

Chapter 15 **Seek Justice**

Give us today our daily bread. *Matthew 6:11*

To the Parents:

In chapter 15, your child learned the following:

- Christians are called to tear down the walls that divide people and keep them separate from one another.
- Human beings will be held accountable for what they say and do to others.
- Christians are called to see those in need as their brothers and sisters and to reach out to them.

Christians know that they are loved by a just, compassionate, and merciful God who calls them to love others in the same way. The justice of God goes beyond human justice, which relies on courts of law to determine guilt, innocence, and punishment. God's justice includes compassion and mercy, resulting in pardon, forgiveness, and the chance to try again. Followers of Jesus know that they, too, are agents of God's justice in this world.

The followers of Jesus not only rely on God's justice for themselves, they extend it to others as well. They look with a merciful eye at those who are without rights, and work toward justice for all. Christians know that when they treat others with justice and mercy, they do so in the name of Jesus, who said, "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (*Matthew 25:40*).

With Your Child:

1. Read the parable of the rich man and the beggar (*Luke 17:19-31*) and talk about what can be learned of their reversal of fortune in the afterlife.
2. Recall Jesus' words, "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (*Matthew 25:40*). Talk about the times you may have failed to be kind or compassionate. How can you become a more compassionate person?
3. Make a list of the rights and comforts you enjoy. Say a prayer of thanksgiving for your good fortune. Then say a prayer of hope for those who are less fortunate.
4. Read about Dom Helder Camara on the Review and Explore page.