

Parent Notes

In this week's lesson your child learned

- A community is a group of families and friends who do things together. Our parish church is one of the communities to which we belong.
- All communities have rules about how members are to behave and treat one another.



It Helps to Know

Scripture tells us that

- we are called to live a life in communion with God and with one another.
- the early Church placed a high priority on living in community, with the early Christians living “together” and having “all things in common” (Acts 2:44).
- the cohesiveness of their community helped the early Christians “go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15).

The *Catechism* teaches us that

- because humans are social by nature, the good of each individual is related to the common good. (CCC, 1905)

Keep It Simple

- Have regular family meals in which everyone gathers at the table, away from television and other distractions.
- Develop family rituals, especially around special occasions, but also around everyday events, such as bedtimes and mealtimes.

How Four- and Five-Year-Olds Understand the Lesson, by Joseph White, Ph.D.

The first “community” to which a child belongs is the family. It is here that the child first learns to be in relationship with others and the concept of community rules. For most four- and five-year-olds the parish church, religion class, or Catholic preschool will be their first experiences of the larger Christian community, and an early experience of the expectations that we share in a community of peers. The primary tasks for your child at this age include learning to share and take turns, to be patient, and to interact with others through play.

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We Live as Jesus Taught

This Week's Scripture Story

helps us discover ways we can live like Jesus by discovering the meaning of community.

Living as Jesus Taught

After Jesus went up to Heaven, many people who loved him lived the way he taught them to live:

They shared their food and all their things with each other.

They prayed together each day and remembered Jesus by the breaking of the bread.

They were joyful and praised God.

God blessed them with many new followers who would live as Jesus taught.

Based on Acts 2:42–47



Sharing Faith at Home Share the story with your child by talking about its meaning or reading it aloud at bedtime.
Discussion starter: Share how you lived as Jesus taught today.

Allelu!

Growing and Celebrating with Jesus

Lesson 11, Ages 4-5



Through the Week

Have each member of the family pray for a friend.



Ask Me!

Ask your child these questions, and see if he or she can give you the answers. *(If not, give a hint, and review the questions again later.)*

1. What do we call a group of families and friends who do things together? *(a community)*
2. What are some of the communities to which we belong? *(school, neighborhood, parish church)*
3. What are some rules that we follow to get along with one another? *(Share, take turns, talk about problems instead of fighting.)*



Setting the Family Table

Who Is Being a Friend?

Circle the children who are being friends. Then **draw** a picture of one of your friends.



Mealtime Prayer

Dear Jesus,
 our loving friend and
 our Savior, you ask us
 to share with one another.
 You ask us to pray together.
 You ask us to love one another.
 Please help us as
 we try to share, pray,
 and love this week.
 Amen.

Pray this prayer as a family.



Saint of the Week

Margaret of Scotland
(1045–1093)

Feast Day: November 16

Did you know?

Margaret of Scotland was a beloved queen whose faith, compassion, and leadership enabled her to bring a vibrant Catholic life to Scotland.

Saint Margaret, pray for us!

