

PARENT / GUARDIAN CONNECTION

SEVENTH GRADE: TOB UNIT 3

THEME: LAW AND LOVE

SOW THE SEED



Dear Parents,

In this Theology of the Body (TOB) unit, your child will discover deep, universal truths in the theme **Law and Love**.

The law of God from the beginning is meant to keep man from harm and death, showing him what is truly good for him and others. It is not a command given at random, but out of God's great love for His children. It is directly connected to the human person's well-being. God's law is intended to preserve harmony and order in creation and prevent broken relationships. Christ our redeemer fulfills the law by restoring what was broken and calls us to be free from the burden of sin and discover true happiness in that original harmony.

In this unit, your child will be reading Psalm 119:89-105 and 172-176 which includes, "I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given me life." Pope St. John Paul II points out that in the Gospel Jesus speaks to the human heart and wants to raise man's focus from the minimum requirements of the law to the richness of a life striving for what is true, good and beautiful.

As the lessons progress, your child will participate in an activity that will reinforce the idea that following a pattern or form (rules and laws) can lead to beauty and creativity, rather than being inhibiting. The law is demanding, because living with a fallen and wounded nature makes it difficult to do what is right. However, Christ gave us his Church and offers himself to us in a new life of grace, giving us the ability to live in a way we couldn't before.

GERMINATE THE SEED



FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

What would our world look like without laws? What laws do you find difficult to follow? When we focus on the love of Jesus, how does this make it easier to follow God's laws? ***(Note to parents: Laws are given to us by God because they are good for us. They provide "guardrails" for our benefit and true freedom (freedom to do the good). Jesus provides the grace and strength to follow God's laws through His Church).**





FAMILY ACTIVITY:

I Command You — Have each family member write on a small piece of paper one of their chores they are responsible for the week saying, “I command you to assist me with _____.” Mix them up and have each person blindly choose a chore (not your own). Your task is to lovingly, without complaining, help your family member with his/her chore this week. At the end of the week, gather together to share your work experience with one another.

FAMILY PRAYER:

My obedient Lord, You obeyed the will of Your Father in heaven to perfection. Through this obedience, You not only experienced the full love and joy of the Father in Your human nature, You also set for us a perfect example and model for holiness. Help me to see the areas of my life in which I need to be more obedient, so that I, too, will share in Your holy life and that of the Father’s. Jesus, I trust in You.

Amen. St. Thomas Aquinas, pray for us!

Want to learn more? Visit RuahWoodsInstitute.org/parents to view a TOB parent presentation.

