

The Virtue Chronicles

Obedience

www.casciabooks.com

Fourth Commandment - First Part

St. Paul the Simple's Obedience

In days long gone by, there lived in the desert with the great St. Antony a holy but simple monk called Paul. Whatever his Superior told him to do, he did at once without ever asking the reason of the command.

St. Antony, knowing that obedience is one of the virtues most pleasing to God, and seeing his disciple anxious to practise it, resolved to exercise him continually in it, that he might gain more and more merit for Heaven.

Sometimes he told him to take a pitcher, go to the river, and fill it with water, then bring it to him. When this was done, he poured it on the ground and told him to go for more. Paul did this with the greatest pleasure, and without showing any sign of being annoyed at what his Superior had done.

At other times he told him to make a basket, as the monks of those days were in the habit of doing. Paul made it with the greatest care, and brought it to St. Antony. As soon as he looked at it, he told his disciple to take it all to pieces, and make it over again. Paul did so, joyfully, without saying a word.

Again, St. Antony ordered him to make a coat out of some cloth that had been given him. Paul made the coat very neatly and carefully, and brought it to the Saint, who said to him: "My son, the coat is well made, but just go back to your cell, and take out every stitch you have put in one by one, and make it over again." Paul did so at once without murmuring.

It was in this way that he reached the great glory he is now enjoying in Heaven.

"Children, obey your parents in all things for this is well pleasing to the Lord." ~ Colossians 3:20

Word Search

O	B	E	D	I	E	N	C	E	R	H	Z
U	D	G	I	U	N	K	I	N	D	E	G
C	D	S	S	G	E	Y	T	N	T	D	H
H	I	S	R	H	T	D	I	A	G	E	G
I	S	D	E	H	R	S	Z	J	D	H	F
L	O	D	S	P	A	R	E	N	T	S	S
D	B	Z	P	J	T	E	N	E	J	D	F
R	E	J	E	D	H	S	R	J	F	H	F
E	Y	J	C	T	U	P	Z	G	R	H	F
N	D	H	T	H	R	E	D	H	R	H	D
K	H	G	D	F	G	C	R	J	Y	D	V
S	Y	F	H	R	B	T	T	H	S	E	G

~ Answers are on the last page ~

Word Bank

Obedience	Unkind
Children	Citizen
Disrespect	Parents
Disobey	Respect

Reward of Obedience

There was once a king who needed a servant that would always do just what he was told to do.

He sent out word that he wanted a man to work for him in his garden. More than a dozen came, from among whom he chose two who seemed to be the brightest and smartest.

These he took to the garden, and showing them a large basket, told them to fill it with water from a well nearby.

After they had begun their work, he left them saying, "When the sun is down I will return, and if I find that you have worked well, I will pay you."

For a little while, the two men carried water from the well and poured it into the basket, without thinking much about it.

But at last one of them said, "What's the use of doing this foolish work? We can never fill the basket, for the water runs out of it as fast as we pour it in."

"That is none of our business," said the other man. "The king has hired us to do this work, and he must know why he wants it done. If we do it well, we shall be paid for it. What more could we want?"

"You may do as you please," said the first man, "but as for me, I am not going to waste my time at anything so foolish, even for pay." And with that, he threw down his bucket and went away.

The other man said not a word, but kept at his work all day long. At sunset the well was almost empty.

As he poured the last bucketful of water into the basket, he saw a beautiful gold ring which he had dipped up from the bottom of the well.

“Now I see the use of all this work,” said he to himself. “Had the water been poured on the soft, muddy ground, and not into the basket, the ring might never have been found.”

Just then the king came up with some of his officers. As soon as he saw the ring, he knew he had found the kind of man he wanted.

“Keep the ring in payment of your day’s work,” said the king to him. “And since you have done so well in this one little thing, I know I can trust you with many things. You shall have a place in my palace, and be in charge of all my servants.”

“But Peter and the Apostles answering, said: We ought to obey God rather than man.” ~ Acts 5:29

“My son, hear the instruction of your father, and forsake not the law of your mother.” ~ Proverbs 1:8

Memorize these Bible Verses!

“He that curseth his father or mother shall die the death.” ~ Exodus 21:17

“He that afflicteth his father, and chaseth away his mother, is infamous and unhappy.” ~ Proverbs 19:16

“He that curseth his father, and mother, his lamp shall be put out in the midst of darkness.” ~ Proverbs 20:20

“The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth the labor of his mother in bearing him, let the ravens of the brooks pick it up and the young eagles eat it.” ~ Proverbs 30:17

244. Catechism Question:

What duty have parents toward their children?

Parents must provide for the spiritual and bodily welfare of their children.

“Because I saw My Mother Do It”

It was from his pious mother that St. Aloysius learned to pronounce the holy Names of Jesus and Mary as soon as he was able to speak, and to make the Sign of the Cross.

When he was about five years old he was often to be seen kneeling in some lonely place in his father’s house saying his prayers with great devotion. And when he was asked why he did this, he used to answer: “Because I saw my mother do it.”

He loved the holy Mother of God very tenderly, and was accustomed to say special prayers in her honour every morning and evening, and often during the day. He also would speak to others about her, and revered the holy images and pictures that represented her; but above all things else he always tried to do that which he thought would please her most.

St. Aloysius became a great Saint; but under God he owed his sanctity to the beautiful example and exhortations of his pious mother.

“And you, fathers, provoke not your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and correction of the Lord.” ~ Ephesians 6:4

Memory Gems

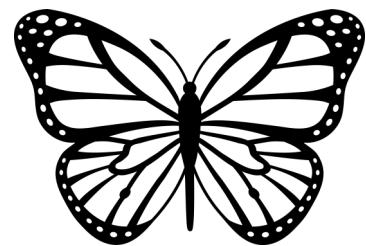
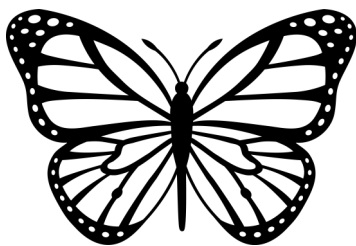
To do what we are told, for love of Jesus,
makes us very pleasing to God. ~ St. John
Bosco

It is not hard to obey when we love the one
whom we obey. ~ St. Ignatius

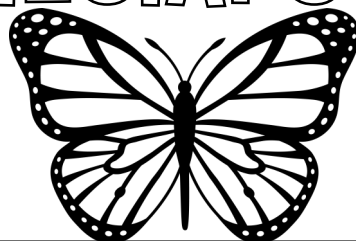
I know the power obedience has of making things easy which seem impossible. ~ St. Teresa

[illegible]

CHILDREN, OBEY YOUR
PARENTS IN THE LORD
FOR THIS IS JUST.. THAT
IT MAY BE WELL WITH
THEE, AND THOU MAYEST
BE LONG-LIVED UPON THE
EARTH.



EPHESIANS 6:1,3



Egbert, the Stupid Engineer

Sermon for The Octave of Epiphany

The Gospel this morning gives us a picture of perfect home life. "He went down to Nazareth and was subject to them." There is a big difference between a house and a home. We speak of going to someone else's house but we call the house in which we live a "home." Our love for our parents and theirs for us; our loved for our brothers and sisters and theirs for us makes a house become a home.

The secret of a happy home lies in the obedience of the children. Why must we obey? For the simple reason that our parents are placed over us by God. They know more than we do and have a right to command.

On an ocean-steamer, there was once an engineer by the name of Egbert. Egbert's job was to stay in the engine room of the ship and obey the orders that were signaled down to him from the captain on the bridge. Egbert had made the trip across the ocean so many times that he knew what the signals would be before they came. The captain would ring down "Full Steam Ahead," and Egbert would obey. "Hard to Starboard," and Egbert would obey again.

One day, Egbert sat thinking and saying to himself, "Nobody appreciates me on this ship. I'm really the most important man on it but the captain up there in his gold braid likes to ring bells and show off. He knows I am buried down here in the engine room and cannot see where we are going so he rings bells all day long to make me unhappy. It is all part of a vast plot to keep me from enjoying myself."

Deep in his thoughts, Egbert began to think of himself as more and more important. Then the bell rang, "Hard Astern."

“You see what I mean,” continued Egbert, “I’ve been an engineer for thirty years and I’ve crossed the ocean hundreds of times. This is the first time anyone told me to go backwards in the middle of the ocean. That captain is just being bossy.”

So instead of going backward, Egbert went forward twice as fast. When they collided with another ship, Egbert wasn't seen or heard of again.

When our parents ask us to obey, we are like the man in the engine room of the ship. We can't see where we are going. We don't know why the command is given, but our parents know and we must obey. They were children themselves once and they know what is good for us. When you feel like rebelling and saying, “They don't know what they are talking about,” just remember - don't be an Egbert.

Home is the place where we are treated best and yet we grumble most. Children will grumble for almost any reason at all. Just like Egbert, the stupid engineer. If our home is to be peaceful like the house at Nazareth, we too must be like Christ and be subject, be obedient. Perhaps this motto will help you:

“Christ is the unseen head of the house,

The welcome guest at every meal,

And the silent listener to every conversation.”



242. Catechism Question

What are we commanded by the fourth commandment?

By the fourth commandment we are commanded to respect and love our parents, to obey them in all that is not sinful, and to help them when they are in need.

The Four Degrees of Glory

One of the ancient Fathers in the desert had a vision of Heaven. He saw there, as it were, four different companies of Saints placed one above the other in glory.

The lowest group was composed of those who, while on earth, had been afflicted with sickness and bodily infirmities, and had borne them patiently for God's sake. The second group consisted of those who had in this life been kind to strangers and the poor, and had spent their lives in acts of charity towards their neighbour. In the third group were those holy solitaries who for Christ's sake had left the world to seek only the kingdom of God by a life of prayer and penance. All these were enjoying great happiness in God's holy presence.

But the fourth group was still more glorious; and those who composed it seemed to possess even a greater happiness than the others.

The solitary asked the angel who showed him these things who those were who formed that glorious company.

"Those whom you see so high up and so beautiful," answered the angel, "are those who, when in the world, had been obedient. The others served God well, therefore they are now enjoying the reward of their fidelity. But in their good works there was much that was agreeable to themselves. But those who were obedient renounced their own will to submit themselves to the will of others whom God had placed over them, and for this God has bestowed on them a higher degree of glory."

Learn, then, from this example how agreeable to God is an obedient child.

III. We Must Never be Ashamed of our Parents

We must never be ashamed of our parents. Sometimes poverty is their lot in life; such has been for them the holy will of God. If a child has, by God's goodness and his own natural talents, risen higher in the world than the position in which he was born, he must always remember that that does not dispense him from the duty of honouring and obeying his parents who may be still poor and humble.

One Who Was Ashamed of his Father

During the course of the last century, there was a celebrated poet who was the son of a poor man, and who had risen to the high renown he had obtained because his father had laboured hard by the sweat of his brow to give him a good education.

When he was at the height of his renown, it happened that a certain nobleman desired to introduce him into the highest society of Paris. For this purpose he invited him to his mansion, and when the guests were assembled, the young poet found himself among the chief of the aristocracy of the capital.

The humble father of the poet, hearing of the great honour that was to be bestowed on his son, asked to be permitted to be present on the occasion. This permission was willingly granted.

While the poet was declaiming his verses, his father's heart was filled with the most profound emotion, and with pardonable pride, as he heard the applause of the audience. When the poem was concluded, the room in which they were assembled rang with the shouts of admiration that burst forth from their lips. In the midst of it, the old man rose up at the further end of the hall, and, approaching his son, cried out: "Ah, my son, my son, how happy you have made me this day!"

But the youth, instead of coming forward like a dutiful son, and welcoming his father, turned away his head, as if he did not know who he was, his face at the same time becoming scarlet with shame as he saw his father standing before him, clothed in plain garments in the midst of such a brilliant assembly.

In an instant the audience took in the meaning of what they saw. Their shouts of applause immediately ceased, and cries of indignation took their place. They, with one accord, turned away in disgust from the undutiful son, saying: "What a pity it is that one who is gifted with such great talents should be such a bad son!"

"Of Course, God is Everywhere!"

Henry was only a little boy. But he was made of real boy stuff; and boy stuff, you know, is the stuff that boy saints are made of. So whenever Henry was asked by his companions who wished to tease him or by older people who did not pray enough to have God always in their hearts, "Do you really think God is watching you now?" he would answer quickly and manfully, "Of course, God is everywhere."

Yes; God is everywhere. He sees everything we do. When Bernard hid in a dark place to do something bad he thought nobody saw him. But God saw him. So did his Guardian Angel.

Now, one day James and John were playing together, when James asked John to do something wicked. John did not want to; he knew it was wrong. But James kept urging him until at last he was about to give in. Just then he raised his eyes and saw his mother watching them from a nearby window. "I can't," he whispered to James. "Mother is watching me."

Henry was not like Bernard, nor like James, nor like John. He knew that God was looking at him always; so he never did anything he would not have liked God to see. He was made of real boy

stuff, you know.

One day Henry was in church with the other children. He knew that God was there as everywhere, and that He was there in a different way, too, in the Blessed Sacrament, as God and man, under the appearances of the little white Host, looking right at him from the tabernacle. So one day when some other boys made fun in that holy place and whispered to him, he would not join them one bit, but just kept his hands nicely folded and prayed to Jesus to make him a good boy.

Now, who can tell me which was the right kind of a boy, Henry, Bernard, James, or John?



NCE there was a robin,
Lived outside the door,
Who wanted to go inside
And hop upon the floor.

"OH, no," said the mother,
"You must stay with me;
Little birds are safest
Sitting in a tree."

"I don't care," said Robin,
And gave his tail a fling,
"I don't think the old folks
Know quite everything."

Down he flew and kitty seized him,
Before he'd time to wink.
"Oh," he cried, "I'm sorry,
But I didn't think."

Phoebe Cary

Unscramble the Words!

1. BEYO

2. RTECSEP

3. IORSREPUS

4. TIZNICE

5. TYRUONC

6. RATEPSN

7. RCHNLDIE

8. ONHRO

9. VLOE



Word Bank:

1. Love

2. Obey

3. Honor

4. Respect

5. Children

6. Superiors

7. Parents

8. Citizen

9. Country

~ Answers are on the last page ~

IV. We must Pray for our Parents' Welfare

The great duty of a good child is to pray for his parents, not only when they are good and pious, but also when they are not pleasing God. How many parents are daily kept from evil by the prayers of their little ones; and how many, also, who have gone astray have been brought back to the path of piety because their children had prayed fervently for them!

Charles and Lina

Charles and Lina were the children of virtuous parents, who had taught them from their tenderest infancy to love God and always please Him. As was natural, they also had the greatest love for their father and mother, and showed this love by their obedience to every order they received from them.

Now it happened that they had also a great love for their lesson. They were so anxious to learn that they would often leave their breakfast half done that they might have more time for them.

But a change suddenly came over them. Instead of going at once to their lessons after breakfast, they went into the garden, and it was only after they had been there some time that they began to study them. At first their parents were afraid lest they had become careless about them. Their father often asked them what they were doing every morning in the garden, but the only answer they made was to hang down their heads and say nothing.

Their mother made up her mind one day to watch them; so, as soon as they went into the garden, she followed them at a little distance, so as not to be seen by them. She saw them go towards a shady place among the trees, where there was a little summer house, into which they entered. She watched them from a little distance, and was surprised and gratified to see them fall on their

knees and begin to pray. And as they prayed aloud, thinking that no one was near them, she was able to hear all they said.

Charles said aloud the following prayer, and Lina repeated it after him word for word: "O dearest Jesus Who, when on earth didst love Thine own blessed Mother Mary, remember that we have a mother, too, whom we love, and a dear father also. Now, we have come here to ask Thee to make them live a very long time with us, and to make them always happy, and to make us good children, that we may never give them cause to be unhappy. Amen."

The mother at once escaped from her hiding-place, and ran in tears of joy to tell her husband what she had heard and seen. They were both brimful of happiness. "Oh, what a pleasure it is to see these children so good!" they said. "We are indeed amply rewarded this day for all the trouble we have spent upon them."

The Good Mother

Mrs. Vianney, the mother of the venerable Cure of Ars, always kept before her mind that her children belonged to God more than herself, and that they were all His children; hence she taught them from their very infancy how to love and serve Him, their Heavenly Father.

Every morning she herself went to the room where they slept to awaken them, that she might see that they offered their hearts to God, and be sure that the first thought and the first action of the day were for Him.

"You were very happy," said one of his friends to him, in after-years, "to have had so early a love of prayer."

He answered: "After God, it was the work of my dear mother; she was so good. Virtue passes from the heart of a mother to the

hearts of her children, who do willingly what they see her do.”

Fourth Commandment - Second Part

II. Parents must set a Good Example

Leon Dupont and his Daughter

Henrietta, the daughter of Mr. Dupont, was born in the year 1832; her happy death took place in 1847, and this is the account of it.

This young girl, aged only fifteen, was all that the most loving heart of her father could desire: she united to the gifts of nature that most angelic piety, and was a living picture of her mother, beautiful and tall, though delicate in health. Gifted with an intelligence beyond her years, she enchanted all who approached her by the nobleness of her mind and her candid graces.

Her father loved her, but with the affection of a Christian parent. One day during a visit to Paris, Henrietta showed all at once a desire for those worldly spectacles she saw there, and expressed her regret at having been hitherto deprived of them. It had been in that pious heart only a passing cloud, but the watchful eye of her father had perceived it, and he became afraid.

“My God,” said he in prayer, “if Thou forseest that she should one day wander from the right path, I consent that Thou shouldst take her, rather than see her abandon herself to the vanities of the world.”

It seemed as though God had accepted this heroic offering, made with the faith of Abraham, for shortly afterwards the young lady was suddenly seized with typhoid fever, which neither the tender affection of those who nursed her, nor the skill of physicians was able to master. In five days she died.

During those days of agony Mr. Dupont showed himself the generous and faithful Christian; he offered anew his daughter to God, liking better to give her to Him than see her exposed to the dangers of the world. When all hope of her recovery had vanished, he prepared her himself for the passage into eternity, exhorting her to the last moment, speaking to her of Heaven with a pious enthusiasm, making her the bearer, by a kind of paternal authority before God, of his orders and recommendations in the name of his friends, and of the persons of his household.

Dr. Bretonneau, who had attended her during her illness, was present when she breathed her last. Her father, turning towards him with a celestial expression on his countenance which no earthly words could describe, said: "Doctor, my daughter has just seen God," and he recited the *Magnificat*.

If you're told to do a thing,
And mean to do it really;
Never let it be by halves;
Do it freely, fully.

Do not make a poor excuse,
Waiting, weak, unsteady,
All obedience worth the name
Must be prompt and ready.

Phoebe Cary

Obedience to Parents

God gave us commandments in order that we may know what we must do to please Him and to gain heaven. One of these commandments is of very special importance to children. This is the Fourth Commandment which tells us to honour our fathers and mothers. God has given you to your parents that they may teach you to know and love God and do His Holy Will. Parents receive their right to command from God and they must answer to Him for the souls of their children. God Himself does not tell each one of you what He desires you to do, but He wishes you to be guided by your parents. When you obey mother and father you are doing the Will of God, and God will reward you for it. Children who love, honour and obey their parents receive special blessings from God.

HOW CHILDREN SHOULD OBEY

To be always and everywhere obedient is not easy. Children often find it very hard to do as they are told to do. Some children obey, it is true, but they do so only because they look for a reward or fear a punishment. This is not the right way to obey. When you obey, you must remember that your parents know what is best for you. Many times you do not understand why you are not allowed to do this or that, or why you should do something you do not like to do. If you had minded when mother warned you not to overheat yourself by running so fast, you would not have caught that cold. If you had listened when mother forbade you to play with that knife or those scissors, you would not have cut your finger. Children do not know what is best for them, but father and mother are older and they have learned many things. You are still very young and must let yourselves be guided by others. Your parents will not expect you to do anything that will be harmful to you. You are therefore quite safe when you obey them. Obey them willingly, promptly, and cheerfully. You obey willingly when you show by

your manner that you are pleased to do what father and mother wish you to do. By obeying promptly, I mean doing at once what you have been told to do. You obey cheerfully when you do gladly what has been asked of you. This is not always easy. But a child that is anxious to please father and mother will try to obey in this manner. Such a child will be very pleasing to Jesus and His Blessed Mother.

THE EXAMPLE OF CHRIST

There are many children, and some grown people, too, who find it very hard to do what others tell them. They think that they need not obey others. They are very much mistaken. Every one must obey; no one is free to do exactly as he wishes. The best example of obedience is found in the life of the Child Jesus. Jesus obeyed Mary and Joseph in everything. Jesus was God and He knew how to do everything in the best way. Yet He never did anything against the wishes of His parents. Always keep the example of the Holy Child before you, especially when you are commanded to do things you do not like to do.

If you want to please the Child Jesus and to follow His example, you will obey father and mother, willingly, promptly, and cheerfully. If you want to obey like Jesus, you must not cry, or pout, or stamp your feet when you are told to watch the baby, or help mother in some other way, but you will go at once and do what you have been asked to do. Some day you will be very glad that you helped your mother by watching the baby and doing all those things mother wanted you to do. You will make father and mother proud of you. Above all, Jesus will be pleased with you. He will give you many graces so that you may grow up to be good men and women, and when you die, He will take you to heaven, where you will be happy with Him forever. And now to show Jesus and His Blessed Mother that you mean to please them by being obedient, make the resolution today to do some of the following things:

Practice:

1. I will obey mother as soon as she calls.
2. I will stop playing at the time mother wants me to stop.

241. Catechism Question

What is the fourth commandment of God?

The fourth commandment of God is: Honour thy father and thy mother.

245. Catechism Question

What are the duties of a citizen toward his country?

A citizen must love his country, be sincerely interested in its welfare, and respect and obey its lawful authority.

My blessed task from day to day,
Is nobly, gladly to obey.

Harriet McEwen Kimball

Instruction on the Virtue of Obedience

He was subject to them (Luke 2:51)

From this all Christians should learn to be obedient to the commandments of God and of the Church. God has united life or death, blessing or malediction with obedience or disobedience to His commandments, and the Bible (I Kings 15:22) show that obedience pleases God more than sacrifices or the fat of rams, and that He despises disobedience as He does witchcraft and idolatry. We must be obedient to the Church, because Christ Himself with His holy Spirit lives in her, and governs her, and has said: Who hears not the Church, let him be to thee a heathen and a publican, therefore, shut out from eternal life. We must be obedient to our parents, because they are placed over us by God, and we are indebted to them, under Him, for life and many benefits. Those children who do not assist their parents when they are old, poor, and helpless, or are ashamed of them, have reason to be afraid, since even Christ Jesus, the God-Man, was obedient and subject in all things to His poor mother, and to a humble carpenter who was only his foster-father. Cursed be he that honoureth not his father and mother (Deut. 27:16); how much more cursed those who despise, deride and abandon their parents? Their eyes will one day be picked out by ravens (Prov. 30:17). If God commanded obstinate and disobedient children to be stoned (Deut. 21:20), what do those not deserve who even strike or abuse their parents?



The Answer that Little Louis Gave

The mother of a little boy, whose name was Louis Bauvais, one day scolded him with much harshness for a fault which he had not been guilty of. When she had gone out of the room, one of the servants, who had witnessed the whole affair, said to the boy: "Why did you allow your mother to treat you in that harsh manner, especially since you were not guilty? It is quite clear that your mother does not care for you."

Louis did not allow himself to fall into the snare that has so often entrapped little children. He answered: "I will never allow you to say one word against my mother. If she has punished me, and spoken harshly to me today, it is because she thought that I deserved it, and that it was for my good."

247 & 250. Catechism Questions

Why must we respect and obey the lawful authority of our country?

We must respect and obey the lawful authority of our country because it comes from God, the Source of all authority.

What does the Fourth Commandment forbid?

The fourth commandment forbids disrespect, unkindness, and disobedience to our parents and lawful superiors.

Problem Questions

1. Did you ever hear a little boy or a little girl call his father by a name that was not nice? Maybe he did not call his father by that name so he could hear it, but you heard it. What would you do?
2. I know a little girl who will not talk to her mother for a long time, even for a whole hour, because mother punished her. What should this girl do to get over her nasty feelings?
3. When you meet your mother on the street, how should you show your respect to her? I think your mother would almost weep if her little boy would run away when he sees her coming, don't you?
4. What do you think of a little girl your age who often says, "Mamma, I love you so much," but always gets pouty when her mother says she should wash dishes or take care of the baby?
5. George is a little boy who thinks he is better than his father. His father says to him: "George, I don't want you to go with Billy Jones any more; he's not the kind of boy I want you to be with." But George knows better and won't take his father's advice and goes with Billy Jones. Do you think George loves his father if he won't listen to him?
6. Mother is sick and very tired. What will you do when you come home from school to show her that you love her?
7. What are some of the jobs you can do at home to show you love your parents?
8. Father says, "You stay home tonight. No movies." Dad and mother go away for the evening and you know it. Joe E. Brown is on just around the corner and you can get back long before your parents come home and they will never know anything about it. Will you go

to that movie? What do you think of one who would go after his father had said this?

9. Mother wants you to eat spinach and drink milk. You don't like it and begin to grumble and get stubborn at the table. You know that is wrong, but you always do it. How can you get over that habit?

10. Mother has told her little girl to watch the baby on the lawn. The fire engine comes by and she runs along, forgetting all about the baby. After an hour she comes back. A little voice had whispered to her after a little while that she is disobedient, but she would not listen. Baby is still safe on the lawn. Should the girl tell her mother what she had done or should she say nothing about it because the baby's all right? What would you do?

11. Sunday afternoon there are services at church. Dad says, "Son, you go to church this afternoon, and then you may go to the park." You run off to church, kneel about two minutes in the back, then run out to the park. Were you obedient?

12. Do you see any rewards God has promised in the Fourth Commandment to children who obey? What are they?

13. You don't like your teacher sometimes, because you think she is cross. You try to tease her by being naughty and when she calls on you, you get saucy. Why must you obey even a teacher whom you do not like?

14. A girl is stubborn because she thinks she did not deserve to be scolded. Even if she didn't deserve it, what else might she do to show the teacher that she is innocent instead of becoming stubborn?

15. To be a good citizen a boy or a girl must always obey the traffic rules; beside running the risk of being hurt, aren't children disobeying at such times if they run their own way as they please? Is

that a sin?

16. You must help keep the streets clean. After school you have banana peelings, paper bags, etc., which you throw into a back street when nobody sees you. What kind of boy might such continued action make you?

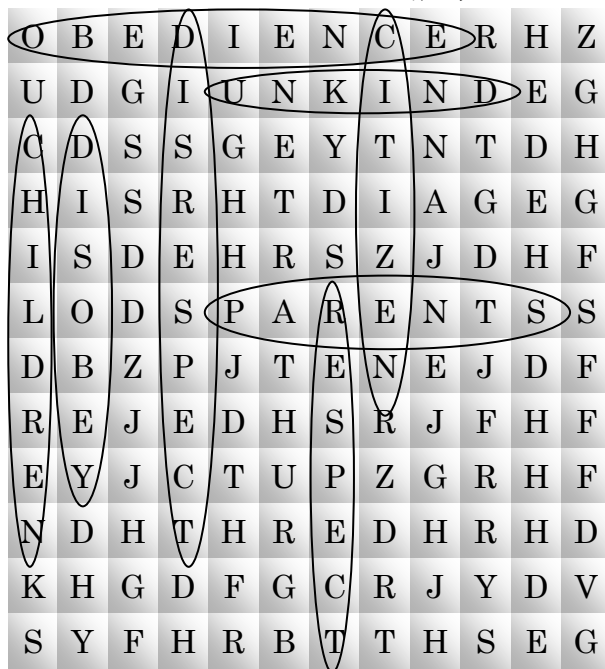
17. You have chicken pox but you play with the neighbour children anyway when their mother and your mother don't see you. Are you disobeying a law?

18. If a boy of your age is usually disobedient, how can he learn to become obedient?

19. I once saw a little boy run out and slam the door when his father refused to let him stay on the street with the other boys until nine o'clock. What should that boy do to make up for this act?

20. You may not take books home from a shelf. You started a story and want to finish it, so you slip the book between your other ones and go off with it, intending to return it in the morning. Is that right?

Answers to 'Word Search' on Page 3:



Answers to 'Unscramble the Words' on Page 16:

1. Obey
2. Respect
3. Superiors
4. Citizen
5. Country
6. Parents
7. Children
8. Honor
9. Love

Bibliography

Stories: "St. Paul the Simple's Obedience", "Because I Saw My Mother Do It", "The Four Degrees of Glory", "One Who Was Ashamed of His Father", "Charles and Lina", "The Good Mother", "Leon Dupont and His Daughter", & "The Answer that Little Louis Gave" from The Catechism in Examples by Reverend D. Chisholm. Imprimatur October 28, 1908.

Story: "Reward of Obedience" from De la Salle Third Reader. No Imprimatur listed.

Story: "Egbert, the Stupid Engineer" from Sunday Morning Storyland by Reverend Wilfrid J. Diamond. Imprimatur November 19, 1945.

Stories: "Of Course, God is Everywhere" and "Obedience To Parents" from Practical Aids for Catholic Teachers by Sister Mary Aurelia and Reverend Felix M. Kirsch. Imprimatur August 18, 1928.

"Instruction on The Virtue of Obedience" from The Church's Year by Reverend Fr. Leonard Goffine. Imprimatur March 26, 1874.

Catechism Questions and Problem Questions from The Highway to God by Edward A. Fitzpatrick. Imprimatur September 19, 1949.