

Chapter 6: God's Chosen People

Even though our communion with God was broken, God promised to love and take care of His people.

Chapter Summary

After the Fall of Adam and Eve, sin began to worsen and spread throughout the world. God sent a flood to cleanse the world of sin and evil. Because Noah was righteous, God saved Noah and his family. After the Flood, God made a covenant with Noah and promised to never destroy the world with a flood again. Eventually, God spoke to one of the descendants of Noah: Abram. Because of Abram's faithfulness, God promised to make of him a great nation, a great name, and many descendants. Abram's descendants would become God's Chosen People. God made a covenant with Abram and changed his name to Abraham. The grandson of Abraham was Israel, who had twelve sons. These sons traveled to Egypt and grew in number. Their families became known as the Israelites.

More for Parents

God makes a covenant with each one of us at our Baptism and calls us to be faithful to Him as part of His family. As parents, it is our responsibility to show our children how to be faithful to God. Notice how Noah and Abraham modeled the faith to their families. They heard God's voice and were obedient to it. Their obedience and faithfulness to God saved them and resulted in God's showering many blessings on their families. Even when they made mistakes, they repented and returned to God. Likewise, we should encourage our children to be faithful to God's covenant, especially when they face challenges, and to repent when they turn away from God in sin. When they see our trust in God, they, too, will trust and respond with faithfulness. When they see our joy as we faithfully obey God, we model what a life of faithfulness looks like. Only faithfulness to God and His covenant will give our families truly happy lives.

Virtue in the Family

Our obedience to God should stem from our love for Him. By following His commandments, praying, and receiving the sacraments, our love for Him and obedience to His will grows. Such obedience to God gives us peace and joy.

Growing in Obedience

- Prayer activity
 - Pray together the following prayer: "Lord, increase my love for You so that I may obey all You ask of me."
- Go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation as a family. Emphasize that God wishes to give His mercy in the sacrament so we can be in communion with Him and that it is there that we receive the grace to be obedient to His loving will in the future.
- As a family, create a list of ways that God has blessed you. Make a place in your home where new blessings can be added as a reminder of God's goodness.
- Lead your family in making three or four short rules for the house that consist of "I will" and "I will nots." Guide and discuss how the rules of the family will lead you all closer to God and one another. Post the rules where they can be easily seen. Recite them once a day together to recommit to obeying them.

Vocabulary Words for Your Children to Review

- **Chosen People**
- **covenant**
- **foreshadow**
- **righteous**

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