

Chapter 2 *God's Covenant*

If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments. *Matthew 19:17*

To the Parents:

In chapter 2 your child learned the following:

- To describe how rules can help people live in harmony
- To identify a rule or commandment that is “written on his or her heart”
- To reflect upon the choices he or she is making in his or her life right now
- To suggest practical ways of living out the Ten Commandments

We are designed to live in harmony with God, with nature, and with one another. Original sin was introduced into our world. As the number of human beings grew and multiplied, so did sin and disharmony. In the midst of this wickedness and grief, God remained faithful to the people, continuing to make promises and to demonstrate fidelity. Yet people continued to turn away. Finally, God gave the Ten Commandments to teach us how to live out our relationships with him and with each other.

Finally God sent his only son, Jesus, as the ultimate sign of love. Time and again, Jesus reminds people of the Ten Commandments, God's covenant with us.

Living the commandments is important, but loving God with your whole heart, soul, mind, and strength and loving your neighbor as yourself are constants in keeping the covenant God has made with us.

With Your Child:

1. Talk about the importance of making and keeping promises. Then work to create a symbol of trust between makers of promises. Your symbol should show what trust means to you without using words.
2. Make up a short list of family rules that will help you live as faithful Christians in harmony with God and one another. List your rules under the title *Family Rules for Life*, and post the list where it will serve as a reminder.
3. Together read the story of Saint Rose of Lima on the Review and Explore page.