

Chapter 24 **Leading the Way**

The bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. *Matthew 25:10*

To the Parents:

In chapter 24, your child learned the following:

- The theological virtues, particularly hope, empower people to work for change and to build the kingdom of God.
- Those who live hope on a daily basis are signs of God's kingdom.
- The example of one person making a difference leads others to do the same.

Those who lead others to God have particular and specific gifts that enable them to share their faith with clarity, conviction, and everlasting hope. Leadership in the Church today takes many forms: laity and clergy; married, celibate, and single; young and old; and male and female. All are capable of carrying out the command of Jesus to "make disciples of all nations" (*Matthew 28:19*).

The Church in the future will certainly depend on all its members to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit in working together to build the kingdom of God. The gifts of all will be recognized and celebrated. The special gift of leadership will be given to those who receive that gift with courage, humility, and the strong determination to serve those whom they lead. Following Jesus is the joy of all believers; the task of carrying out his message of justice, peace, and loving service is in their hands.

With Your Child:

1. Talk with your child about being a leader for the Church by helping younger relatives and friends with their chores and homework, living out examples of charity and service.
2. As a family project, create a poster depicting images of hope that you can display in your house, school, or community.
3. Talk about people in your life who are influential leaders and sources of hope. Discuss how you can follow their example.
4. Read about Mary, Virgin and Mother, on the Review and Explore page.