

**Edge: Thou Shall
(Week of Apr. 25)
On The Fourth Commandment – Be Rooted!**



*“Remember of these parents you were born; what can you give them for all they gave you?”
Sirach 7:28*

GATHER: Family Roots

- Pull out some family photos – especially if you have ones of previous generations. Talk about some of your family ‘roots’ before you begin today’s lesson.

CONNECT: The Fourth Commandment calls us to pay respect to our parents and implicitly to the many authority figures that we come in contact with on a daily basis. We will explore this commandment from three perspectives, the Father’s, the Son’s, & Holy Spirit’s... Respect of family, community, and yourself. Amy takes a look at this in [Respect](#).

EXPLORE: Main Points to Take Away

- God knows that in order for humanity to function properly we need leaders, we need direction, and we need authority figures to help guide us in various activities and help bring order to our lives.
- The first place that God calls us to show respect for authority is in our own families by honoring our parents, or those who have been put in charge of raising us, and respecting them.
- This commandment also extends to showing respect for all of those who have been given a place of authority. We should all work with those in authority to make our communities and countries a better place.

Discussion from Amy’s Proclaim

Sorry/Thank You

Discuss the following questions:

- Do you think that there is one type of authority figure that is the hardest for your age group to respect? Who would that be?
- How do you think it makes an authority figure feel when he or she is disrespected?
- What do you think your generation can do better to respect authority figures?

Take a few minutes to reflect and think about a time in their life when they did not show a person in authority the respect that he or she deserved. This could be a teacher, a parent, an older family member, etc. Then invite the youth to write a letter of apology to this person on the space given at the bottom of page 13.

REFLECT

Intercede for us

There is a form of prayer called intercession. When we ask someone to pray for us, we ask them to pray to God on our behalf. For example, when we ask a friend or family member to pray for us to feel better or for an upcoming test, that is asking them to intercede for us. As Catholics, we can also ask the saints to pray for us; we can even ask Jesus’ mom to pray for us! We do not pray to saints; we simply pray with them and ask them to pray for us. For example, we can ask St. Anthony to pray for us when we lose something or we can ask Mother Mary to pray for a sick family member. The best part about this is that Mary and the saints are already in heaven and can ask Jesus face-to-face to answer our prayers. Intercession is a very powerful form of prayer, and we have so many people who can pray for us!

Close in prayer.

LIVE IT

Be aware and make an effort to thank authority figures in your life this week!