

Real+True

PILLAR III

UNIT 35 GUIDE

OVERVIEW

The *Catechism* is not a textbook, a collection of ideas, or a set of rules. Rather, the *Catechism* is the faithful echo of a God who wishes to reveal himself to us and desires us to respond. Our mission is to hand down and pass along the gift of our faith by creating beautiful, captivating, and relevant content inspired by the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. And we are making this content in multiple languages and accessible for free to people all over the world.

The content, structure, and methodology of Real + True takes inspiration and direction from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and sound, evangelizing catechesis. Catechesis is inextricably intertwined with evangelization, and its primary aim is to put people into intimacy and communion with Jesus Christ. (Catechesi Tradendae, 5)

The word “catechesis” comes from the Greek word that means “to echo”. This simple guide is designed to help you understand the structure of our content and better use it to echo the teachings of Jesus yourself. The structure takes inspiration from the catechetical methodology, the pedagogy of the *Catechism*, and the pedagogy of God.

THERE ARE FOUR PARTS TO THE CATECHISM. THE FOUR PARTS, OR PILLARS, ARE:

- The Profession of Faith (Pillar I)
- The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Pillar II)
- Life in Christ (Pillar III)
- Christian Prayer (Pillar IV)

Each pillar is divided into 12 units. In total, this project will include 48 units that will cover the entire *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC). Every month, a new unit will be published.

The twelve units for pillar three and the paragraphs of the *Catechism* they cover are:

- UNIT 25** The Vocation to Beatitude and Dignity of the Human Person (1699-1729)
- UNIT 26** Freedom, morality, and conscience (1730-1802)
- UNIT 27** Sin, Virtues, and The Human Community (1803-1948)
- UNIT 28** Salvation: Sin, Law, and Grace (1949-2051)
- UNIT 29** The Commandments (2052-2082)
- UNIT 30** The Beatitudes (1716-1729)
- UNIT 31** Commandments 1-3 (2083-2195)
- UNIT 32** Commandment 4 (2196-2257)
- UNIT 33** Commandment 5 (2258-2330)
- UNIT 34** Commandment 6 and 9 (2331-2400, 2514-2533)
- UNIT 35** Commandment 7 and 10 (2401-2463, 2534-2557)
- UNIT 36** Commandment 8 (2464-2513)

EACH UNIT THEN CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING VIDEOS:

Proclamation

Explanation

Connection

There are a few characteristics of the *Catechism's* approach and structure that are worth mentioning. The *Catechism* is trinitarian, meaning we view all of the faith through the lens of the Trinity. The *Catechism* is also christocentric, meaning its focus or center is Jesus. The *Catechism* is kerygmatic, meaning it is animated by the saving message of Jesus Christ, the Good News. The *Catechism* has a missionary dimension, meaning it does not presume faith in those that would read it but seeks to evangelize through its presentation of the faith. And the *Catechism* is systematic, progressive, and organic, meaning the structure itself is a catechesis. The structure for each unit was developed using these characteristics and the Ecclesial Method, proposed by Msgr. Francis Kelley (author of *The Mystery We Proclaim*).

While each video is designed to be able to stand on its own, there is some benefit in watching them in order, and they do build on each other.

Proclamation Video

The first video is meant to rouse the spiritual curiosity that allows us to be prepared to hear the Gospel message. These videos explore the world and our human experience, and the hope is that these videos will be especially attractive to those who might be less interested in a video that directly addresses the doctrines of the faith.

Explanation Video

The second video breaks open the content of the passage of the *Catechism* being addressed in the unit. This video is much more straightforward and is guided by a discussion back and forth between two voices who are exploring the truths of the faith.

Connection Video

The connection video is meant to be a real-life application of the passage from the *Catechism*, and answer common questions related to this unit's content. The tone of these videos are often playful, and it is meant to connect with the audience on a more practical level that is relevant to their lives.

Real+True

UNIT 35: COMMANDMENT 7 AND 10 | CCC 2401-2463, 2534-2557

THESIS: WE SHOULD TREAT CREATED THINGS AS A GIFT FROM GOD AND RESPECT WITH A PURE HEART HOW GOD DISTRIBUTES HIS GIFTS.

Proclamation Video: Global Resources and Caring for our Neighbors

Discussion Questions:

- What did you find particularly striking in the video?
- How do you think the scenario of overfishing in the wild pond parallels our everyday use of things we possess or want to possess?
- How should we balance our needs with the needs of others, especially those in economically disadvantaged communities?
- What responsibilities do we have as consumers who view the created world as a gift for all people? How can our choices make a difference?
- How does the concept of stewardship influence our understanding of our role in protecting and managing the environment?
- What are some practical steps we can take in our daily lives to ensure we are not contributing to the unjust distribution of resources? How can we advocate for more equitable practices?
- In what ways does the issue of overfishing challenge our understanding of the purpose of creation and our place in it? How should our faith shape our pursuit to meet our needs materially or otherwise?
- How can we foster a deeper sense of solidarity and empathy for communities worse off than us? What role does our faith play in this?

Explanation Video: Stealing, Coveting, and God's Plan for Creation

Discussion Questions:

- What stood out to you from the video?
- How does the idea that everything ultimately belongs to God influence the way we view and use material possessions in our daily lives?
- In what ways can we cultivate an attitude of “poverty of heart” as Jesus taught, and how might this impact our relationship with material goods and our neighbors?
- How do the seventh and tenth commandments challenge you to rethink your desires and attitudes toward the possessions of others?
- What practical steps can we take in our daily lives to ensure our use of resources and possessions reflects justice and charity, as described in the catechism?
- How can we balance our legitimate needs with the needs of others, particularly in a consumer-driven society that often promotes individualism and materialism?
- How does the concept of detachment from riches resonate with you personally, and what challenges do you face in striving for this disposition of the heart?
- In what ways can a Christian community support each one another in practicing trust in God's provision and avoiding envy or greed?
- Imagine a community of people, like a neighborhood or city, where everyone prioritized one another's needs instead of their own. What would it be like to live in a community like this?
- How can we better appreciate and respect creation as a common gift from God and ourselves as temporary stewards of creation?

Connection Video: Overcoming Social Media Envy: Lessons from the Tenth Commandment

Discussion Questions:

- What was something that struck you in the video?
- How does the concept of coveting relate to our experiences with social media and the feelings it can evoke in us?
- In what ways can recognizing our desires help us understand when they become disordered or harmful to our relationships with others?
- How do you personally handle feelings of envy or jealousy when you see others with things you want? What have you found to be effective?
- How can practicing humility and charity help us combat envy and coveting in our daily lives?
- What role does social media or our daily situational context play in shaping our desires and how can we use it more mindfully to avoid falling into the trap of coveting?
- How can we foster an attitude of gratitude and contentment with what we have, while still aspiring for personal growth and improvement in a way that honors God?
- What practical steps can we take to ensure our desires align with God's teachings and contribute to healthy relationships with our neighbors?
- What signs would you expect to notice in your life if you were pursuing material goods in a way that was unhealthy or sinful? What other areas of life would suffer as a result of disordered desire for material goods?
- How can prayer, such as the Litany of Humility, help us purify our hearts and develop the right attitude towards God, our neighbors, and the created world? Are there any parts of this prayer that stand out as difficult to pray and mean with your heart?

General Recommendations

FRIENDS AND FAMILIES:

These videos are great discussion starters with coworkers, family members, and friends. You can easily share one over social media or by text. Say a prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to inspire you and guide you on who to send a video to. Follow up later by asking what they thought of the video and if there were any thoughts or questions it stirred up. Practice spiritual accompaniment by using active listening and refraining from correcting or teaching.

PARISH SETTINGS, SCHOOLS, YOUTH, YOUNG ADULT, AND COLLEGE CAMPUS MINISTRY:

These videos work great as a series for social media posts or email newsletters. Be sure to include a link for people to dive deeper into the rest of the content. In more formal catechetical settings, these videos are best used as supplemental discussion starters, or to recap a lesson. Try using these to open a lesson and dive right into reactions and discussion. For younger students, or those who are not active disciples, try the proclamation videos as a way into the content. For those who might be new or active disciples, try using the proclamation, explanation, and connection videos.

CATECHISTS:

The *Catechism's* structure is itself a teaching. And the method and content of these videos is a great way to discuss with catechists how to effectively accomplish an “evangelizing catechesis”. By watching the unit videos together while reading the *Catechism* paragraphs, you can then discuss with your catechists what they noticed about how the content is presented. What was highlighted, and what was left out? What does this video have to do with Jesus and our relationship with him? How is this video trying to lead people into a deeper curiosity and openness to the *Catechism's* content? The podcast episode of each unit often dives into this “behind the scenes” approach and can be useful for catechists and catechist training.

We hope and pray that these videos will find people who are curious about what the Church teaches and about Jesus. We pray that the proclamation videos rouse a spiritual curiosity about the world and what it means to be human. We pray the explanation and connection videos would present the contents of our faith in a way that is relevant to their lives, perhaps in a way they've never heard before. We hope that many may find these videos to be useful conversation starters to journey with others who are spiritually curious or seeking truth.

We also hope and pray that Real + True helps others rediscover the “pulsating heart of the *Catechism*,” as Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa stated in his sermon on the *Catechism* to the papal household, a heart that has a face and a name – Jesus Christ.

Visit realtrue.org for more videos and resources.