

Sixth Grade: Lesson 14

Order Your Life with Natural Law and the 10 Commandments

Lesson Objective:

The motivation for living a virtuous life comes from our friendship with Christ and our desire to please Him, rather than simply following rules. This lesson helps the youth understand that God writes the rules of goodness and truth (natural law) in our hearts. This law is unchangeable because it rests on an order that is present in creation. The Ten Commandments given in the covenant on Mt. Sinai reflect the natural law. Throughout all of salvation history, God calls His people to live according to His law. We are responsible for keeping God's commandments even if we don't feel the advantage for keeping them.

Learning Outcomes: Students will ...

- Understand that the desire to live a moral life is animated by one's friendship with Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Define and discuss natural law (CCC 1954-1960).
- Identify that the Ten Commandments reflect the natural law.
- Identify and review the Ten Commandments as the moral guideline for God's people and the terms of the covenant at Mt. Sinai (CCC 2056-2063).

Materials Needed:

- Prayer space items, Bibles, pencils
- Copies: Word search (optional), The Great 2 Commands, 10 Commandments Revised, Thou Shall, The 10 Commandments Code activity.

As Students Enter Class:

- Have a word search ready, such as one on the 10 Commandments, linked below.
- [10 Commandments Word Search](#)

Ten Commandments

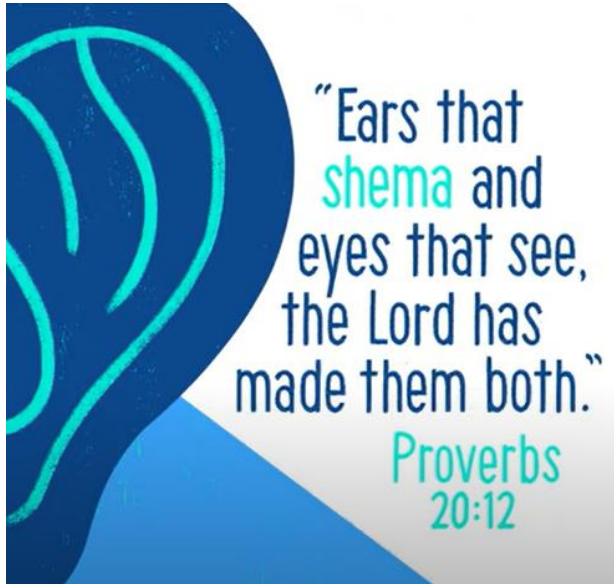
L V Q O J C D S R L D N V F X D W
M L T A F I J E E X C I A F U Y I
K O M Q A E J B M M O M I P M L M
V R P M T R P J E I M A N P E P Q
Q D M S H V E K M M M G D H O L Y
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X N P P R G S A E V N Q P V K D G
X X S K C G A M R A D O E D Y Y S
U A A E O R B E X L M Y L Z Q V G
T A L J V A B X J G E W H Y Z C Q
X X V N E V A Y G D N I S T E A L
V W A N T E T P Z E T P S X Q K Y
Q D T A F N H P Y V R F N J K P L
V K I M P Q K A X Q W X Y L U C Q
U I O L O G F L A S H L I G H T E
G L N S H I N E I V M O T H E R Q
M L X B I V G G C M P M O S E S N

moses	mother	salvation	flashlight
shine	vain	holy	graven
remember	steal	commandment	image
lord	name	sabbath	kill
covet	father		

Beginning of Class:

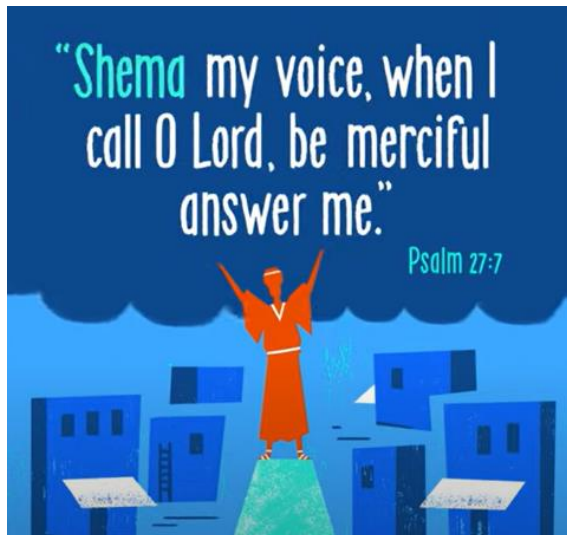
- Gather around your prayer space and pray a traditional Catholic prayer.

Lesson Order	Implementation Ideas
Lesson 14 Video	<p data-bbox="646 237 1089 277">This video is 1:25 in length.</p> <p data-bbox="646 317 1422 541">Highlights: Last time, we discussed how we are made in the image and likeness of God. We also learned how to live out our human dignity by staying pure of heart and guarding ourselves by being aware of media that would or could lead us astray from Christ.</p> <p data-bbox="646 581 1422 1045">Today we are going to focus on how our motivation to live a virtuous life comes from our covenant relationship and friendship with Christ. The Holy Spirit helps us with this. Also, God has given us moral guidelines in the Bible and the 10 Commandments. These guidelines reflect natural law. Natural law comes from God, through creation itself, that is written into our souls and gives us the desire to participate in God's wisdom and goodness. Natural law helps us know what is good and true and what is evil and a lie.</p>
What is Natural Law	<p data-bbox="646 1087 1338 1161">This video is 1:39 and Bishop Barron is the narrator.</p> <p data-bbox="646 1201 1422 1549">Eternal law is the mind of God, so it is God's own mind by which the world was made and by which the world is structured. Natural law is a participation in the eternal law and we can see it in the structures of the world and sense it within our own moral selves. Call it a deep sense of the basic good. Human laws, the laws that govern society, also participate in the natural law.</p>
What is the Shema	<p data-bbox="646 1591 1268 1665">This video is 1:11 and does not have a narrator.</p> <p data-bbox="646 1705 1422 1858">Highlights: The core function of the Jewish soul is to listen and to hear. The Shema is a reminder that Judaism does not demand blind obedience, but the capacity to listen. The ability</p>

	<p>to listen is what enables the recognition of God's oneness and unity of all creation.</p>
The Shema Explained	<p>This video is 3:25 in length but ends at 3:04. It is animated and narrated.</p> <p>Highlights: Every morning and evening Jewish people have prayed these well-known words, as a way of expressing their devotion to God. These prayers are called the Schema.</p> <p>"HEAR O Israel, the LORD is our God, the Lord is one, and as for you, you shall LOVE the Lord your God with all of your HEART, with all your SOUL, and with all your STRENGTH."</p> <p>-Deuteronomy 6:4-5</p> <p>A more literal interpretation:</p>  <p>Jewish authors use the word in many ways other than letting sound waves enter your ears. In Hebrew they use it to mean pay attention to or focus on.</p>



It can also mean responding to what you hear.



Shema, Shema (repeated twice) means listen closely.

When God asked the Israelites to Shema, Shema, he means, listen and obey.

STOP AND DISCUSS: What can we learn from our Jewish ancestors in regard to their prayer, Shema?

The 10 Commandments Reviewed

This video is 5:32 in length. It is animated and narrated at a good pace.

Highlights:

	<p>A sin is an action contrary to the love of God and love of neighbor. As a guide to help us with this, God gave us the 10 Commandments.</p> <p>The 10 Commandments can be divided into 2 groups:</p> <p>Numbers 1,2, and 3 refer to God. All the rest apply to our lives as members in a society.</p> <p>Please refer to the page at the end of this lesson plan that highlights the rest of this video in a table format.</p>
<p>10 Commandments: The Roadmap to Eternal Life</p>	<p>This video is 2:08 in length, but is done at 2:00.</p> <p>Highlights: A rich young man approached Jesus and asked: What must I do to inherit eternal life? Jesus responded: Follow the Commandments. The 10 Commandments are the roadmap to eternal life. There are actually two versions of the 10 Commandments, one in Exodus Ch. 20 and then Deuteronomy Ch. 5. They are mentioned often in the New Testament and are very important to our moral life.</p> <p>Commandments 1, 2 and 3: Focus on our relationship with God and 4 through 10 focus on our relationship with one another.</p> <p>Many people ask, how can I pray? Fr. Suggests spending one minute on each commandment is a great place to start. This also helps with an Examination of Conscience and then we can ask God for the things we need to better follow the commandments and to stay on God's path. Bottom Line: Memorize your 10 Commandments.</p>

Activities: The 2 Great Commandments	Following the directions, student decide which of the two Great Commandments each of the 10 Commandments fit under.
10 Commandments Revised	Instead of thou shall not – students are writing in their own words, <u>what thou shall do.</u>
10 Commandments Code	Follow the directions and fill in the correct words to complete the Commandments.
Closing Prayer	Consider a spontaneous prayer, asking Jesus to open our hearts and minds to be able to focus on the 10 Commandments and to discern what virtues we need to work on in our own lives.

10 Commandments	Catholic Meaning
I AM THE LORD THY GOD: THOU SHALT NOT HAVE STRANGE GODS BEFORE ME.	God must take first place in our lives. Money, beauty, popularity, success, should NOT become an idol. Meaning they are not more important than God.
THOU SHALL NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD THY GOD IN VAIN.	Treat the name of God and all holy things with respect and do not misuse them. Do not swear.
KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH DAY	Go to holy Mass on Sundays, allow yourselves time to rest on Sundays.
HONOR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER.	Children and parents treat each other with love and respect.
THOU SHALL NOT KILL.	We cannot violate the right to life of an innocent person. We cannot hurt others intentionally.
THOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTRY	Marriage vows are sacred.
THOU SHALL NOT STEAL	Respect rights and properties of others. Treat others fairly. No cheating in school.
THOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST THY NEIGHBOR	We tell the truth and we do not lie. We are committed to all things truthful.
THOU SHALL NOT COVET THY NEIGHBOR'S WIFE	We are not to lust after other people. Modesty is a term we should use because our bodies have value and we need to protect things of worth.
THOU SHALL NOT COVET THY NEIGHBOR'S GOODS	No envy or greed. We want to share higher and spiritual good. Don't focus on what others have and what we don't have. We are grateful for what we have been given.

