

# FAMILIES FORMING DISCIPLES



## **TOPIC: JESUS THE NEW MOSES, THE RESCUER**

### **FAMILY AT-HOME MISSION ACTIVITY**

We will see at our next gathering that the Israelites did not enter the Promised Land right away. In fact, they wandered in the desert for 40 years. During this time they fasted from a lot of foods, because they could not grow their own food in the desert. They had to eat mainly the manna and quail that God provided for them.

We have been learning about the many ways Moses' life foreshadowed, or left clues about, Jesus' life. Moses and the Israelites were in the desert fasting and learning to pray for forty (40) years, and we read in Matthew 4 that Jesus was led into the desert by the Holy Spirit where He prayed and fasted for forty (40) days. We are disciples of Jesus; therefore we try to learn from and imitate His life. So before we celebrate Easter, we pray, fast and give alms during Lent for forty (40) days too.

Your Family At-Home Mission is to watch the Holy Week videos, review the Holy Week At-Home ideas for the days of Holy Week, continue living your *Family Lenten Plan*, color a Stations of the Cross coloring booklet and pray the Stations of the Cross together as a family. Bring your Stations of the Cross booklet to pray with at our next gathering.

**Step 1:** Watch two or more of the videos below.

For younger children:

- [Palm Sunday and the Passion](#) - for kids (2021) [4:48]
- [The Story of Joshua](#) | Sunday School Lessons | VeggieTales [26:20]

For tweens & teens:

- [Keepin' It Catholic: Holy Week](#) [12:29]
- [Good Friday](#)/ Catholic Central [2:55]

**Step 2:** Review [Holy Week At-Home](#) ideas for the days of Holy Week

**Step 3:** Discuss as a family your practice of the Lenten pillars of praying, fasting and almsgiving. How are you living them out as we get closer to Easter? Or, if the practices are not going as well as planned, consider taking them up again, confident that God is with us and He is always on our side! Remember that perfection to God is not the same as our idea of perfection. Our little Lenten acts may be imperfect, but when we offer them to Jesus with love, He rejoices and transforms them into sacrifices of perfect love.



**Step 4:** Color Stations of the Cross Mini Coloring booklet ([Free printables](#))

(If you have not received a Color Stations of the Cross Mini Coloring booklet from your parish, you can print the booklet from the link above.)

**Step 5:** Gather around your home altar/prayer space as a family. Take a moment to be silent and bring yourselves into God's presence. Pray and meditate on the Stations of the Cross using your booklet. Place your Stations of the Cross booklet on your home altar.

**Step 6:** Remember to bring your Stations of the Cross booklet to Week 3's gathering.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**Jesus and the Law of Moses:** We will be learning about the Ten Commandments at our next gathering. These divine commandments are the foundation of a number of other laws and precepts that make up what is traditionally known as the Mosaic Law or Law of Moses. The Ten Commandments are still essential, as they are divinely revealed and reflect also the natural moral law inscribed into every human heart, but many of the precepts of the Mosaic Law (dietary laws, liturgical precepts, etc.) are no longer binding for Christians. Jesus is the only one who could keep the Law perfectly (see CCC, no. 578). This is another important connection between Moses and Jesus. Moses' receiving of the Law foreshadowed, in ways that could not have been anticipated then, the coming of One who could fulfill the Law perfectly—God Himself, the divine lawgiver. Little did the people of Israel know at the time that God Himself would take upon Himself, in Jesus, the consequences of not following the Law. As the Catechism notes: "Jesus fulfills the Law to the point of taking upon himself 'the curse of the Law' incurred by those who do not 'abide by the things written in the book of the Law, and do them,' for his death took place to redeem them 'from the transgressions under the first covenant.'" Lent and Holy Week are beautiful times to give thanks and praise to our good and merciful Lord, who died for our sake, so that we might have life in Him!

