

# YEAR 5 - LESSON 7 - FAMILY GUIDE WK. 2



## FAMILIES FORMING DISCIPLES

A FAMILY-FOCUSED APPROACH TO FAITH FORMATION

### CALLED TO LOVE: THE ADVENTURE OF LIFE IN CHRIST

#### TOPIC: New Law Fulfills the Old Law

**Main Concept:** God gave the Ten Commandments to the Israelites to teach them the basics of how to love. They had made a covenant or sacred agreement with God where the Israelites were supposed to keep God's commandments and, in return, God would be their God. He would love and protect them as His own children. However, the Israelites were often unwilling to follow the laws and keep the covenant that they had made with God. But God, who is love, had a wonderful plan!

God would teach all people true love through His own sacrificial love for us! The Father gave us His Son, Jesus, to teach us how to love through His words, His actions, and most powerfully, in the laying down of His life for us! Even more, not only did Jesus teach us to love, but by His love poured out for us, He rescued us from sin and gave us the grace to love God and others (and ourselves). This is the New Law or Law of the Gospel which fulfills the Old Law (the Old Covenant is fulfilled in the New). The New Law is both teaching and grace—the grace of the Holy Spirit that allows us to love one another as Christ has loved us (see CCC, nos. 1966 and 1970). Jesus both teaches and embodies the New Law by His very life.

The New Law—summed up in the commandment to love God and neighbor and to love one another as Christ loved us—is expressed in a special way in Jesus' first public sermon, the Sermon on the Mount, where He expands and fulfills the rules of love that God gave to Moses (the Old Law). He begins this sermon by teaching us the Beatitudes.

#### Your Family At-Home Mission is to:

**Step 1:** As a family, together read and discuss The Sermon on the Mount, [Matthew 5-7](#).

**Step 2:** As a family, together, watch the videos about the Incarnation.

- [Reflection 4: The Incarnation and Birth](#)
- [Who Is Jesus? | Catholic Central](#)
- [Why Did God Take On Our Humanity? | Ascension Presents](#)

**Step 3:** Review the 40 Easy Lenten Traditions for Families by Catholic Icing links below and as a family decide how you will live the Lenten Season together. What will you do? Consider the three Lenten Pillars of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving as you ask God how He wants your family to prepare your hearts for Jesus. Be prepared to share your plan at the Week 3 gathering.

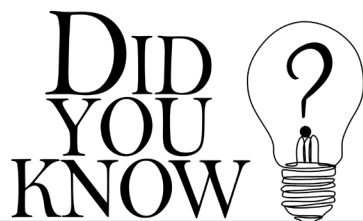
#### [40 Easy Lenten Traditions For Families by Catholic Icing](#)

- [Sacrifice Beans](#)
- [Sacrifice Beans Printable](#)

**Step 4:** Gather as a family around your home altar and pray a [Divine Mercy Chaplet](#).

or

Watch and pray with: [Divine Mercy Chaplet by The Catholic Crusade](#)



## *The New Law is a law of love, grace, and freedom!*

“The New Law is called a *law of love* because it makes us act out of the love infused by the Holy Spirit, rather than from fear; a *law of grace*, because it confers the strength of grace to act, by means of faith and the sacraments; a *law of freedom*, because it sets us free from the ritual and juridical observances of the Old Law, inclines us to act spontaneously by the prompting of charity and, finally, lets us pass from the condition of a servant who ‘does not know what his master is doing’ to that of a friend of Christ – ‘For all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you’ – or even to the status of son and heir.”  
(CCC, no. 1972)

