



Morality, Our Lived Faith

Begin

Ask: *What are some rules in our home? What are some rules you have at school? What would the world be like without any rules?* Read aloud the unit title on page 121. **Say:** *We are going to learn about God's rules, the most important rules of all. God's rules help us live happy, peaceful lives. Saint Ignatius of Loyola was an important saint who lived by God's rules.*

Introduce the Saint

Focus your child's attention on page 121. Read aloud the saint's name and look at his picture. Read aloud the sentence. **Say:** *We can see God's love everywhere too: in our parents, in the people who teach us about God, in priests, and in our friends and family members.*

Turn to page 122. Read aloud the heading and the first paragraph.

Ask: *Was Ignatius born a saint?* (No) Read aloud the second paragraph.

Ask: *What happened to Ignatius?* (He was hurt in battle.) *As he healed, what began to happen?* (He changed.)

Read aloud the third paragraph. **Ask:** *What did Ignatius decide?* (He decided to live like Jesus.) *Whom did Ignatius put first in his life?* (God) **Say:** *Ignatius cared so much for others. He gave his clothes to those who were poor.*

Read aloud the last paragraph. **Say:** *Following God was the most important decision in Ignatius's life. Let's try to follow his example and put God first in our lives.*

With your child add Ignatius's feast day, July 31, to your calendar. Plan events together to honor the teachings of Saint Ignatius of Loyola.



Making Good Decisions

Engage: Page 123

- ▶ **Ask:** *What kinds of signs do you see every day? (stop signs, street signs, signs in stores) What do signs tell us? (what to do, how to act, the rules)*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's responses. **Say:** *A rule tells us how we should act; it is something we are expected to do.*
- ▶ Have your child name family rules, school rules, and traffic rules. **Ask:** *What would happen if one of these rules did not exist?* Discuss your child's response. **Say:** *In this session we will learn about special rules that God gave to us. Pray aloud the prayer together.*

Explore: Pages 124–125

- ▶ **Say:** *God gives us rules too.* **Ask:** *What do you think of when I say the word commandment? Commandment is a special word for one of God's rules.*
- ▶ Read aloud page 124. **Say:** *We find God's commandments in the Bible.* Turn to pages 200–201 for a complete list of the Ten Commandments. Discuss each commandment. Ask your child to explain what it means to him or her.
- ▶ Read aloud Decisions on page 125 and discuss each question. **Say:** *Tell me which of the commandments we're talking about. When you are finished, say: God knows it can be hard to do what's right. God gave us his commandments so that we know what he wants us to do.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Say:** *Grace helps us follow God's commandments.*

Art Exploration: Page 233

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of someone serving food to people in need.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage children to describe the picture in detail, including how the person is helping all the people gathered.
- ▶ **Say:** *If we remember to love God and love our neighbor in everything we do, we will be following God's commandments.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 233. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph and the three questions of Good Decisions. **Say:** *Why is it important to think through decisions before making them? (to be sure it is what God wants us to do, that we will not hurt anyone, and that the decision is a good one)*



- ▶ Read aloud the activity directions. Allow time for your child to write his or her answer and share the response with you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Ask:** *What did Jesus mean when he said we should love our neighbor as much as we love ourselves? (We should treat others the way we want to be treated.)* **Say:** *Jesus summed up all the commandments into two simple ones. If we remember to love God and love our neighbor in everything we do, we will be following God's commandments.* **Ask:** *What are some things you can do to love your neighbor? (Be kind, share, and help others.)*
- ▶ Invite your child to cut out magazine pictures to show a meal that he or she might like to serve to a person who is hungry. Have your child glue the cutouts to paper plates and draw utensils. Staple the plate to a sheet of poster board titled *Feeding the Hungry Is a Good Decision*.

Reflect: Pages 126–127

- ▶ Together look at page 126. **Say:** *The boy in the picture is beginning the day with a prayer to God. By praying the Morning Prayer, we ask God's help in making good decisions all day long.*
- ▶ Read aloud the heading and the first paragraph. Ask your child to pray the prayer with you. Read aloud the third and fourth paragraphs. Pause for a few deep breaths to give your child time to talk to God in his or her heart. Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity directions on page 127, pointing to the faces in the circles. Read aloud each situation and **ask:** *Is this a good decision or a bad decision?* After your child completes the activity, discuss the correct answers.

Respond: Page 128

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Word I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways to treat others the way he or she likes to be treated.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the With My Family suggestions. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today.