

CATECHIST OUTLINE GRADES 6th & 7th

CHAPTER 4 | PART II (pages 39-42)



OPENING PRAYER MORNING OFFERING

Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary,
I offer You my prayers, works, joys and sufferings
of this day for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart,
in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world,
in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of all my relatives and friends,
and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father. Amen.

This prayer has numerous variations, but the main idea is to start your day giving to God everything you may encounter during the upcoming day.

CH. 4 (PART 1 REVIEW) - Vocabulary words are in **bold**.

- In discussing **freedom** we reviewed the false ideas of freedom and how **moral relativism** is a grave moral error.
- We get a better understanding of what law us. (Divine and Civil). The Chapter builds more deeply into the types of law. We also learn about the two types of human law; **ecclesiastical** (Church) and **civil**).
- A well formed **conscience** helps us when we are making moral decisions and how the gifts of the Holy Spirit (when used) help us make good choices.

- Sin destroys our relationship with God and Church

- To remain in God's grace **FREELY**, we have the **4 kinds of Law**

- Divine Law directly given to us by God is the **Decalogue** and Jesus revealed the Beatitudes, laws we could never come to know on our own.

- God gives us the gift of free will so we can freely choose to love Him or not to love Him. **Free will** has misconceptions and consequences.

- To make good and moral choices we should always be forming our **conscience**.

- Grace, helps us from sinning **BUT DOES NOT** make choices for us

- A good and formed conscience allows us to do what is good and just (*YES, following God and living out our faith may be difficult and boring...but the end (our soul) will have a better outcome!*)

- Free Will and God allowing evil? Evil exists because of choices we freely make.

- Like Free Will, with conscience there are misconceptions as well. It isn't the little voice and it isn't a gut feeling.

- While we talked about laws (order) and some of the laws get deep into the weeds, all this is to help us understand **AND** apply in forming our conscience and making good choices (for ourselves and the common good of others)

Diving in deeper

- People have an natural sense of basic moral truth. Using human **reason**, we can conclude the principles (or foundation) of this **natural law**. But because sin clouds our vision of the truth, God has chosen to directly reveal the law to us. (*what did God reveal?*)
- We use our natural faculty called **conscience** to apply the general principles of the law to specific situations, judging specific actions to be right or wrong in accordance with objective law. (Conscience is not the *source* of those moral principles!)

CONNECTING THE CHAPTERS:

In Chapter 1 We discussed Who God is, why He created us and how we can come to know the Truths of the Church and God through Divine Revelation and human reason. We discuss our true desire for **happiness** and free will. We also know humans are rational beings, through **Divine Revelation** and **reason**, our source of religious truth provides us with an understanding of TRUTH. A truth that leads us to pure happiness (now and for eternity). God gave us the gift of **Free Will** that we might cooperate by leading a moral life.

In Chapter 2 we dive in further “what the meaning of Life” is and we achieve this through our actions to achieve ideal of fulfillment. We see how **virtues** are essential to our success. We learn more that we have **natural virtues** and the four **cardinal (or principle) virtues** and how to grow in them. We also see for every virtue there are **vices**. **Moral virtues** are acquired by human effort. Without any effort living a moral life, we lack in virtue. **Human and Supernatural virtues**, given to us at **Baptism** work in practice.

In Chapter 3 We learn dive into the **types of law**: eternal, natural and divine revealed law. We understand what law is and why law is needed. Throughout the chapter we see who has “authority” to make laws. We read how God is always governing the ENTIRE universe so we all might live in harmony. A great take away is: We all have choices to make (young and old). **Morality** is intricately connected with laws and rules. With **Ecclesiastical Laws**, the Church gives us precepts we must follow (pg 28). We see civil law must promote for the **common good** of everyone – NOT just a select few. Most importantly we see that God does not make laws on a whim. Laws aren’t not created by Him “because He decided”, good will always naturally be good and evil will be from turning away from God.



***AINTS:** St. John Neuman, St. Joan of Arc, Venerable Augustus Tolton*

CH. 1 REVIEW WORDS AND STUDENT OUTLINE:

- Human Person -
- Divine Revelation:
- Human Nature:
- Natural Law:
- Beatitudes
- Moral Law -
- Omnipotence
- Omniscient
- Omnipresence

CH 3 REVIEW WORDS:

- Natural Virtues
- What is Virtue
- What are the four Cardinal Virtue (name and define)

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BC No2

4. What must we do to gain the happiness of heaven?

To gain the happiness of heaven we must know, love, and serve God in this world.

Lay not up to yourselves treasures on earth; where the rust and moth consume and where thieves break through and steal. But lay up to yourselves treasures in heaven; where neither the rust nor moth doth consume, and where thieves do not break through nor steal. (Matthew 6:19-20)

5. From whom do we learn to know, love, and serve God?

We learn to know, love, and serve God from Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who teaches us through the Catholic Church.

I have come a light into the world that whoever believes in Me may not remain in darkness. (John 12:46)

6. Where do we find the chief truths taught by Jesus Christ through the Catholic Church?

We find the chief truths taught by Jesus Christ through the Catholic Church in the Apostles' Creed.

He that heareth you heareth me; and he that despiseth you despiseth me; and he that despiseth me despiseth him that sent me. (Luke 10:16)

ADW STANDARDS – JUST BECAUSE

06.08.01 State that the Communion of Saints includes the faithful of Christ on earth, in Purgatory, and in heaven.

06.08.02 Identify that the Catholic Church is universal and sent to proclaim the Gospel of salvation to the entire human race.

06.11.01 Understand that every person has a vocation to love and serve God.

06.11.02 Identify that we discern our vocation through prayer as we listen to God and His word in our hearts.

06.12.01 Understand that when we work for justice and peace in the world, we are helping to bring about the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

07.05.04 Name the Cardinal Virtues and identify that they are accessible to everyone and serve the common good.

07.05.05 Recognize the Beatitudes as a source of moral teaching from Jesus that present the path to happiness with God.

07.06.01 State that Christians are called to take an active role in public life and promote the common good.

07.11.01 Explain that a person's vocation is the unique call from God to love and serve him in holiness.

07.12.01 Name the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy and how they serve as a model for disciples to serve others.

HOLINESS DEFINED

In its most basic definition, holiness means **pure** and to be **set apart**. As the scriptures teach, God, in His holiness is set apart from any other god or being. He is pure. There is no wrong found in Him.



The **more we know** someone, **the more that we can love** them, and **this is even more true for God**. The **more that we know God**, the **more that we love Him**. And by loving Him, we can better serve Him who made us.

1. We are **created to be Holy** we are to be Saints-**set apart for God alone**.
2. We are **created to know** God.
3. We are **created to love** God.
4. We are **created to serve** God. (*Understanding Natural Law, Virtue (Theological and Cardinal) help us see God with more clarity – hence wanting to keep the 2 precepts of Charity*)

Our destiny is to go to heaven, to be in heaven, eternally with God.

QUESTION: How can we understand Heaven if we do not understand who God is.

Who is God to each student?

GOD: ATTRIBUTES OF GOD OR THE CHARACTERISTICS OF GOD

- 06.01.03** Understand that God gives human beings free will so they can choose to love and serve him. 1730 310-311 Sir
06.01.04 Explain that the moment of death puts an end to the time for us to accept or reject God's love. 1021 153 Lk
06.01.05 Explain that our eternal destiny for either heaven or hell is the result of our love and friendship with God in this
06.02.01 Show understanding that in Scripture God reveals himself to us and shows us his plan of redemption. 101 102
06.02.02 Define a covenant as a sacred agreement or promise between God and his people, or between two people.
07.01.04 Describe natural ways of coming to know God - reason, the natural world and the human person. 50 3-6 Rm
07.01.05 State that God is fully revealed in the person of Jesus.

Reinforce: While the words may seem big and meaningless for a 6th&7th Grade student, knowing as much as we can – to include God's characteristics draws us into a more meaningful relationship.

GOD IS OMNIPOTENCE (Omnipotent having unlimited power; able to do anything. Other words: Almighty or All powerful describe God. Since God is **infinite** and since He possesses almighty power, He possesses **infinite power**. Infinite means He has NO Time.

Why is almighty/omnipotence alone mentioned in the Creed?

GOD IS OMNISCIENT: All knowing, all understanding, all aware.



God's map of the universe

ALL AWARE – Examples when we go to Kings Dominion we try and scope all the rides out

BREAKING IT DOWN:

OMNIPOTENCE: God our Creator, we believe God created EVERYTHING we see and do NOT See, His power and will is unlimited, He can do ANYTHING, He can “WILL” anything. **He is greater than all of the Avengers or Superman and even Batman put together.** READ GENESIS.

OMNISCIENT: God is ALL KNOWING or UNLIMITED KNOWLEDGE (The longest winning Jeopardy player can't compete with God). God's knowledge and knowing of everything at once.

IMAGINE – Being aware of everything and everyone at ONCE

OMNIPRESENCE: This theological term means “**always present.**” Since God is infinite, His being knows **no boundaries**. So, clearly, He is everywhere. This truth is taught throughout scripture as the phrase “I am with you always” is repeated 22 times in both the Old and New Testaments. BUT when life gets tough or we don't get what we want, some question – Is God There. THIS is where **knowing** about God and WHO He is, is vital in growing in our faith.

"I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth ..."

8. What do we mean when we say that God is the Supreme Being?

When we say that God is the Supreme Being we mean that He is above all creatures, the self-existing and infinitely perfect Spirit.

I am the First, and I am the Last, and besides me there is no God. (Isaias 44:6)

9. What is a spirit?

A spirit is a being that has understanding and free will, but no body, and will never die.

To whom then have you likened God? Or what image will you make for Him? (Isaias 40:18)

10. What do we mean when we say that God is self-existing?

When we say that God is self-existing we mean that He does not owe His existence to any other being.

I am who am. (Exodus 3:14)

11. What do we mean when we say that God is infinitely perfect?

When we say that God is infinitely perfect we mean that He has all perfections without limit.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and of his greatness there is no end. (Psalm 144:3)

12. What are some of the perfections of God?

Some of the perfections of God are: God is eternal, all-good, all-knowing, all-present, and almighty.

13. What do we mean when we say that God is eternal?

When we say that God is eternal we mean that He always was and always will be, and always remains the same."

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end," says the Lord God. (Apocalypse 1:8)

14. What do we mean when we say that God is all-good?

When we say that God is all-good we mean that He is infinitely lovable in Himself, and that from His fatherly love every good comes to us.

For the word of the Lord is right; and all his works are done with faithfulness. He loveth mercy and judgment: the earth is full of the mercy of the Lord. (Psalm 32:4-5)

15. What do we mean when we say that God is all-knowing?

When we say that God is all-knowing we mean that He knows all things, past, present, and future, even our most secret thoughts, words, and actions.

Behold, O Lord, thou hast known all things, the last and those of old: thou hast formed me, and hast laid thy hand upon me. Thy knowledge is become wonderful to me: it is high, and I cannot reach it. (Psalm 138:5-6)

16. What do we mean when that God Is all-present?

When we say that God is all-present we mean that He is everywhere.

Whither may I go from thy spirit, or whither may I flee from thy face? (Psalm 138:7)

17. If God is everywhere, why do we not see Him?

Although God is everywhere, we do not see Him because He is a spirit and cannot be seen with our eyes.

God is a spirit; and they that adore him must adore him in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24)

18. Does God see us?

God sees us and watches over us with loving care.

Be not solicitous therefore, saying: "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "Wherewith will we be clothed?" For after all these things do the heathens seek. For your heavenly Father knoweth that you have need of all these things. (Matthew 6:31:32)

19. What is God's loving care for us called?

God's loving care for us is called Divine Providence.

Cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. (1 Peter 5:7)

20. What do we mean when we say that God is almighty?

When we say that God is almighty we mean that He can do all things.

For nothing shall be impossible with God. (Luke 1:37)

21. Is God all-wise, all-holy, all-merciful, and all-just?

Yes, God is all-wise, all-holy, all-merciful, and all-just.

The Lord is just in all his ways, and holy in all his works. (Psalm 144:17)

22. Can we know by our natural reason that there is a God?

We can know by our natural reason that there is a God, for natural reason tells us that the world we see about us could have been made only by a self-existing Being, all-wise and almighty.

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and injustice of those men that detain the truth of God in injustice; because that which is known of God is manifest in them. For God hath manifested it unto them. (Romans 1:18-19)

23. Can we know God in any other way than by our natural reason?

Besides knowing God by our natural reason, we can also know Him from supernatural revelation—that is, from the truths, found in Sacred Scripture and in Tradition, which God Himself has revealed to us.

All scripture, inspired of God, is profitable to teach, to reprove, to correct, to instruct in justice. (2 Timothy 3:16)

23A. What do we mean when we say that God has revealed these truths to us?

When we say that God has revealed these truths to us we mean that He has made them known to certain persons, to be announced to their fellow men as the word of God.

16. Q. If God is everywhere, why do we not see Him? A. We do not see God, because He is a **pure spirit** and cannot be seen with **bodily eyes**. (*More below on our Body, Soul and Spirit is below*)

17. Q. Does God see us? A. God sees us and watches over us. - **He is omniscient, omnipresence and omnipotence**)

18. Q. Does God know all things? A. God knows all things, even our most secret thoughts, words, and actions. - **He created each and everyone of us, in HIS IMAGE. His love for us is hard to understand because we love with conditions and because of concupiscence – we judge.**

19. Q. Can God do all things? A. God can do all things, and nothing is hard or impossible to Him. **Remind them, the Avengers, Superman, Aqua Man have NOTHING on God. All those characters have limitations, God does not. While scientist try to disprove God – they can't.**

20. Q. Is God just, holy, and merciful? A. God is all just, all holy, all merciful, as He is infinitely perfect. **See below what Holy means.**

What is it to be merciful? To CONSTANTLY forgive WITHOUT condition.

REVEALED LAW – DIRECTLY FROM GOD.

- **THE DECALOUGE/10 COMMANDMENTS** (We are created by God (Body and Spirit) we see in scripture *“that they devoted themselves to the fellowship.”* This is **moral living** or simply life in Christ. Our relationship with God and our neighbor. This is summed up by the 10 commandments.

THE SECOND PILLAR, 10 COMMANDMENTS (**Memorized in 2nd Grade**)

The first three commandments deal with our relationship with God:

1. *"I am the Lord thy God, thou shalt not have any gods before Me."*
2. *"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain."*
3. *"Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day."*

The next seven deal with our relationship with our neighbor.

4. *"Honor thy father and mother."*
5. *"Thou shalt not kill."*
6. *"Thou shalt not commit adultery."*
7. *"Thou shalt not steal."*
8. *"Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor."*
9. *"Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife."*
10. *"Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's goods."*

We are a spirit, We have a soul, and We live in a body.

So in the scriptures we see that:

We are saved- ***That's the spirit***- Romans 5:9-10; 10:9

We are being saved- ***That's the soul***- 1 Corinthians 1:8; 15:2

We are going to be saved-***That's the body***- Romans 8:24

1. We come to know God by learning what He's revealed about Himself:
2. In Jesus Christ the Word of God who came in the flesh
3. In the Spoken Word of God, handed down from the Church.
4. In the written Word of God, which is the Scriptures.

So what God reveals to us, and how He reveals it to us is of paramount importance. So as we come to know and learn (**in the spirit**) the 12 articles of the creed we desire to love God and the truths of the creed. But understand that love is not primarily a feeling. It's a choice. We don't simply fall in and out of love with somebody. We choose simply to love or no longer love them. So we have to make a decision, an act of the will (**In the Soul**) to follow Jesus's teachings. And how do we do this? By choosing to obey the 10 commandments? (**the Body**)

We know that we can't keep the commandments perfectly. At least I know I can't. And this is why we go to confession on a regular basis. Why can't we keep the commandments? Because we still struggle with the ramifications of original sin, which even after baptism, we struggle with the triple concupiscence. That was, and this is just a fancy way of saying that we all struggle with a disordered desire for possessions, for pleasure and for power. We learned about the three "D,s" before doctrine, disciplines, and dogma. Now we got the three "P,s" possessions pleasure and power.

The three "P,s":

1. **Possessions**
2. **Pleasure**
3. **Power.**