

Chapter 18

The Way

Jesus said, “I am the way and the truth and the life.”

John 14:6

To the Parents:

In chapter 18 your child learned to:

- Describe how Jesus taught a new way to live based on the Beatitudes
- Identify ways to follow the Beatitudes
- Tell how his or her parish community follows the way of Jesus

The good news that Jesus preached confounded many of those who heard his words. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus promised God’s highest rewards not to those whom the world regards as great or successful, but to the meek and humble, to the poor and those who mourn, to the pure of heart, to peacemakers, to those who hunger for righteousness, and to those persecuted for righteousness. The Beatitudes are news indeed, and they have caused believers to reevaluate their priorities. If God intends to reverse the fortunes of the poor and to crown the lowly with eternal bliss, how ought we to live? The Sermon on the Mount raises pointed questions about the way of life that we pursue and proposes a new way that leads to blessedness.

With Your Child:

1. Every family needs to “take inventory” from time to time to see how well they are living according to the teachings of Jesus. Hold a family meeting and agree together on ways to improve your family life. Celebrate the ways in which you are already succeeding with a special meal afterward.
2. Read about Dorothy Day on the Review and Explore page.