

## Chapter 9

*Family Love*

Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord.  
*Colossians 3:20*

**For the Parents:**

In chapter 9 your child learned to:

- Explain how to keep the fourth commandment
- Identify ways to honor the sixth and ninth commandments
- Make decisions that build and deepen family love and faithfulness

Living and working with one's family is not an easy task. Personality conflicts, communication problems, and differences in personal habits abound. These problems are no different from the problems of the Church family. Learning to live with one another's habits and shortcomings is a part of family life. The Colossians were experiencing their own set of problems in the early Church, and Paul challenged them. "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do" (*Colossians 3:12–13*). This recipe for family living is equally challenging for Christian family life today. Putting aside our grievances in favor of forgiveness is a challenging choice. Being patient with a family member who is less than compassionate or gentle can demand all our energy. Yet we called to love one another.

**With Your Child:**

1. Watch two or three television shows with your family. Talk about the ways that they show respect or disrespect for family life.
2. Read about Saint Joseph on the Review and Explore page.