue to make deliberate efforts to grow in this week, and then pray the closing **Prayer** together.