



Think First & Stay Safe!

"Your decrees are firmly established; holiness belongs to your house, Lord...." PS 93:5

The Authority Lure

Lesson #10

All authority flows from God. It really is as simple as that. It is also something which we easily forget. People misuse their authority frequently. The example of Moses, chosen by God to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, provides a clear picture of this. Nothing Moses does in the story comes from his own authority.

The staff as symbol comes to us from Exodus. God uses Moses' staff "changed into a serpent and back" as a sign for the Israelites of Moses' God-given authority. Moses takes his staff and performs signs with it. Uniforms and badges, today, provide us with visible evidence of the wearer's connections with authority.

The Prayers of the Faithful usually contain petitions which ask God to guide those in authority, civil and Church. Whether or not we realize it when we pray, by doing this, we are acknowledging the origin of both civil and Church authority in God.



The Authority Lure

Lesson Plan #10

Lesson Plan:

Prayer	Loving and gracious God, Help us to remember to always think first and stay safe. <i>We want to follow your just and loving ways. OR ...from whom all earthly authority flows,</i> This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.
Scripture	Genesis 2: 15-17 ...& settled him in the garden...to cultivate and care for it. Ezekiel 37: 26-28 ...I will be their God, & they shall be my people. Matthew 16:18-19 keys of the Kingdom
Saint or Hero	Moses—leads Israelites to Promised Land Pope John XXIII—leads Church to a new understanding of what it means to be Church in the world today.

Additional Catechist Resources:

Symbol	Symbols of authority: badge; uniform; nametag; Moses' staff Bishop's crozier
Music	<i>You Are Near</i> (Daniel Schutte, New Dawn) <i>Be Still</i> (David Kauffman, Good for the Soul) <i>Though the Mountains May Fall</i> (Daniel Schutte, New Dawn)
Liturgy or Rites	<i>Prayers of the Faithful—often call on God to guide and bless all in authority throughout the world.</i>
Prayers	<i>Our Father</i> <i>Prayer to the Holy Spirit</i> <i>Creed</i>
Church Teachings	CCC: 144 "To obey ...in faith is to submit freely to the word that has been heard, because its truth is guaranteed by God, who is Truth itself."