

LESSON 6

Jesus



Learning Objectives

In this lesson you will:

- Understand how Jesus, the Son of God, lived and how we can live the virtues of faith, hope, and charity.
- Discover the meaning of the new commandment of Jesus to love one another.
- Develop a stronger love for others by knowing and appreciating the gospels.

Opening Prayer

O Lord, help me to love you with all my heart, all my soul, all my mind, and all my strength and my neighbor as myself. Amen.



Opening Activity

Scan the QR code to access the online resources.

FaithOfTheMountain.org/grade4/lesson6

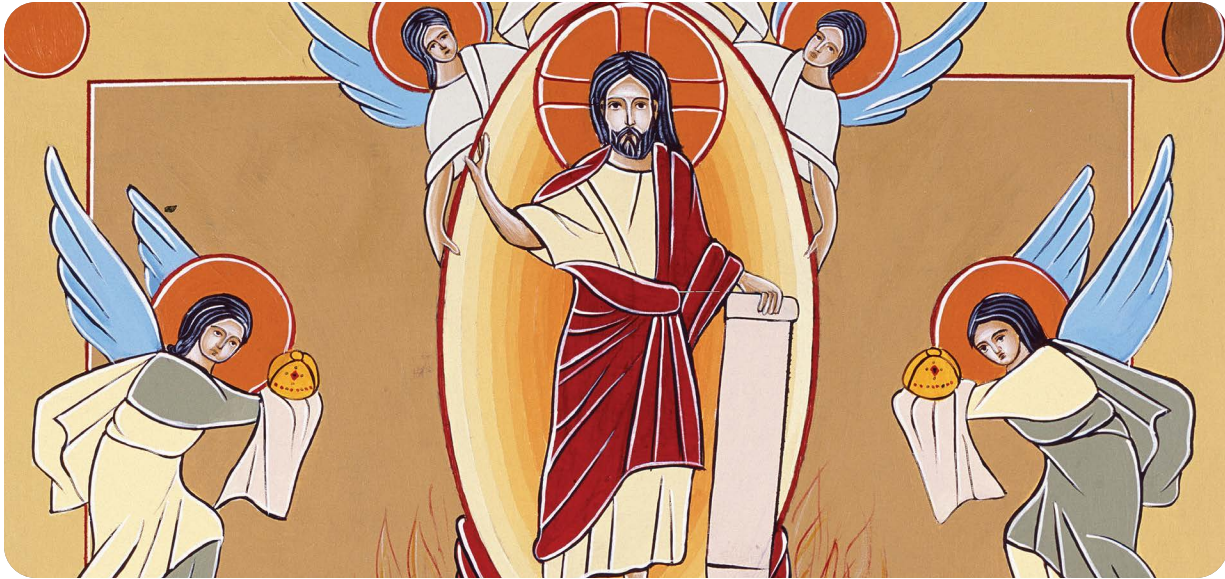
Introduction

In the Old Testament, the Israelites looked to the Ten Commandments to help them lead holy lives in proper relationship to God and to others. In the New Testament, Jesus asks us to look to him, to follow him as he leads us to heaven.

Even though the Ten Commandments told people what was right and what was wrong, they did not always understand them. That is why Jesus spent most of his public life teaching people about God and what God really wanted. Sometimes Jesus taught by telling stories that we call parables. Other times, he taught by working miracles and by his own actions of forgiveness and caring. As Catholics, we must not forget that Jesus is our Lord, teacher, and friend. Therefore, we must put his teachings into practice.

Reflection Questions

1. *Who is Jesus to you?*
2. *What are your favorite teachings or sayings from Jesus?*

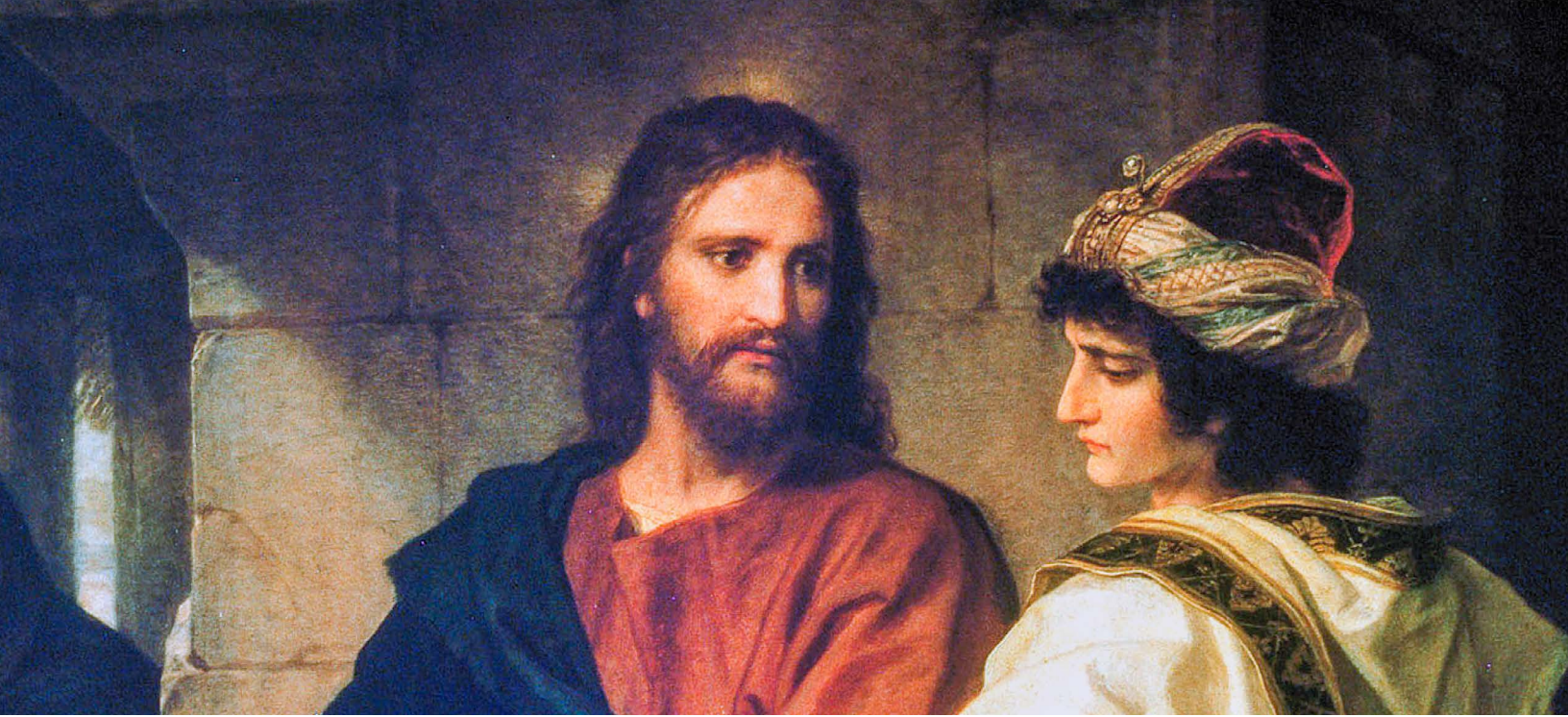


Point **1**

Understand Jesus and His Virtues

Jesus is the **Messiah**, the **Savior** God promised to send. He is true God and true man, the second Person of the Holy Trinity. We study Jesus' words and actions so we can better know him and love him. He is our Lord.

Jesus taught people to have **faith**, which is believing that God exists and loves us. He showed people what faith is and how to live it. He taught about God's generous love and mercy. Jesus also taught people to have **hope**, which helps us believe in his promises. He cured the sick, the paralyzed, the blind, and the deaf. He spoke about the wonderful future life God has planned for those who live by the commandments. Finally, Jesus taught people to have **charity**, or love, which is truly caring about others and being willing to put their needs first. Jesus loved us so much that he died to free us from sin and from the sting of death itself. He led us out of every darkness into God's light. Faith, hope, and charity are **theological virtues** we received at Baptism.



Point **2**

Discover Jesus' New Commandment

The theological virtues are necessary if we want to live as God's beloved People. These virtues help us obey the Ten Commandments. They help us grow in friendship with the Holy Trinity. That is why Jesus summed up what God wants in the following way:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind" (Mt 22:37). We call this summary of Jesus the **Great Commandment**. Loving God is at the heart of obeying all the Ten Commandments.

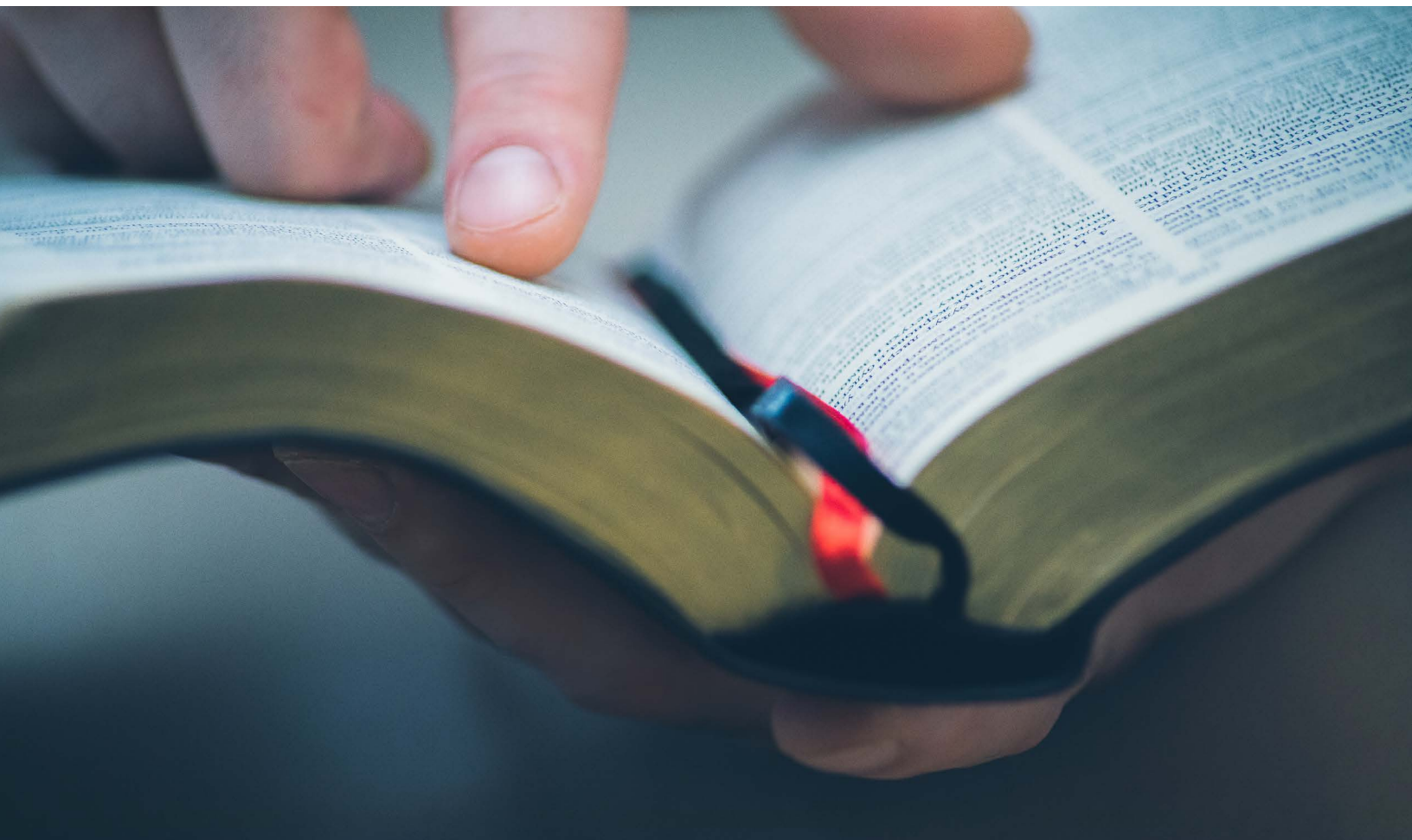
Jesus also taught a second important rule that sums up what God wants: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Mt 22:39). If we obey these two rules, we will be living the Ten Commandments and growing in friendship with God.

Point 3

Develop a Stronger Love for Others and Appreciation for the Gospels

Jesus further explained the second rule with these words: “Do to others as you would have them do to you” (Mt 7:12). We call this commandment of Jesus the **Golden Rule**. Another rule of Jesus, known as the **Law of Love**, is similar: “Love one another as I have loved you” (Jn 15:12).

Jesus’ commandments to love God and love others are found most clearly in the Gospels, which make up the first four books of the New Testament. The word “**gospel**” means “good news.”



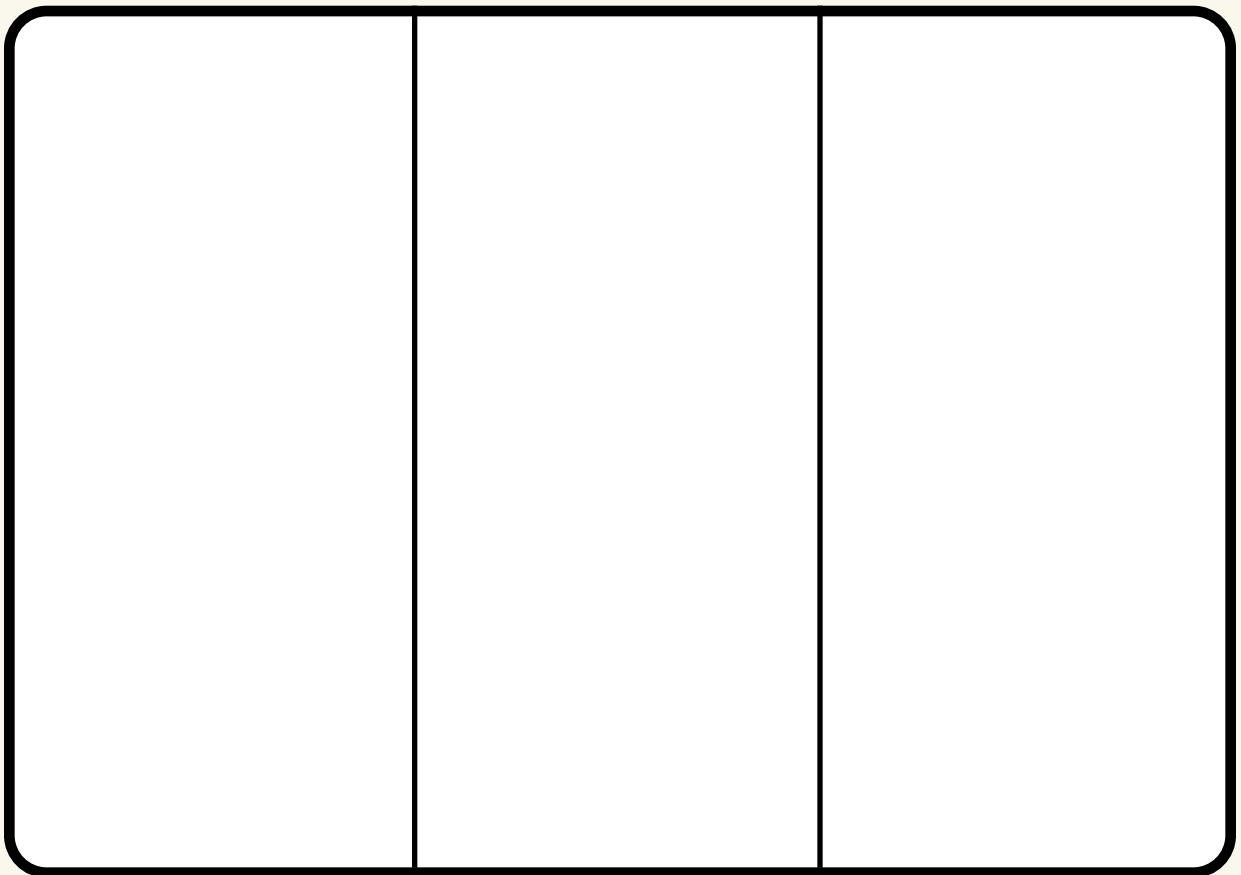
Activity 1

Theological Virtues Triptych

Directions: *Christian artists have used the following symbols to illustrate the theological virtues:*

Faith = green cross / Hope = blue anchor / Charity = red heart

Use the space below to create a triptych, which is a picture divided into three sections. On the left side, draw a green cross. In the center panel, draw a blue anchor. On the right side, draw a red heart. Label each section.

A large rectangular box with rounded corners, divided into three equal vertical sections by two vertical lines. The sections are intended for drawing a triptych.

Activity 2

The Wall of Virtue

Directions: *Label three walls in your classroom “Faith”, “Hope”, and “Charity.” Your teacher will read different scenarios involving Faith, Hope, and Love, move to the wall that represents the demonstrated virtue.*



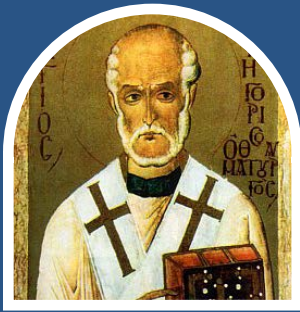


Maronite Wisdom

“Lord God and Father, you are true love, security that is ever sure, and hope that never fails. Grant love, happiness, and everlasting peace to your children here before you. Make us worthy to give one another the greeting of peace with pure hearts and souls and with a holy kiss worthy of your blessed name, that we may raise glory to you, to your only Son, and to your Holy Spirit, now and for ever.”

— *Divine Mysteries: Anaphora of St. John*





My Role Model

Saint Gregory the Wonderworker, Bishop of Neoceasarea

Saint Gregory lived in the third century. As a young man, he studied law and became a follower of Jesus. A short time later, Christians of one city elected him bishop. Gregory was truly someone filled with the theological virtues. His words of faith drew other people to become Christians, too. Gregory had so much hope that he was able to work many miracles. Before long, people were calling him “Gregory the Wonderworker.” Most importantly, Gregory truly loved the members of his church. When a plague made many people sick, Gregory went into the city streets. He fed and nursed the sick people back to health. Indeed, Gregory never tired of trying to be like Jesus. In everything he did, he tried to love God and love others. His feast day is November 17.

Saint Gregory, pray for us.

Recall



Match the terms in Column A with the correct descriptions in Column B.

A

- ____ **1.** Great Commandment
- ____ **2.** Second greatest commandment
- ____ **3.** Golden Rule
- ____ **4.** Law of Love
- ____ **5.** Gospels
- ____ **6.** Theological Virtues

B

- A.** Four books about Jesus in the New Testament
- B.** “Do to others as you would have them do to you.”
- C.** “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”
- D.** Faith, hope, and charity
- E.** “Love one another as I have loved you.”
- F.** “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.”

Weekly Journal



How can you show love to God, and how can you show love for others?

Write: Pick one theological virtue and explain how you can practice it.

Concluding Prayer



Loving Father, we honor the memory of your Son, Jesus. Through him, you have granted us victory over sin and death. Let his cross be our assurance of faith, the joy of hope, and the perfection of love. May the blessings of Christ our Savior come upon us as we seek to follow his Law of Love. Amen.

Climbing the Mountain

Bonus Materials for Students & Teachers



Mt 22:34-40

The Greatest Commandment

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked [Jesus] a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Reflection

The Ten Commandments were the basis for everything in the Old Testament. In the New Testament, Jesus came to fulfill the Ten Commandments with the two new commandments: love of God and love of neighbor. Unlike the Ten Commandments, which were written on stone tablets, these commandments would be written in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. God’s grace allows us to love like him.

Saintly Quote

“All is contained in these brief words: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with your soul, and with all your strength; and love your neighbour as yourself.’”
— *Saint Augustine*

Questions

1. How can you love God with your entire being?
2. Why is it important to love ourselves before we can love others?

Reaching the Summit

For Teachers & Parents



“The entire Law of the Gospel is contained in the ‘new commandment’ of Jesus, to love one another as he has loved us.” — CCC 1970

The following table shows the connection between the Ten Commandments and Jesus’ teachings.

Ten Commandments	<div><div>1. I, the Lord, am your God. You shall not have other gods besides me.</div><div>2. You shall not take the name the Lord, your God, in vain.</div><div>3. Remember to keep holy the sabbath day.</div></div>	<div><div>4. Honor your father and your mother.</div><div>5. You shall not kill.</div><div>6. You shall not commit adultery.</div><div>7. You shall not steal.</div><div>8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.</div><div>9. You shall not covet (desire) your neighbor’s husband or wife.</div><div>10. You shall not covet (desire) your neighbor’s house and anything else that belongs to him.</div></div>
Jesus	You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.	Love your neighbor as yourself.

Theological Virtues

The word “theo” means “God.” These virtues are God-given. We receive them through Baptism. We cannot have faith, hope, or love unless it was given to us by God, who is the source of all faith, hope and love. These certainly makes us grow until “we attain the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”

Discussion Questions

1. Which is the most difficult of Jesus’ teachings to follow?
 2. Why?
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Words to Know



Q. What is the **Great Commandment**?

A. Jesus’ summary of the first three commandments: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.”

Q. Who is the **Messiah**?

A. The Savior whom God promised to send to redeem the world from sin and death. Jesus, the Son of God, is the Messiah.

Q. What are the **theological virtues**?

A. Good habits that help us know and relate to God, and become sharers in his divinity. The three theological virtues are faith, hope, and charity.



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