

Acknowledging Christ before Others

Name: _____

Read the passage from the Catechism and answer the questions that follow.



Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1816

“The disciple of Christ must not only keep the faith and live on it, but also profess it, confidently bear witness to it, and spread it: ‘All however must be prepared to confess Christ before men and to follow him along the way of the Cross, amidst the persecutions which the Church never lacks.’ Service of and witness to the faith are necessary for salvation: ‘So every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven’ (Mt 10:32–33).”

¹ Lumen Gentium, 42.

What do you think the *Catechism* means when it says that all Christians must witness the faith by following Jesus “along the way of the Cross”?

Answers may vary.

Read Matthew 10:16–24 on page 8 of the Student Text. **What did Jesus mean by saying, “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master” (10:24)?**

Jesus’ followers should expect to receive the same opposition as Jesus did.

Read Matthew 10:26–33 on page 8 of the Student Text. **How does Jesus’ command in verse 27 relate to the paragraph from the *Catechism* above?**

Both tell of the necessity of every disciple of Christ to witness to the faith.

Reread Matthew 10:32–33 in the *Catechism* paragraph on the previous page. **In what situations might you be tempted to deny Christ?**

Answers may vary.

How have Jesus’ teaching and the *Catechism* paragraph above changed how you see your mission to be a witness to others? How will you prepare yourself to live as a witness to the faith throughout your life? Choose one person in your small group to write the group’s responses on the lines below.
