

## Chapter 13 **Make a Difference**

Father, as you sent me into the world, so I sent them into the world.  
*John 17:18*

### **To the Parents:**

In chapter 13, your child learned the following:

- Each Christian is called to make a difference in the lives of others.
- God continually calls upon the Church to transform the world.
- Christians can sometimes make a difference by taking a stand that challenges others.

Those who follow Jesus are on a lifelong journey of transformation. They continue the good works begun in them by living out their baptismal promises, responding to the gifts of the Holy Spirit and being nourished by the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. As Christians gradually become more like Jesus, they begin to move toward a deeper and more complete understanding of the Gospel message of justice, peace, and loving service. Transformation of the world begins with the transformation of each person who believes in Jesus and follows him.

The mission of each Christian is the mission of the Church: to bring the Gospel message to others, praise and worship God, to serve those in need, and to participate fully and actively in the community of faith. Many gifts are needed to accomplish this mission, and each member of the faith community brings his or her own unique personality, talents, and creative abilities to the task of transforming the world.

### **With Your Child:**

1. Talk about how important taste and light are in people's lives, and then read Jesus' salt and light metaphors (*Matthew 5:13-16*).
2. At the end of each day, list the ways you made a difference in other people's lives. It can be as little as holding the door open for someone to something as organized as volunteer work.
3. Talk about the talents given to you by God and how you can use them to serve God.
4. Read the story of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin on the Review and Explore page.