

Real+True

PILLAR III

UNIT 36 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.

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UNIT 36: COMMANDMENT 8 | CCC 2464-2513

THESIS: GOD, WHO IS TRUTH, MADE US FOR TRUTH
AND TO BE IN RELATIONSHIPS BUILT UPON TRUST.

Proclamation Video: What is “truth” and what does it mean to be honest today?

Discussion Questions:

- What did you find particularly striking in the video?
- How would you define truth? How has your understanding of truth evolved over time?
- In what ways do you think the statement “It all depends on what your definition of ‘is’ is” reflects the complexity of communication, truth, and relationships?
- How important is honesty in relationships, and what role does trust play in maintaining relationships?
- Can you think of a time when a misunderstanding about what is true caused conflict in your life? How was it resolved?
- How do you balance the need for honesty with the potential consequences of telling the truth in difficult situations?
- What are some practical steps you can take to ensure that your words and actions align with the truth in your daily life?
- How do the philosophical, legal, and scientific descriptions of truth align or differ from your understanding of truth and honesty?
- How can your faith and the teachings of the Catholic Church guide you in navigating complex issues related to truth and trust in your relationships?

Explanation Video: Learn to Tell the Truth: The Eighth Commandment and Honesty in Relationships

Discussion Questions:

- What stood out to you from the video?
- How does Pilate’s question, “What is truth?” resonate with your own experiences in seeking and understanding truth in your life? Can you relate to the difficulty he faced in this situation?
- In what ways do you think our society’s relationship with truth has changed in the digital age of social media, news, politics, and information?
- How can we strive to live out the eighth commandment in our daily interactions and communications with other people?
- Reflect on a time when telling the truth was particularly difficult for you. What guided your decision, and what were the outcomes?
- How do small lies or “white lies” impact our ability to be truthful in more significant situations? Can you think of examples from your own life?
- What steps can we take to ensure that our speech always reflects respect for others’ reputations and avoids gossip, calumny, or slander?
- How can we cultivate a deeper trust in God’s truth and His revelation through Jesus and the teachings of the Catholic Church?
- What role does humility play in our ability to accept and live out the truth, especially when it

challenges our comfort or preconceived notions?

- How can we better appreciate and respect creation as a common gift from God and ourselves as temporary stewards of creation?

Connection Video: Social Media, Bragging, and Truth

Discussion Questions:

- What was something that struck you in the video?
- How do you think social media influences our perception of truth and honesty in our relationships?
- In what ways do you find yourself tempted to present a different version of your life on social media than what is true? How do you handle this temptation?
- How can we apply the principles of the eighth commandment in our daily interactions, both online and offline?
- Have you ever experienced a situation where a misunderstanding on social media caused real-life consequences? How did you resolve it?
- What are some practical steps we can take to ensure that our words and actions align with the truth, especially in the digital age?
- How does the idea of respecting others' reputations influence the way you share information about them? Can you think of examples where this was challenging?
- How can we foster a deeper sense of self-worth and confidence that is not dependent on social media validation?
- What role does prayer and spiritual discipline play in helping us live out the truth in our everyday lives?

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.