

Getting Ready for Chapter 7

Take Home



Jesus Teaches Us How to Love and Care

Jesus taught us how to love through his words and deeds. His teaching stresses the primacy of love for God but explains that the surest sign of this love is caring about one's neighbor. As families, we need to reflect on the ways we can live out the Great Commandment as Jesus taught.

ACTIVITY

Neighbors Near Make a map of your neighborhood. How many neighbors do you know by name? How are people welcomed into your neighborhood? Try to get to know one neighbor you don't already know.

WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

As you approach the altar to receive Eucharist, be aware of your love for God. In what ways is God's love made manifest in your life?

On the Web

www.blestarewe.com



Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

Saint of the Week



María Maravillas de Jesús (1891–1974)

Maria, born in Spain, was devoted to God as a young child. She felt a call to religious life. In 1919, she founded a Carmelite monastery in Spain. It grew very quickly. She was sent to found another monastery in India, and soon, India had more monasteries.

Feast Day: Dec. 11



A Prayer for the Week

Lord, help us to see María Maravillas de Jesús as an example of your love. Help us to love through our words and deeds as she did. Give us the courage to love you by caring for our neighbors. Amen.

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Scripture Background

In the Time of Jesus

Worshippers in the Synagogue During a synagogue service, some Jewish men had special roles. The reader stood at a raised pulpit in the center of the room. The Pharisees and scribes faced the congregation from their special seats in front of the pulpit. The most distinguished scribe sat in a special chair called the “Moses’ seat.” The rest of the Jewish men sat on the benches along the wall or on floor mats. Women were separated from the men by a screen.

While praying in a synagogue in Nazareth, Jesus stood at the pulpit to read from the prophet Isaiah. Read about this in Luke 4:14–22.

OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Education

Schools and Universities Like much of Western culture, notions of higher learning are rooted in ancient Greece. Formal centers of scholarship somewhat akin to the modern university existed at Constantinople (2 A.D.) as well as the Islamic universities in Spain at Cordoba, Salamanca, Alexandria, and Toledo (5th & 6th centuries A.D.). With the decline of the Byzantine and Moorish Empires, however, the medieval Church inherited the idea of the university. Its story begins in 1079 when Pope Gregory VII established the first cathedral schools to educate the clergy. By 1088, some of these schools were organized into the University of Bologna—the first great university.