



# Discover!

Finding  Faith in Life

## Home Guide

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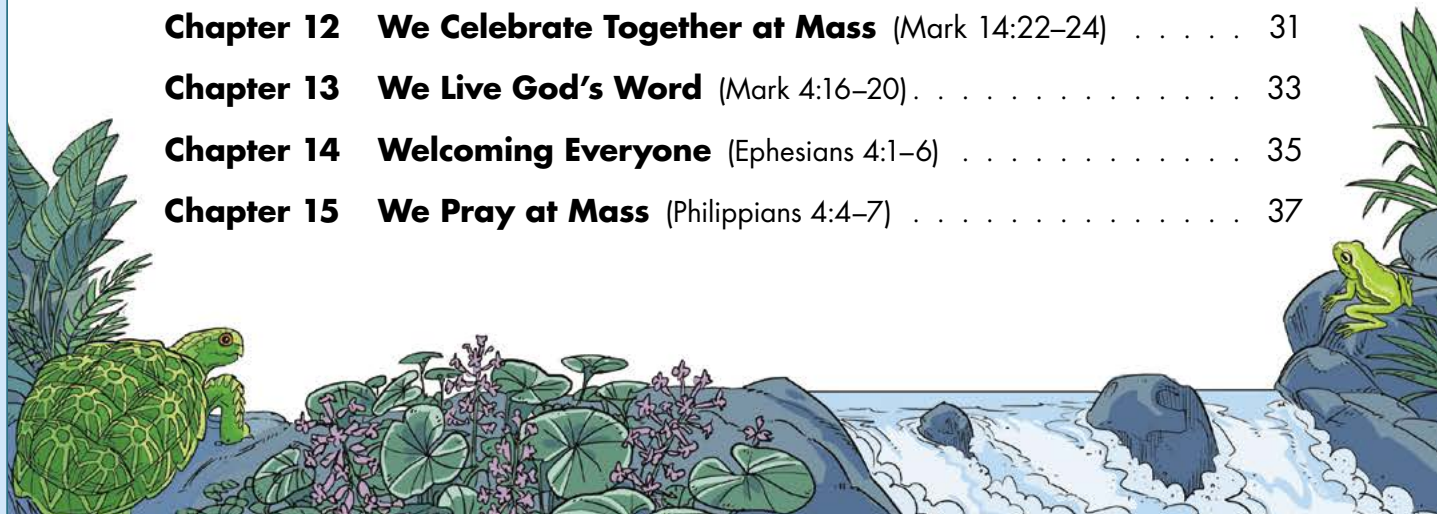
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# Understanding the Home Guide

The **Lesson Goals** section identify the key desired outcomes of the chapter.

The **Get Ready!** part of the lesson begins with an opening prayer and an activity that will spark interest in the lesson focus.

The **Dive In!** part of the lesson involves direct use of *The Catholic Children's Bible* and learning through a key Bible story.

The **Parent Preview** section offers steps parents can use to prepare for the lesson.

The **Discover!** part of the lesson involves a short reading to support understanding.

The **Go!** part of the lesson invites the child to recall what he or she learned and closes the lesson with a fun activity and a prayer.

## Discover! Finding Faith in Life

### God Created the World

Scripture Focus: Genesis 1:1-5

#### Lesson Goals

- to recall that God created all things
- to identify that God created everything out of love
- to state that it is important that we respect all of God's creation

#### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

- ☐ **Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.
- ☐ **Invite** your child to brainstorm some favorite things in nature. Ask your child who created all of these wonderful things. (*God*)
- ☐ **Tell** your child that this lesson explores all the wonderful things God has made, which we call God's creation.

#### Dive In! (20 minutes)

- ☐ **Read** the Scripture on page 21 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:1-5).
- ☐ **Ask** your child these questions:
  - What did God create on this first day? (*light*)
  - What did God call the light? (*day*)
  - What did God call the darkness? (*night*)
- ☐ **Read** the Understand It! and Live It! sections on page 1 of the chapter 1 activity booklet. Invite your child to retell the Scripture passage in his or her own words.
- ☐ **Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.

#### Parent Preview

- Review the Scripture on page 21 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:1-5).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 2 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

#### Discover! (20 minutes)

- ☐ **Read** with your child the article "Respect God's Creation" on the second page of the chapter 1 activity booklet. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.
- ☐ **Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.  
*Answers: All three pictures show ways to care for God's creation.*

#### Go! (10 minutes)

- ☐ **Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.
- ☐ **Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.
- ☐ **Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet on page 5 of the chapter 1 activity booklet. Tell your child to place the chapter 1 sticker on the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.
- ☐ **Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.



The reading on this page relays important information related to the lesson.

## Respecting God's Creation

Have you drawn a picture to give someone? Has anyone made a present for you? Why do we make special things to share with one another? When we make something to give someone, we show them our love. Love means caring for and caring about one another.

The Book of Genesis—the very first book in the Bible—tells us about the special things God made for us. Genesis tells us that God made light and darkness, sky and water, land and plants, sun and moon, birds and fish, and people and all the animals on land. All **creation** is God's gift of love. All these wonderful things are how God shows his love and care for us.

### Key Words

**creation** All the things God has made.

**respect** To care for, treat well, or honor.

This is why we must **respect**, or care for, all of God's creation. How would you feel if someone damaged a gift you made for them? Would you be hurt? Just so, we must take care of the gifts God made for us. We must take care of our planet and one another.

When we take care of everything God has made, we show him how important his gifts are to us. We thank God when we respect his creation, and we show our love for God himself.

### Review

1. Who made the water, land, animals, and people?
2. Why did he make everything?
3. Why must we respect God's creation?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "God Made You and Loves You" + activity, pages 6–7

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

The **Review!** section offers several questions that reinforce key concepts from the lesson. Answers are provided.

The **We Know and Live Our Faith** resource provides additional content that can be used to support the lesson.

Answers: 1. God. 2. God made everything out of love for us. 3. We respect God's creation to thank him and to show our love for him.





## Chapter

## 1

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## God Created the World

Scripture Focus: Genesis 1:1–5

### Lesson Goals

- to recall that God created all things
- to identify that God created everything out of love
- to state that it is important that we respect all of God's creation

### Parent Preview

- Review the Scripture on page 21 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:1–5).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to brainstorm some favorite things in nature. Ask your child who created all of these wonderful things. (*God*)

**Tell** your child that this lesson explores all the wonderful things God has made, which we call God's creation.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Scripture on page 21 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:1–5).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did God create on this first day? (*light*)
- What did God call the light? (*day*)
- What did God call the darkness? (*night*)

**Read** the Understand It! and Live It! sections on page 1 of the chapter 1 activity booklet. Invite your child to retell the Scripture passage in his or her own words.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Respecting God's Creation" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.  
*Answers: All three pictures show ways to care for God's creation.*

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 1 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.



# Chapter 1

## Respecting God's Creation

Have you drawn a picture to give someone? Has anyone made a present for you? Why do we make special things to share with one another? When we make something to give someone, we show them our love. Love means caring for and caring about one another.

The Book of Genesis—the very first book in the Bible—tells us about the special things God made out of love. Genesis tells us that God made light and darkness, sky and water, land and plants, sun and moon, birds and fish, and people and all the animals on the land. All **creation** is God's gift of love. All these wonderful things are how God shows his love and care for us.

### Key Words

**creation** All the things God has made.

**respect** To care for, treat well, or honor.

This is why we must **respect**, or care for, all of God's creation. How would you feel if someone damaged a gift you made for them? Would you be hurt? Just so, we must take care of the gifts God made for us. We must take care of our planet and one another.

When we take care of everything God has made, we show him how important his gifts are to us. We thank God when we respect his creation, and we show our love for God himself.

### Review

1. Who made the water, land, animals, and people?
2. Why did he make everything?
3. Why must we respect God's creation?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

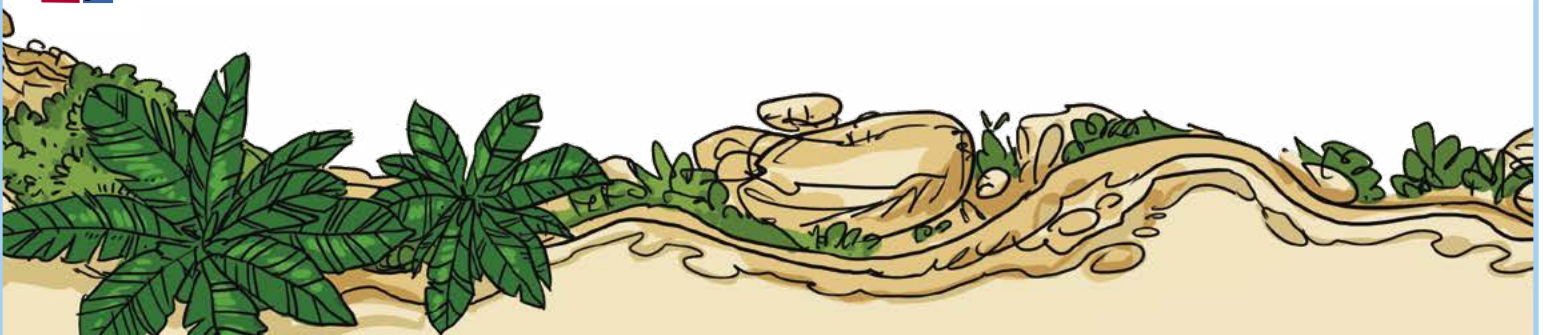
- "God Made You and Loves You" + activity, pages 6–7

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

Answers: 1. God. 2. God made everything out of love for us. 3. We respect God's creation to thank him and to show our love for him.



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## Chapter 2

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## We Celebrate God's Love

Scripture Focus: Romans 8:35, 37–39

### Lesson Goals

- to identify that nothing can separate us from God's love
- to explain that Jesus shows us God's love
- to name how we celebrate God's love as a parish community

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1780 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Romans 8:35, 37–39).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to think of things or people he or she loves. Ask your child:

- Will you love any of these things forever?  
How do you know?

**Tell** your child that together you will think about God's never-ending love for us and talk about the ways we celebrate his love.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1780 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Romans 8:35, 37–39).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What can separate us from God's love?  
(*nothing*)
- Who brings us the love of God? (*Jesus*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1781 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the puzzle on page 2 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.  
*Answer: See solution on the third page of this home guide chapter.*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Showing God's Love" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

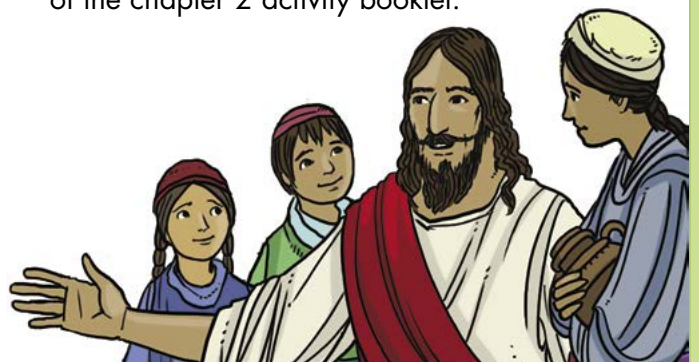
### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 2 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 2 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.





## Chapter 2

# Showing God's Love

We show our love for family and friends in many different ways. Maybe you play with your brother or sister, even when you don't feel like it. Maybe you help your parents in the kitchen. You might sit by a friend who feels sad.

God sent Jesus, his only Son, to show God's love for us. Jesus showed, or **revealed**, God's love through his words and actions during his life on Earth. The Bible tells us that Jesus healed people who were sick. He sat with people who felt alone. He gave food to people who were hungry. Jesus showed us that nothing can **separate** us from God's love. Even now, Jesus is with us. Jesus watches over us with love.

Just as we show our love by being kind to our family and friends, our **parish** celebrates God's love at Mass. Our parish is our church family, where we sing and pray together. Our songs and prayers help us remember God's love. At Mass, we receive his love through the Bible readings and the Eucharist, as well as through the priest and the people present with us. Together we celebrate God's love for us.

In our family and our parish, we take care of one another in happy times and sad times. We also celebrate God's love by being kind to one another because we know that God loves each person—and we should too. When we know how much God loves us, we want to share his love with others!

### Key Words

**parish** A group of people who gather to celebrate or remember God's love.

**reveal** To show, or tell about.

**separate** To split, or come between.

### Review

1. How did Jesus show us God's love?
2. What is a parish?
3. How do we celebrate God's love together as a parish family?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Jesus Saves People from Their Sins," page 14
- "Sunday," page 20

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

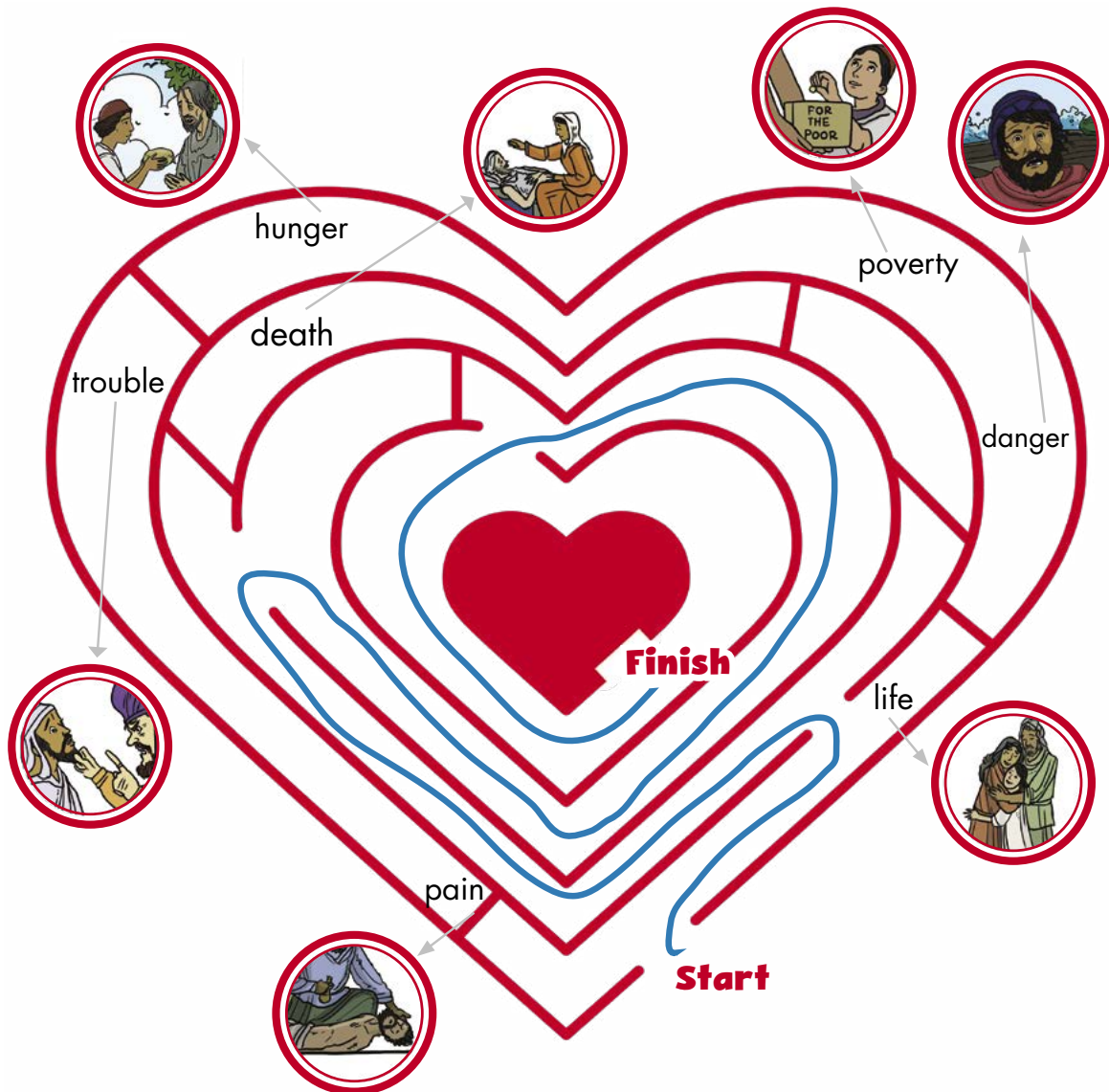
*Answers: 1. Through his words and actions. 2. Our church family; a gathering of people who remember and celebrate God's love. 3. Going to Mass, singing and praying together, and being kind to one another.*





**Chapter**  
**2**

# Answer Key



# Chapter 3

## Discover! Finding Faith in Life

# We Share God's Love with Others

Scripture Focus: Romans 12:6–8

### Lesson Goals

- to summarize that we all have different gifts
- to indicate that we are called to share our gifts with others
- to identify that we help the Church by sharing our gifts

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1788 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Romans 12:6–8).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to brainstorm all the things he or she is good at.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson teaches us that the gifts we have been given are more than just talents (playing football or dancing); they are God-given abilities to serve God and others.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1788 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Romans 12:6–8).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What does the Scripture story say we should do with the gifts God has given us? (*We should use them.*)
- How should we share with others? (*generously*)
- How should we show kindness to others? (*cheerfully*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1789 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Sharing the Gifts Inside You" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.  
*Answer: WE ARE THE CHURCH!*

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 3 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 3 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.



## Chapter 3

# Sharing the Gifts Inside You

When we think about talents, we might only think about singing, drawing, or playing sports. But God gives us other talents. Some people are great at welcoming new people. Some people always know what to say to help someone who feels sad. Maybe your parents are good cooks. Maybe a friend speaks another language well.

When God made you, he gave you **unique** gifts. These are not gifts like toys or things you make to give away. These are **abilities** that you always carry inside you. You can use these gifts throughout your life to help others who might not have the same gifts. And they will be do the same thing—use their gifts so they can share them with you.

### Key Words

**abilities** The talent, power, or knowledge to do certain things.

**Church** The name we give to the followers of Jesus who worship and serve God together.

**unique** One of a kind; like nothing else.

God gives us these abilities so we can serve him and others, including others in our **Church**. He wants us to use our talents to serve him and others and to make the Church stronger. When we use our gifts, we help people know and love God, who gave us these gifts. Because each of us has unique gifts, each of us is important to the Church, just as the body needs all its unique parts to work the way it's supposed to.

What gifts are inside you? As you grow older, you will understand and develop your gifts more and more. You will learn how to use your gifts to serve and love God, and to help people know and love him too!

### Review

1. What is another name for the followers of Jesus who worship and serve God together?
2. Why does God give each of us unique gifts?
3. What happens when we use our gifts?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Jesus Teaches Us to Love," page 36

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

*Answers: 1. Church. 2. To serve him and others, especially the Church. 3. We help people know and love God, who gave us these gifts.*





# We Care for God's Creatures

Scripture Focus: Genesis 1:26–31

## Lesson Goals

- to recall that God created all creatures
- to state the different ways that creatures help us
- to identify that we must care for and respect all creatures

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 22 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:26–31).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 4 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 4 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to take turns with you to think of as many different animals as you can in 3 minutes.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores how God made all creatures and why we must care for them.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 22 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:26–31).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Whom did God put in charge of the fish, the birds, and all the wild animals? (*human beings*)
- Did God provide food for the animals as well as people? (*yes*)
- How did God feel about all the creatures he had made? (*pleased*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 23 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the puzzle on page 2 of the chapter 4 activity booklet.

*Answer: See solution on the third page of this home guide chapter.*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Caring for God's Creatures" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 4 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 4 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 4 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 4 activity booklet.





## Chapter 4

# Caring for God's Creatures

What is the strangest animal you can think of? What is your favorite pet? What creature do you find annoying—or even scary? From the pesky mosquito to the peaceful goldfish to the long-necked giraffe, God created every animal that lives on the Earth, in the sea, and in the sky.

We must respect all **creatures** because God created them. He gave every kind of animal to us to help us, but every animal belongs to him. All his different creatures remind us that he is amazingly creative!

How do God's creatures help us? Some animals provide us with food: meat, milk, even honey. Some

animals help us do hard things. Other animals protect us from harm, and some animals are especially good at sharing love. Sometimes we can't see how an animal can help us. But God asks us to take care of them even when we don't understand them.

Respect for God's creation means we must treat his creatures with respect and kindness. We should never hurt, tease, or scare an animal on purpose. We can capture spiders and take them outside. Every day we must give our pets and farm animals food, water, and warm places to sleep.

God gives every creature the gift of life. We respect this gift by taking care of his creations.

### Key Word

**creature** An animal of the Earth, sea, or sky, created by God.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "God Made You and Loves You" + activity, pages 6–7

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

### Review

1. Who created the creatures and gave them the gift of life?
2. Why did God create all the animals?
3. How are we supposed to treat animals?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*



# Answer Key

A H U M A N S

L Y R J G O D

P L E A S E D

I Q E P B L K

K F E A R T H

C R E A T E D

A N I M A L S



## Chapter 5

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# We Pray to God

Scripture Focus: Colossians 3:15–17

## Lesson Goals

- to recall the importance of gratitude
- to define *prayer* and identify different ways we can pray
- to identify the Mass as the greatest prayer of thanksgiving

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1866 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Colossians 3:15–17).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 5 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 5 activity booklet.

**Brainstorm** with your child different things you are thankful for.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn about talking to God, listening to him, and thanking him.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1866 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Colossians 3:15–17).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What does Christ give to us to help guide us in our decisions? (*peace*)
- What should we have in our hearts when we sing to God? (*thanksgiving*)
- Everything we do or say should be done in whose name? (*Jesus' name*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1867 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 5 activity booklet.

*Answers: sad, mad, alone, upset (crossed out)*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Thank You, God!" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 5 activity booklet.  
*Answers: 1. Jesus, 2. friend, 3. love, 4. good*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 5 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 5 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 5 activity booklet.



## Chapter 5

# Thank You, God!

Many families talk about their day as they eat dinner. You might talk about what you learned at school, or what a classmate did on the playground. Your parents might mention a project at work. Your brother or sister might share some nice words ("Good job!") from a teacher.

Talking to God is like talking with family—but it is so much more. **Prayer** is the special way we talk to God. He made us and knows everything about us, and he doesn't need us to say a word. But he still wants us to share our thoughts and feelings with him so we can feel close to him.

When we talk as a family, we say words out loud. But when we talk to God, we can say words out loud,

or we can talk to him in the quiet of our minds. We don't need to be in a special place, either. We can pray anywhere, in any way.

We offer different kinds of prayers to God. We can ask God to help us, or ask him to help someone else. We can thank God for everything he gives us and does for us. We can just rejoice in God! We can express our joy in just how amazing he is!

We pray in all these ways during Mass—out loud, in our minds, and even while singing. Mass is the greatest prayer of thanksgiving we offer to God, especially for the gift of Jesus. The next time you go to Mass, share your **gratitude**: "Thank you, God!"

## Key Words

**gratitude** Feeling of being thankful or grateful.

**prayer** A special way we can talk to and share with God.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activities in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Prayer Is Talking to God" + activity, pages 48–49
- "We Pray Together" + activity, pages 52–53

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

Answers: 1. Both! 2. Anywhere. 3. Ask God to help ourselves or others, thank God, and rejoice in God.  
4. Jesus

## Review

1. Do we pray to God out loud or in our mind?
2. Where can we pray to God?
3. What are some different ways we can pray to God?
4. At Mass, what gift do we especially thank God for?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!



## Chapter

## 6

Discover!  
Finding Faith in Life

## God Sends Jesus

Scripture Focus: John 3:16–17

## Lesson Goals

- to recall that God loves all of creation
- to recognize that God loved the world so much that he sent Jesus
- to define the Trinity as three Persons in one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

## Parent Preview

- Review the Scripture on page 1656 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 3:16–17).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to name some of the things God created.

**Tell** your child that God loves us so much that he wants to help us be our very best. Explain that today you will explore together one way God showed his love by helping us.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Scripture on page 1656 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 3:16–17).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Who is God's only Son? (*Jesus*)
- Why did God send us Jesus? (*so those who believe in him may have eternal life*)
- Did God send Jesus to be our judge or our savior? (*savior*)

**Read** the Understand It! and Live It! presented on page 1 of the chapter 6 activity booklet. Invite your child to retell the Scripture passage in his or her own words.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "One God—Three Persons" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.  
*Answers: top—Father, left—Son, right—Holy Spirit*

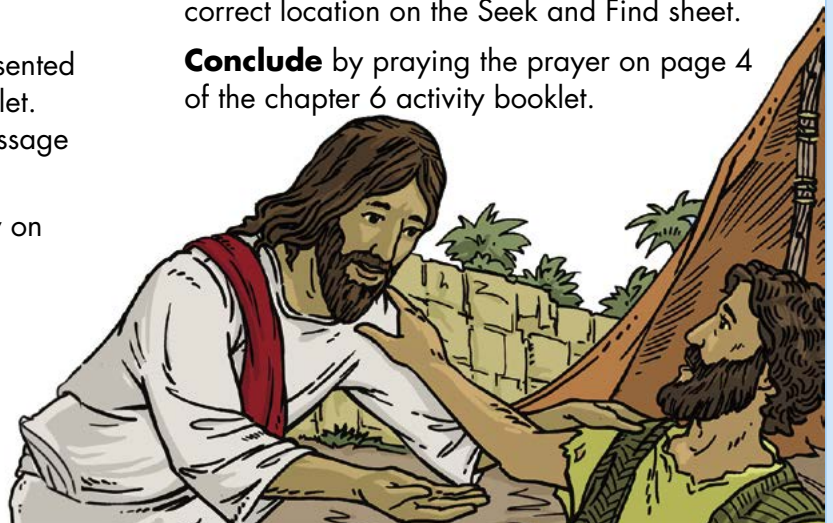
## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 6 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 6 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.





## Chapter 6

# One God—Three Persons

Have you ever seen a shamrock, or a three-leaved clover? Saint Patrick of Ireland used the shamrock to help people understand God. One shamrock is made up of three leaves. Just so, God is one God—but he is made up of three Persons. A triangle is another way we can understand God. A triangle has three sides, and God is made up of three Persons.

We call these three Persons the **Trinity**. The three Persons are the Father, the Son (Jesus), and the Holy Spirit. These three Persons are all equal, just like the leaves of a shamrock—or the sides of a triangle—are all equal.

In today's Scripture reading, we learn that God the Father sent us a **savior**: Jesus, his Son, the second Person of the Trinity. The Father sent us his Son because he loves us and wants us to live with him in **Heaven**. Jesus helps us grow closer to God.

You might find the Trinity confusing. That's okay! So do grown-ups. The Trinity is a **mystery** of faith. That means we can never fully understand or explain it. You will understand the nature of God better and better as you grow older. Believing in something we don't understand means we must have faith.

### Key Words

**Heaven** Life forever with God.

**mystery** Something difficult or impossible to fully understand or explain.

**savior** Someone who helps to save or rescue others.

**Trinity** One God in Three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

### Review

1. Who are the three Persons of the Trinity?
2. Are all three Persons of the Trinity equal?
3. Sometimes we don't fully understand certain things about our faith, such as the Trinity. What do we call this?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Three Persons in One God" + activity, pages 8–9

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

Answers: 1. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. 2. Yes. 3. A mystery of faith.



## Chapter 7

## Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# We Celebrate Baptism

Scripture Focus: John 3:4–6

### Lesson Goals

- to review that we are born again in Baptism
- to state that in Baptism we become children of God and members of the Church
- to identify Baptism as one of the Seven Sacraments

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1658 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 3:4–6).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 7 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 7 activity booklet.

**Ask** your child to think of all the different ways we use water, and take turns suggesting ideas. Point out that we need water to live.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson focuses on water, and how water has a special purpose in an important, wonderful celebration in our Church.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1658 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 3:4–6).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did Nicodemus ask Jesus? (*how a grown man can be born again*)
- Jesus said that everyone must be born of two things to enter the Kingdom of God. What are they? (*water and the Spirit*)
- How is this second birth different from our first, physical birth? (*It is spiritual, of the Spirit.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1659 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 7 activity booklet.  
*Answers: again, second, Kingdom, Spirit*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "The Sacrament of Baptism" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 7 activity booklet.

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 7 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 7 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 7 activity booklet.



## Chapter 7

# The Sacrament of Baptism

How do your parents show you they love you? Do they tuck you in with a story and a hug at night? Do they sneak a love note into your school lunch? Do they remember your favorite ice cream when they buy groceries?

Like every loving parent, God shows he loves us in seven very special ways. We call these the Seven Sacraments. A **sacrament** is a sign of God's love that helps us share in his life. In every sacrament, we meet Jesus. In every sacrament, God gives us **grace**. Grace is not something we can see with our eyes. It is a special spiritual gift that helps us live out our faith.

Jesus gave Seven Sacraments to the Church:

- Baptism
- the Eucharist

- Confirmation
- Penance and Reconciliation
- Anointing of the Sick
- Matrimony (or Marriage)
- Holy Orders

**Baptism** is the first sacrament we receive as Catholics. Through the waters of Baptism, we become part of God's family, the Church. In fact, we become his children. The grace of Baptism allows us to meet Jesus in a special way and share his love with others.

Have you received the Sacrament of Baptism? If so, ask your parents to tell you why they chose Baptism for you. If you are planning to become baptized, talk with your parents about how you feel about joining God's family, the Church.

## Key Words

**Baptism** The first sacrament, in which we become part of God's family, the Church.

**grace** A special spiritual gift that helps us live out our faith.

**sacrament** A sign of God's love that helps us share in his life.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The Sacraments" + activity, pages 27–29

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

## Review

1. What do we call a sign of God's love that gives us a share in God's life?
2. How many sacraments are there?
3. Whom do we meet in the sacraments?
4. Which is the first sacrament?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

Answers: 1. Sacrament. 2. Seven. 3. Jesus. 4. Baptism.



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## Chapter

## 8

Discover!  
Finding Faith in Life

# We Promise to Live as Jesus Taught

Scripture Focus: Mark 12:28–31

## Lesson Goals

- to restate the Great Commandment, which is actually two commandments of love
- to indicate that following the Great Commandment makes us more like God
- to explain that we should evaluate our daily words and actions using the Great Commandment

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1556 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 12:28–31).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 8 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 8 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to think of ways to love God and others.

**Tell** your child that in today's lesson you will learn together how Jesus tells us we should love God and love others.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1556 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 12:28–31).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What is the first of the two most important commandments that Jesus gave us in this story? (*Love the Lord our God.*)
- What is the second important commandment that Jesus gave us? (*Love your neighbor as you love yourself.*)
- What are these two commandments known as? (*the Great Commandment*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1557 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 8 activity booklet.  
Answers: 1. commandment, 2. soul, 3. mind, 4. heart, 5. God, 6. neighbor, 7. strength

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Love God and Love Others" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 8 activity booklet.  
Answer: Love God and love others.

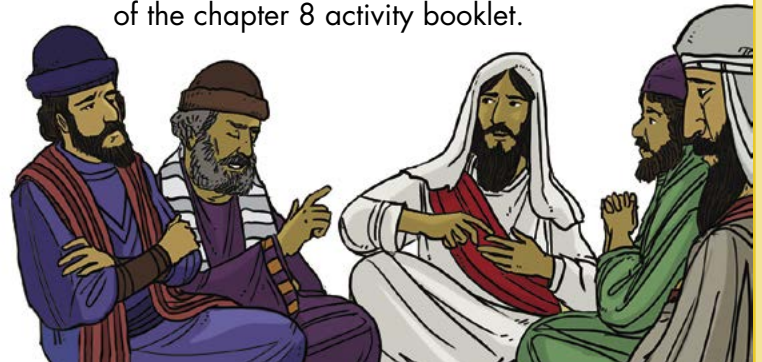
## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 8 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 8 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 8 activity booklet.





## Chapter 8

# Love God and Love Others

How many Bible stories can you think of where Jesus showed us how to love like God loves? When he **multiplied** the loaves and the fishes, he showed God's love by feeding the hungry. When he helped the blind man to see again, he showed God's love to someone who was suffering. When he ate dinner with the tax collector, he showed God's love to someone everyone disliked. By helping, healing, and loving, Jesus showed us God's love in many ways during his life on Earth.

And as our teacher, Jesus told us exactly how to show God's love. One way he did this was by giving us the **Great Commandment**: to love God and to love

others. All of Jesus' words and actions help us learn to follow him. He showed us how to love God with our whole heart, **soul**, mind, and strength. And he showed us that we must love others as we love ourselves.

What we say and what we do shows our love for God and others. To love more like God each day, we must think about whether our words and actions follow these two commandments. We should think before we act or say something. We can also think about our words and actions afterward, to learn from them.

Love is the greatest thing we can do on this Earth!  
How can you be more loving today?

### Key Words

**Great Commandment** Love God and love others.

**multiplied** Turned a few things into many things.

**soul** The invisible, spiritual part of humans that allows us to know God.

### Review

1. Who teaches us how to love like God loves?
2. What does the Great Commandment tell us to do?
3. In what two ways does Jesus want us to love God and others?

*Turn this page upside down to read the answers!*

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

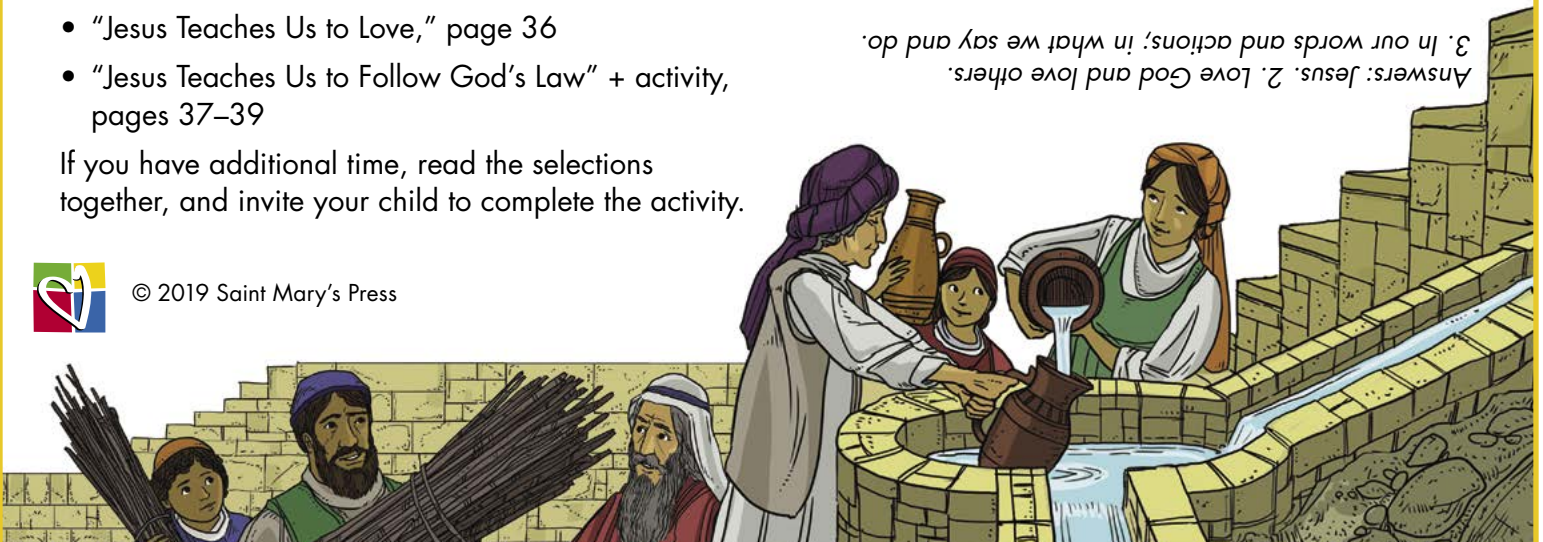
- "Jesus Teaches Us to Love," page 36
- "Jesus Teaches Us to Follow God's Law" + activity, pages 37–39

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

*Answers: Jesus. 2. Love God and love others. 3. In our words and actions; in what we say and do.*



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## Chapter

## 9

Discover!  
Finding Faith in Life

## Jesus Shows Us God's Care

Scripture Focus: Luke 12:22–25

## Lesson Goals

- to recognize that Jesus knows that we worry
- to articulate that God takes care of us always
- to identify the virtue of trust in God as the way to fight against worry

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1614 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 12:22–25).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 9 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 9 activity booklet.

**Ask** your child if he or she has any worries about anything. Discuss them briefly, offering your care and concern.

**Explain** that today's lesson focuses on ways we can trust that God loves us and will take care of our worries.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1614 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 12:22–25).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Who was Jesus talking to in the story?  
(to his disciples but also to us)
- What things did Jesus tell us not to worry about?  
(food we need to stay alive and clothes we need for our body)
- What did Jesus tell us to look at, and why?  
(the crows, because God feeds them and we are worth so much more than crows)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1615 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 9 activity booklet.

Answers: 1. b, 2. c, 3. a, 4. c, 5. b

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Lay Down Your Worries" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 9 activity booklet.  
Answer: TRUST

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 9 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 9 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 9 activity booklet.





## Chapter 9

# Lay Down Your Worries

Jesus reminded us that God takes care of every need. Crows don't plant or store food—God takes care of them. So why do we worry about our needs?

What is **worry**? Worry means being nervous or afraid. When you worry, you might think you can't handle a problem by yourself—or you don't know how something scary will work out. But do you ever fix something by worrying? Can you make a thunderstorm or an illness go away by worrying about it? Can you make a test easier at school just by worrying about it?

Talking to another person can help us worry less. Just so, we can always talk to God in prayer, because

he is always with us and knows what is best for us. He knows we cannot do everything on our own. He gives us friends, family, teachers, and many other people to help us every day. Praying every day helps us remember that God is always with us. In prayer, we can call upon him to help us, and we can **trust** that he will hear our prayer.

Trusting God helps us feel calm, because we know he is taking care of us. In fact, God helps us handle our problems better than we could ever imagine. What problem can you turn over to God today?

### Key Words

**trust** To believe in something or someone.

**worry** When we are nervous, fearful, or uneasy about something.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The activity on page 15 of the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson. If you have additional time, invite your child to complete the activity.

### Review

1. Can worrying ever help anything to be better?
2. Why can we talk to God about our worries?
3. Whom does God give us to help us every day?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

Answers: 1. No. 2. He is always with us and knows what is best for us. 3. Friends, family, teachers, and many other people.



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## Chapter 10

## Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# Jesus Teaches Us to Pray

Scripture Focus: Matthew 6:9–13

### Lesson Goals

- to review the meaning of prayer as talking to and listening to God
- to identify that Jesus taught us the Lord's Prayer
- to name the meaning of the different parts of the Lord's Prayer

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1460 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 6:9–13).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 10 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 10 activity booklet.

**Brainstorm** ways we communicate with one another (cell phone, greeting card, computer, newspaper, TV).

**Tell** your child that together you will explore how we communicate with God through a prayer that Jesus taught us.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1460 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 6:9–13).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Who taught us to pray using these words? (*Jesus*)
- What name do we call God when we start the prayer? (*Our Father*)
- What do we ask God to give us today? (*food we need*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1461 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 10 activity booklet.

*Answer: pray*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Pray as Jesus Taught Us" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 10 activity booklet.

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 10 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 10 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 10 activity booklet.



# Chapter 10

## Pray as Jesus Taught Us

We can call or text a friend when we need to talk. But do you remember how we reach out to God? We talk to him in our hearts and minds, through a special kind of **communication** called prayer.

In today's reading, Jesus teaches us how to pray by giving us a special prayer. Did you recognize the prayer in the Bible reading? It is the Our Father, or Lord's Prayer! Jesus first taught this prayer two thousand years ago. He started by teaching people to call God "Our Father," because God loves us as his own children.

The Lord's Prayer has two parts. In the first part, we honor God because of who he is. We bless his holy name. We ask for his Kingdom to come on Earth

to offer everyone God's goodness, peace, and love. We finish this first part by praying that God's will for our lives be done. We know that God has a plan for us on Earth and in Heaven.

In the second part, we ask God to help us in our lives. When we ask God for our "daily bread," we are really asking God to meet all our needs. Then we ask God to forgive us, and we promise to forgive others. We ask God to help us avoid **temptation**, because it comes between us and God's plan. Finally, we ask God to keep us safe from evil.

God loves it when we talk to him. Learn the Lord's Prayer by heart, so you can easily pray it wherever you are every day!

### Key Words

**communication** Talking with and listening to another person or God.

**temptation** A strong wish to do something, especially something that might hurt us or other people.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activities in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Prayer Is Talking to God" + activity, pages 48–49
- "Prayer Is Listening to God" + activity, pages 50–51
- "We Pray the Prayer That Jesus Taught," page 54

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activities.

### Review

1. What do the two main parts of the Our Father focus on?
2. Who taught this prayer two thousand years ago?
3. Why should we learn the Lord's Prayer by heart?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*





# Chapter 11

## Discover! Finding Faith in Life

# Jesus Teaches about the Kingdom

Scripture Focus: Matthew 13:44–46

### Lesson Goals

- to explain that Jesus teaches us about the importance of the Kingdom of Heaven
- to define the Kingdom of Heaven as wherever God rules over people's hearts
- to state the ways in which we can help the Kingdom of Heaven to come

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1480 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 13:44–46).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 11 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 11 activity booklet.

**Encourage** your child to recall times he or she found some good thing unexpectedly, or was given an unexpected gift.

**Tell** your child that today's Scripture story is about two different people who find something valuable and exciting.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1480 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 13:44–46).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What is the Kingdom of Heaven? (*wherever God rules over people's hearts*)
- What do the two men in the stories find? (*One finds a treasure in a field, and the other finds a pearl.*)
- What do the men do to buy the field and the pearl? (*Both men sell everything they own.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1481 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the puzzle on page 2 of the chapter 11 activity booklet.

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Building the Kingdom of Heaven" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 11 activity booklet.  
*Answers: All boxes should be checked.*

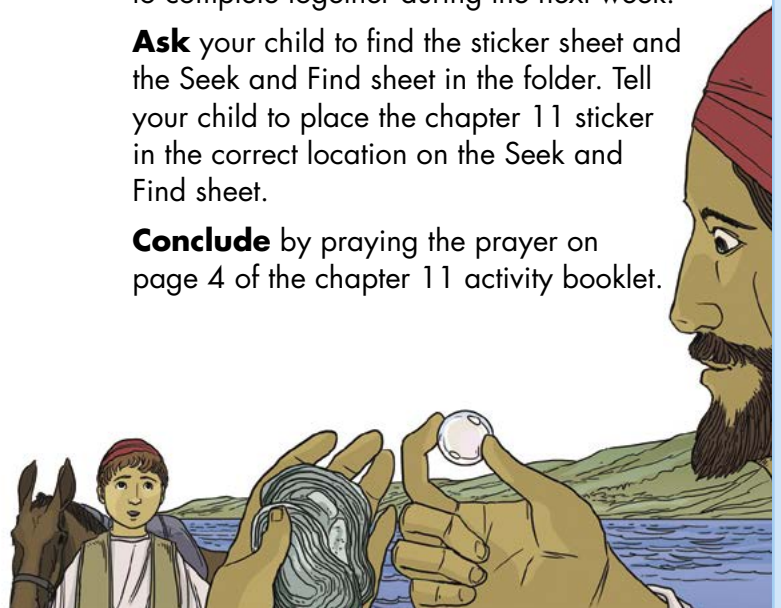
### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 11 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 11 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 11 activity booklet.



## Chapter 11

# Building the Kingdom of Heaven

Everyone **values**, or treasures, different things. Do you love your stuffed animal or a favorite doll or toy? Do you get excited by your allowance, or perhaps by birthday money? Would you rather have a new video game or a new book? In today's **parables**, Jesus teaches us that God's Kingdom is more valuable than anything we treasure—more valuable than any money or any toy.

A kingdom is a land ruled by a king or queen. Good rulers protect people from danger so everyone can live in peace and joy. In the Kingdom of Heaven, God is our King. When we follow him, we find peace and joy. His Kingdom exists wherever people live out God's call to love and forgive. In the love and joy of God's Kingdom, we are happy forever.

### Key Words

**parables** Stories Jesus told to teach a lesson.

**values** Treasures; seen as important.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "We Pray the Prayer That Jesus Taught" (second paragraph), page 54

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

Remember the Lord's Prayer? We pray for God's Kingdom to come. But that does not happen by accident. God calls us to help his Kingdom come here on Earth. We can do this in many ways. We can study the Bible to learn about God. We can show our love for God and for others. We can follow the Ten Commandments. We can tell other people about God's love.

The two men in today's Bible story were willing to give up everything they owned so they could have the treasure they found. What are you willing to give up so you can help build God's Kingdom here on Earth?

### Review

1. In today's reading, what was Jesus telling us?
2. What is the Kingdom of Heaven?
3. What are some ways we can help build the Kingdom of Heaven?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

Answers: 1. The Kingdom of Heaven is more valuable than any treasure. 2. It is wherever people are trying to live out God's call to love and forgive. 3. Accept all reasonable answers.



## Chapter 12

## Discover! Finding Faith in Life

# We Celebrate Together at Mass

Scripture Focus: Mark 14:22–24

### Lesson Goals

- to review that Jesus gave us his Body and Blood at the Last Supper
- to state that at every Mass Jesus gives himself to us as he did at the Last Supper
- to explain that ordinary bread and wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Christ at every Mass

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1560 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 14:22–24).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 12 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 12 activity booklet.

**Recall** times when your family shares special meals, and discuss with your child:

- When do we have special meals in our family? Can you think of some special foods we have at those special meals?

**Tell** your child that together you will learn about a time when Jesus and his followers shared a special meal. Explain that this story helps us understand the gift of the Eucharist.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1560 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 14:22–24).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Whom was Jesus eating supper with? (*his disciples or close followers*)
- What did Jesus do with the bread? What did he say? (*See verse 22.*)
- What did Jesus do with the wine? What did he say? (*See verse 24.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1561 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 12 activity booklet.

*Answers: bread, body, cup, blood*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article “Last Supper, First Mass” on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child’s understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 12 activity booklet.

*Answers: All the boxes should be checked.*

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today’s lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 12 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 12 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 12 activity booklet.





# Chapter 12

## Last Supper, First Mass

What meals do you eat each day? Why? We need to eat so we can grow and gain strength. We go to Mass at least once a week for the same reason: to grow and gain strength from the meal we call the **Eucharist**.

At the Last Supper, Jesus gathered his followers to celebrate a special meal. His words and actions changed bread and wine into his Body and Blood, which he gave his disciples. This was a **miracle**: something amazing that only God can do. In giving his Body and Blood, Jesus gave his disciples his very Self.

We continue to celebrate this meal at Mass. Jesus gives himself to us in the Eucharist, just like he did at

the Last Supper. The priest says and does the same things that Jesus said and did at the Last Supper. Ordinary bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus. This miracle is a mystery that happens through the words of the priest and the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Body and Blood of Christ are a real gift, one that will change us to become more loving, like Jesus. In the Mass, we gather to celebrate Jesus' gift of himself. Together we worship Jesus, unite with him, receive his gifts, and support one another. At Mass, we pray, sing, and listen as best we can. How can you show love and respect for Jesus the next time you go to Mass?

### Key Words

**Eucharist** The Mass; the Body and Blood of Christ.

**miracle** Something amazing that only God can do.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activities in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Sunday" and "The Mass" + activity, pages 20–23
- "The Eucharist," page 28
- "We Pray Together" + activity, pages 52–53

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activities.

### Review

1. At Mass, what do the ordinary bread and wine become?
2. What do we call something we don't fully understand?
3. What are some ways to honor Jesus' gift to us at Mass?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

*Answers: 1. Jesus' Body and Blood. 2. A mystery. 3. Pray, sing, and listen as best we can.*



# Chapter 13

## Discover! Finding Faith in Life

# We Live God's Word

Scripture Focus: Mark 4:16–20

## Lesson Goals

- to state that we learn about God's message through the Bible and the Church
- to discuss what it means to open our hearts to receive God's message
- to explain that we are called to listen to God's message and to act on it

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1534 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 4:16–20).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 13 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 13 activity booklet.

**Ask** your child to identify a current favorite story book. Invite your child to retell that story to you.

**Tell** your child that this lesson focuses on how we share stories to learn about God and his love for us.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1534 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 4:16–20).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- How are some people like seeds planted in the rocky ground? *(They receive the message gladly; but it does not sink in, so they give up when troubles come.)*
- How are some people like seeds planted in thorn bushes? *(They let worries and desires for other things choke the message.)*
- How can we be like the seeds sown in good soil? *(We can accept the message and allow it to bear fruit.)*

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1535 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 13 activity booklet.

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Bear Good Fruit" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 13 activity booklet.  
*Answers: kindness, patience, helping others, sharing love*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 13 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 13 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 13 activity booklet.



## Chapter 13

# Bear Good Fruit

If you have ever helped your family plant a garden, you know you must prepare the soil. You have to dig to loosen the soil so the seeds can grow roots. You add **fertilizer** to help the plants grow big and healthy. You **prune** unhealthy branches so that the healthy branches can grow. You know that big, healthy plants bear a lot of good fruit.

Jesus tells us that the Word of God is like a seed. It needs good soil and proper care to grow and bear fruit. We learn about the Word of God from the **Bible** and from the teachings of the Church. The Bible is the written Word of God. The Church helps us understand the Word of God and how we must live it out. At the end of Mass, the priest or deacon sends us forth to carry God's love to others.

### Key Words

**Bible** The written Word of God.

**fertilizer** Plant food.

**prune** To cut away.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The Mass" (last paragraph), page 21
- "We Listen to God's Word" + activity, pages 24–25

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

How can we become good soil for God's Word? We must listen carefully to God's Word and live it in our lives with love. When we open our hearts in this way, the Good News of God's love will fill our hearts to overflowing.

Like a big, healthy plant, we cannot help but bear good fruit and share it with others when God's love overflows in us. We show this good fruit in our actions: being kind and patient, helping our family and our community, and doing everything with love. How can you show the good fruit of God's Word in your family today?

### Review

1. How can we be good soil to receive God's Word?
2. From what two places do we learn about the Word of God?
3. At the end of Mass, who sends us forth to carry God's love to others?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

Answers: 1. By listening to God's Word and living it in our lives with love. 2. The Bible and the Church. 3. The priest or deacon.





# Chapter 14

## Discover! Finding Faith in Life

# Welcoming Everyone

Scripture Focus: Ephesians 4:1–6

## Lesson Goals

- to state that God calls us to be kind and welcoming to all
- to identify that kindness includes gentleness and patience
- to explain that we can apologize when we are mean or we upset others

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1846 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Ephesians 4:1–6).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 14 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 14 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to think of examples of kindness: to himself or herself, to people and animals, and to the Earth.

**Tell** your child that together you will explore how we, as Christians, are called to treat everyone with kindness.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1846 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Ephesians 4:1–6).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What are some ways the reading calls us to live as God wants us to live? (*be humble, gentle, patient; show love by being tolerant; protect peace*)
- What does unity mean? (*to be whole, one, together*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1847 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 14 activity booklet.  
*Answers: humble, gentle, patient, love, unity*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article “Be Kind and Welcoming” on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child’s understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 14 activity booklet.  
*Answers: YES—parent helping child with homework; YES—parent and child hugging; YES—children helping each other; NO—child throwing recyclable bottle on the trash pile.*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today’s lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 14 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 14 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 14 activity booklet.



## Chapter 14

# Be Kind and Welcoming

What are some things you do to show love and respect for the members of your family? When you have a **conflict**—as all families do from time to time—how do you make peace with one another?

God created us to be one family—his family. He wants us to show love and respect to every person and to be kind and welcoming to everyone. He calls us to focus on the good in each person—whether we know that person or not. Being kind means making others feel loved. Both the person who shows kindness and the person who receives kindness feel good.

We must especially be kind to those who are different from us. God created each of us to be unique, for his own special reasons. So judging

or teasing someone for being different does not show respect—either to God, or to the person he created.

Sometimes we forget to be kind. When that happens, we need to make things better. We can think about how we might feel if we were the other person. We can **apologize** to the person and admit what we did wrong. We can show that person how we plan to change our words and actions going forward.

Have you been gentle and patient with others? Have you said “please” and “thank you”? Have you encouraged someone who is sad or welcomed someone who is feeling lonely? Take time today to think of a special way to show kindness to someone tomorrow.

### Key Words

**apologize** To say, “I’m sorry.”

**conflict** Disagreement, argument, or fight.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- “The Mass” (last paragraph), page 21
- “Virtue,” pages 44–45

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child’s understanding.

### Review

1. Why does God call us to be kind and to welcome all?
2. Do we need to show kindness to people different from us? Why or why not?
3. What are some things we need to do if we are unkind to someone?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

Answers: 1. He wants us all to experience love and respect. 2. Yes. God purposely made each person unique, so each person deserves our respect. 3. Think about how the other person feels, apologize, admit mistakes, show the person we want to make things better.



## Chapter 15

## Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# We Pray at Mass

Scripture Focus: Philippians 4:4–7

### Lesson Goals

- to state that we rejoice and give thanks because of Jesus
- to identify that at Mass we give thanks for all God's gifts, especially for Jesus
- to explain that we can express our praise and thanksgiving at Mass through prayers and responses

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1858 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Philippians 4:4–7).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 15 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 15 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to tell you something good that happened today or yesterday. Talk about the event and why it was so good.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores how being joyful and thankful is a part of celebrating that Jesus is always with us.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1858 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Philippians 4:4–7).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What should our union with the Lord cause in us? (*rejoicing*)
- What type of attitude should we show toward everyone? (*a gentle attitude*)
- Instead of worrying, what should we do? (*Ask God for our needs with a thankful heart.*)
- What will God's peace help us to do? (*keep our hearts and minds safe in union with Jesus*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1859 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 15 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Sing and Pray Your Thanks" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the puzzle on page 3 of the chapter 15 activity booklet.  
*Answer: See solution on the third page of this home guide chapter.*

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 15 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 15 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 15 activity booklet.





## Chapter 15

# Sing and Pray Your Thanks

Can you remember something we sing or say at Mass? Right away you might think of the Sign of the Cross and the Lord's Prayer. What other examples can you think of?

We give God praise and thanksgiving in many ways. But the Mass is especially important because we gather with others to give thanks and praise. We receive the *Eucharist*—a word that means “thanksgiving.” The Mass is one big celebration of thanksgiving, when we give thanks for all God's gifts—especially the gift of Jesus.

Here are a few other prayers and responses you might **recognize** from the Mass:

- “And with your spirit”—We say this response when the priest says, “The Lord be with you.” We are saying we know that the Holy Spirit is at work in the priest.

- “Thanks be to God”—We thank God for the gifts he has given us in his Word and in the Eucharist.
- “Amen”—This very old Hebrew word means “I agree” or “I believe.” We say it many times during Mass to agree with all that God does and teaches us.
- “Lamb of God”—In this prayer, we ask Jesus, the Lamb of God, to have mercy on us and to forgive our sins. We say this as we prepare for Holy Communion.

When we go to Mass, we are called to **participate** in the actions and prayers. Singing, responding, and praying are not just for grown-ups—you can do them too!

*(The quotations in the bullets are from the Roman Missal, page pages 523–524.)*

## Key Words

**participate** To take an active part in something.

**recognize** To know or remember.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- “Sunday,” page 20
- “We Pray Together” + activity, pages 52–53

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

## Review

1. For what do we give thanks at Mass?
2. What does the word *Eucharist* mean?
3. What does it mean to participate in Mass?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

*Answers: 1. We give thanks for all God's gifts, especially for Jesus. 2. Thanksgiving. 3. We must take an active part by singing, responding, and praying.*



# Answer Key

## Prayer

"And with your spirit"

"Thanks be to God"

"Amen"

"Preface"

"Lamb of God"

"Prayer before Communion"

## Meaning

States "reasons why" we gather and that we need to be ready to give thanks to Jesus

Means "I agree" or "I believe"

Thanks God for his gifts

Asks Jesus, the Lamb of God, to have mercy on us

Asks Jesus to make us worthy to receive Communion

God's Holy Spirit is at work in the priest.

(The first two quotations in the "Prayer" column are from *The Roman Missal*, pages 523-524.)

## Chapter 16

## Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# Jesus Died for Us

Scripture Focus: Matthew 27:50–54

### Lesson Goals

- to identify the cross as a sign of Christian faith
- to state that Jesus died on the cross out of love for us
- to indicate that Jesus' death is a passageway to new life forever

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1516 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 27:50–54).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 16 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 16 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to join you in counting how many crosses and crucifixes you can find around the house. Talk about the reasons for having these crosses and crucifixes.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn about the cross as a reminder of what Jesus did for us.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1516 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 27:50–54).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What happened to Jesus in this story? (See verse 50.)
- What other events happened after Jesus died? (See verses 51 and 52.)
- What did the soldiers say when everything happened after Jesus died? (See verse 54.)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1517 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 16 activity booklet.

Answers: 1. breathed, 2. rose, 3. City, 4. split, 5. Temple, 6. God

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Jesus Gave His Life for Us" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 16 activity booklet.

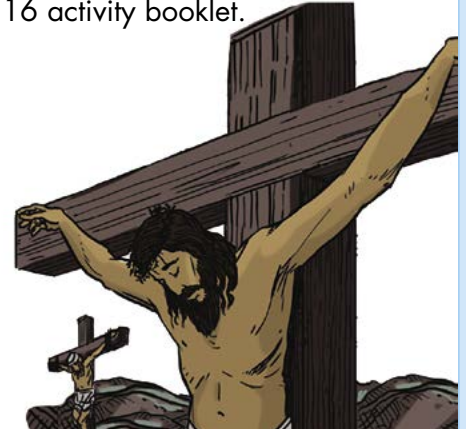
### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 16 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 16 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 16 activity booklet.





## Chapter 16

# Jesus Gave His Life for Us

To **sacrifice** means to give up something. You might sacrifice your free time after school to play with a younger brother or sister. You might sacrifice your allowance to help people in need. What is the hardest thing you've ever given up, and why?

Jesus willingly gave up his life on the cross to free us from **sin** and to **restore** our relationship with God. God sent Jesus, his only Son, because he knew that Jesus could take away our sins with his death. With his death, Jesus opened a path that allows us to go through to new life forever in Heaven, after our

time on Earth ends. Jesus' death on the cross was an amazing sacrifice of love.

Jesus' true love for us shows us the way to love others. He wants us to be willing to give up things out of love for other people. His gift of his life reminds us how much God loves us. In response, we must find ways to show our love for God more each day.

Every time you see a cross on a wall or on a necklace, remember how Jesus gave his life for us—the greatest gift of love.

### Key Words

**restore** To renew or rebuild.

**sacrifice** To give up something.

**sin** A wrong choice that harms our relationship with God.

### Review

1. Did Jesus willingly die on the cross and give his life for us?
2. What did Jesus' death on the cross do?
3. What does Jesus' true love remind us to do?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Jesus Died on a Cross," page 14

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

*Answers: 1. Yes. 2. Made a path to new life forever in Heaven. 3. Love others, give up things when needed to show love, love God more, and remember Jesus' gift of love whenever we see a cross.*



## Chapter 17

## Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# We Celebrate the Resurrection

Scripture Focus: Mark 16:1–6

### Lesson Goals

- to state that Jesus rose from the dead and is with us now
- to identify that we will be raised to new life after we die because of Jesus' Resurrection
- to explain that we celebrate the Resurrection every time we go to Mass

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1568 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 16:1–6).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 17 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 17 activity booklet.

**Ask** your child to show you what a really excited reaction looks like on her or his face and body.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores a big event that makes Christians very happy, one that is cause for great.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1568 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 16:1–6).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Who went to visit Jesus' tomb, and why? (See verse 1.)
- When did they go to the tomb? (Sunday morning)
- What did they find when they arrived? (See verses 3–5.)
- What did the young man say to the women? (See verse 6.)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1569 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 17 activity booklet.

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Celebrate Jesus' Resurrection" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 17 activity booklet.

*Answers: What: MASS; When: EVERY SUNDAY; Why: NEW LIFE; From: JESUS*

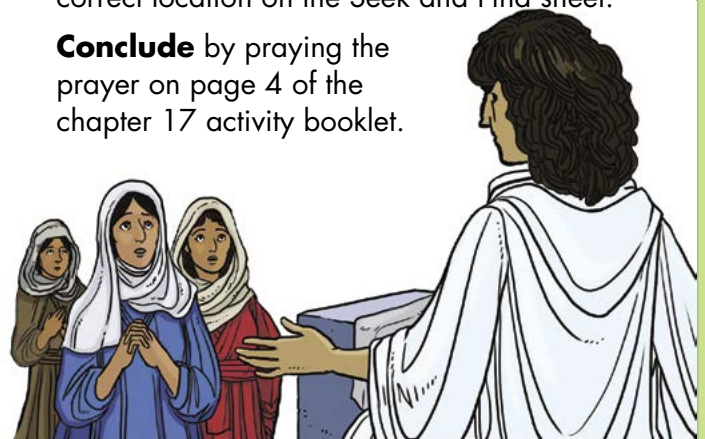
### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 17 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 17 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 17 activity booklet.





## Chapter 17

# Celebrate Jesus' Resurrection

Long before Jesus was born, God sent his people, the Israelites, a set of rules called the Ten Commandments. They were an important part of a **covenant**, or set of promises, made between God and his people. The Third Commandment tells us we must keep the Lord's Day holy.

But what is the Lord's Day? For Christians, Sunday is the Lord's Day, because Jesus rose from the dead on a Sunday. He defeated death and freed us from our sins. His **Resurrection** means that now he is with us always and everywhere. He is no longer confined to a body.

By his Resurrection, Jesus also gave us the gift of eternal life. That means death is not the ending of our life, either! For us, death is now a change. Jesus' Resurrection fills us with **hope** that after we die, we will live forever with God in Heaven if we have lived good lives and followed Jesus.

We celebrate Jesus' Resurrection every time we go to Mass. We celebrate through the Scripture readings we hear, the prayers and responses we say together, and the Holy Communion we receive. And we celebrate the Resurrection, because in the Eucharist we receive the resurrected Lord on the very same day he rose from the dead—Sunday.

### Key Words

**covenant** Agreement or promise.

**hope** A trust in something happening.

**Resurrection** Jesus' rising from the dead.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Heaven" (last two paragraphs), page 18
- "Sunday," page 20
- "Easter," page 34

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

### Review

1. What day of the week is called the Lord's Day?
2. What does it mean to say that Jesus rose from the dead?
3. How do we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus at every Mass?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

Answers: 1. Sunday. 2. Jesus' body was no longer in the grave; he defeated death and freed us from our sins, and he promised eternal life if we follow him. 3. Through readings, prayers, and receiving the Eucharist.





## Chapter 18

## Discover! Finding Faith in Life

# We Live as Alleluia People

Scripture Focus: Luke 24:28–32

### Lesson Goals

- to state that Jesus is with us always, even in times of sadness or discouragement
- to explain that Jesus is present to us in a special way in the Mass
- to name how we might live each day in praise and joy because of the Risen Jesus

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1644 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 24:28–32).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 18 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 18 activity booklet.

**Remind** your child of times when he or she has asked a friend to stay for a meal. Explore reasons why we like friends to eat with us.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores how Jesus is with us always, and shares a special meal with us.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1644 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 24:28–32).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- When the two travelers and Jesus sat down to eat, what did Jesus do? (See verse 30.)
- What happened after Jesus broke the bread and gave it to the two people? (They recognized Jesus, but then he disappeared.)
- What did they say it was like when Jesus explained the Scriptures to them? (See verse 32.)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1645 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 18 activity booklet.

Answers: 1. Stay, 2. bread, 3. broke, 4. opened, 5. fire

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Sing Praises to God!" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 18 activity booklet.

Answer: PRAISE

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 18 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 18 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 18 activity booklet.



## Chapter 18

# Sing Praises to God!

Imagine you are one of Jesus' followers in today's Gospel story. You meet a traveler to Emmaus and walk together, sharing news. You even tell the stranger about Jesus, who was just crucified and died. When you reach Emmaus, you invite the stranger to eat dinner with you. Then he does something amazing. He breaks bread, blesses it, and hands it to you. Suddenly you see who he really is: Jesus, risen from the dead!

We can know Jesus powerfully at Mass, in the Eucharist. His presence in the Eucharist is the greatest gift to us. When we receive his Body and Blood into our own bodies, we unite with him. So it is fitting that we sing **Alleluia**—which means "**Praise** the Lord!"—at Mass. We sing this word of joy before the Gospel, and we can say it whenever we want to honor God.

### Key Words

**Alleluia** Praise the Lord!

**praise** To express reverence, honor, and gratitude as an act of worship.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Easter," page 34

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

In fact, we are called to become Alleluia people: people of praise and joy. Knowing that Jesus is always in our heart, in those we love, in the Eucharist, and in Heaven—all are reasons to sing praises to God!

What are some ways you can praise God each day? Look at these ideas, and see which ones you can try this week:

- Make choices that bring you closer to Jesus and his love.
- Spend time with people who help you feel closer to Jesus.
- Participate in Mass with great focus, love, and joy.
- Pray every morning and evening.
- Ask Jesus to help you when you feel sad or discouraged.

### Review

1. What is the greatest gift of Jesus' presence to us?
2. What does *Alleluia* mean?
3. Why are we called to live as Alleluia people?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

Answers: 1. The Eucharist. 2. "Praise the Lord!" 3. Because we know that Jesus is always in our heart, in those we love, in the Eucharist, and in Heaven.



# Chapter 19

## Discover! Finding Faith in Life

# We Care for Those Who Are Poor

Scripture Focus: 1 John 3:11, 16–18

### Lesson Goals

- to state that Jesus loved us so much that he gave his life for us on the cross
- to identify that we give our lives for others by loving them even when it is not easy
- to explain that true love is expressed not only in words but in actions

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1936 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (1 John 3:11, 16–18).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 19 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 19 activity booklet.

**Take** turns with your child to identify ways each of you experiences love. Be sure to consider the love you receive from family, friends, your Church, your community, and God.

**Tell** your child that together you will explore why it is important to share love with everyone—especially those most in need.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1936 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (1 John 3:11, 16–18).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What is the message of this story? (*We must love one another.*)
- How do we know what love is? (*Christ gave his life for us.*)
- What is the best way to show our love? (*through our words and actions*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1937 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 19 activity booklet. *Answers: another, gave, others, words, true, action*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article “Love All of God’s Children” on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child’s understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 19 activity booklet. *Answers will vary.*

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today’s lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 19 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 19 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 19 activity booklet.





## Chapter 19

# Love All of God's Children

Do you have clean water? enough to eat? clothes to wear? Does your home stay dry in the rain and warm in the winter? Imagine what it would be like not to have enough water, food, clothing, or shelter. How do you think you would feel?

Today's reading teaches that we must help those who are in need. We show our love for God when we love and care for those who have less. In his words and actions, Jesus showed us how to take care of those who are in need. He loved all people and gave his life for everyone—even those who did not love him back. We are also called to love all of God's children, even when it is not easy. (Loving others does not mean we accept bullying or abuse. Always tell a trusted adult who can help!)

### Key Word

**selfless** Without concern for oneself.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The Mass" (last paragraph), page 21

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

Loving others isn't just about sharing money, toys, or food. We show love through actions. And you're never too young to start! You can be kind to someone who is sad. You can greet people with a smile. You can help someone with a tough homework problem. You can help your parents make dinner or take out the trash.

True love isn't about giving to get something back either. We are called to give of ourselves because that is what God wants us to do. The more we receive Jesus into our hearts, and the more we become like him, the more we can give this kind of **selfless** love.

### Review

1. What ways did Jesus show us true love?
2. Does loving others mean you accept being bullied or abused?
3. What are some ways we are called to show true love?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

Answers: 1. He gave his life for everyone, including those who did not love him back. 2. No. We must tell a trusted adult when someone is treating us in an unloving way. 3. Accept all reasonable responses, including being kind and helpful to others.



## Chapter 20

## Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# We Can Pray at All Times

Scripture Focus: Ephesians 6:14–18

### Lesson Goals

- to explain that God's help and protection is like a suit of armor
- to state that we can ask for God's help in prayer
- to identify prayer as an important way we can help others

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1850 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Ephesians 6:14–18).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 20 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 20 activity booklet.

**Ask** your child to imagine being a firefighter about to go into a burning house. Discuss what protection a firefighter needs in a fire.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn about what gifts, or armor, you have to protect yourselves against sin.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1850 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Ephesians 6:14–18).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Can you name the parts of armor that were mentioned in the story? (*belt, breastplate, shoes, shield, helmet, sword*)
- What is another important aspect of God's protection? (*prayer for help for ourselves and for others*)
- What should we do when things become hard? (*Keep alert, never give up, pray always.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1851 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the puzzle on page 2 of the chapter 20 activity booklet.  
*Answers: See solution on the third page of this home guide chapter.*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Put on God's Armor" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 20 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 20 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 20 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet. Add any missing stickers. Take a few moments to admire the completed picture.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 20 activity booklet.



## Chapter 20

# Put on God's Armor

If you have ever played or watched sports, you know athletes wear **protective** clothing, or armor. Football players wear helmets and shoulder pads. Soccer players wear shin guards. Basketball players wear mouth guards. Protective clothing allows athletes to play without worrying about getting hurt.

Life is not always easy. Sometimes we have to do hard things. So we must always be ready to put on God's armor. When we know we are protected, we are not afraid of what is ahead.

We can build our spiritual armor by praying to God. Prayer means talking and listening to God. You can talk to God in your own words, just like you talk to your parents and friends. You can ask him to help

you or to help someone you know. And you can do this every day, all day. The Bible tells us that Jesus himself prayed many times, asking God the Father to help him or those around him.

You can also learn prayers that Jesus and his Church have given to us. These prayers are words of love that help us talk to God, even when we can't find our own words. God might not always give us exactly what we ask for, but he always gives us what he knows to be best for us.

The more we pray for ourselves and others, the more we put on spiritual armor. Being under God's armor is the best protection we can have!

### Key Word

**protective** Something that shields or guards from damage.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Prayer Is Talking to God," page 48

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

### Review

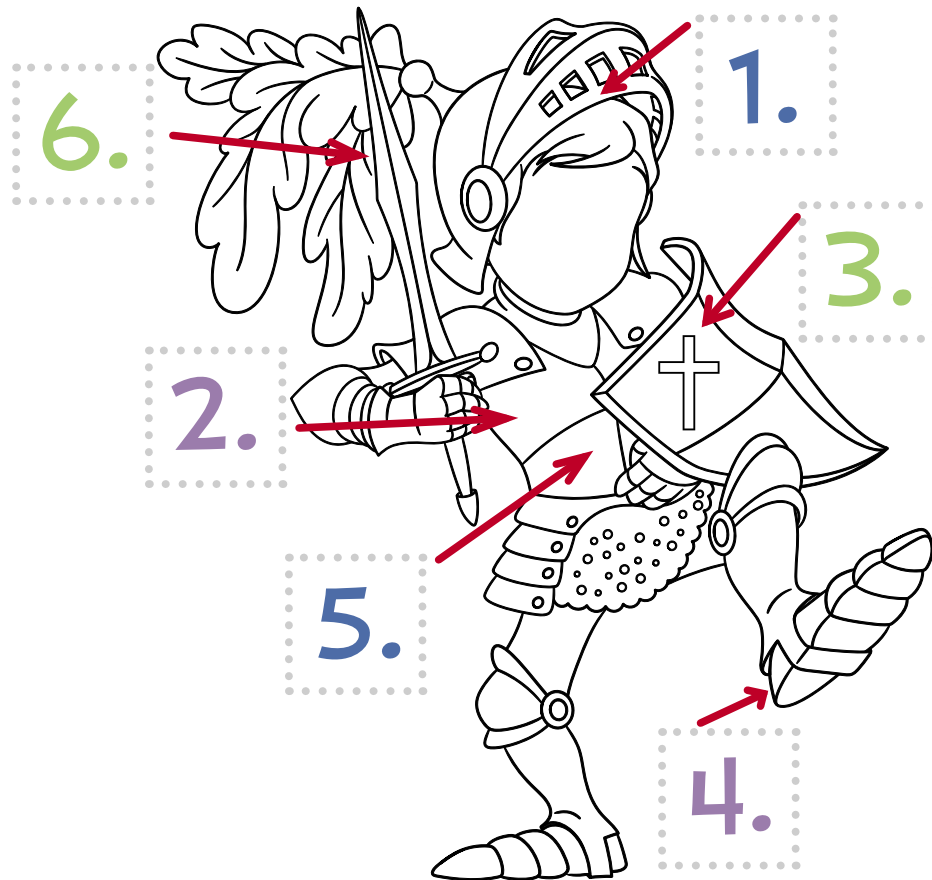
1. How do we build our spiritual armor?
2. What are some different ways to pray?
3. Does God always answer our prayers?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

Answers: 1. By praying to God and asking him to help us and others. 2. We can pray for ourselves or others with our own words. We can pray using the prayers of the Church. 3. Yes, but not always in the exact way we want. God always knows what is best for us.





**Chapter**  
**20****Answer Key**



## Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# A Call to Holiness

Scripture Focus: Mark 5:38–42

## Lesson Goals

- to explain that Jesus brought a little girl to life as a hint of resurrection and eternal life
- to identify that the saints live forever through the power of Jesus' Resurrection
- to discuss our own resurrection and eternal life with God and the saints

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1538 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 5:38–42).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the All Saints' Day activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the All Saints' Day activity booklet.

**Ask** your child whether she or he knows anyone who is holy. Include family members, teachers and coaches, babysitters, and friends in your discussion.

**Tell** your child that today's Scripture reminds us of the new life that God offers everyone who loves and follows his way.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1538 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 5:38–42).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Why were the people at Jairus's house upset? (*Jairus's young daughter had just died.*)
- What did Jesus do first? (*He told the family that the girl was only sleeping.*)
- What did he do next? (*He went into the girl's room and brought her back to life.*)
- What did the girl do? (*She got up and began walking around.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1539 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the puzzle on page 2 of the All Saints' Day activity booklet. *Answers: See solution on the third page of this home guide chapter.*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Living in Joy Forever" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the All Saints' Day activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the All Saints' Day activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. Explain that we pray to different saints who pray for us in all of our different needs, and lead your child in prayer.





# Living in Joy Forever

On Halloween, you probably dress up in a costume and visit neighbors to trick or treat. But did you know that the day after Halloween is an important feast day in the Church? This feast, on November 1, is called All Saints' Day. In fact, some children celebrate this day by dressing up as important saints on November 1.

Saints are holy people who followed Jesus during their lives on Earth. Because of his Resurrection, they can now live in joy forever with God in Heaven. On All Saints' Day, we honor and celebrate everyone in Heaven—not just the saints who have special days on the Church's calendar.

God calls everyone to be a saint. He wants all of us to live in love and be holy as members of the **Communion of Saints**. *Communion* means “union with.” This union includes all the saints in Heaven, plus everyone living as part of the Church on Earth right now. That includes you!

As members of the Communion of Saints, we all share love and prayers with everyone else in the Body of Christ—in Heaven, on Earth, and in **Purgatory**. Many holy people live on Earth today. Some even live in our families, parishes, and communities. All of us in the Church look forward to the day when we will all unite with God and one another in Heaven.

## Key Words

**Communion of Saints** All members of the Body of Christ on Earth, in Heaven, and in Purgatory.

**Purgatory** A final cleansing of sins some people undergo after death before they can enter Heaven.

## Review

1. Who are the saints?
2. What do we celebrate on All Saints' Day?
3. Does God call everyone to be a saint?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- “Our Friends, the Saints” + activity, pages 55–56

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

Answers: 1. They are holy people who followed the loving way of Jesus. They live forever with God in Heaven. 2. We celebrate all people who are in Heaven, whether they are known saints or not. 3. Yes, God calls everyone to live in love and to be holy.







## Answer Key

Z	I	X	C	R	Y	I	N	G	K
Z	W	B	X	Q	F	C	G	D	A
F	A	T	H	E	R	O	I	I	B
S	L	E	E	P	I	N	G	S	A
O	K	E	C	B	A	F	R	C	M
M	I	I	H	U	L	U	M	I	A
L	N	G	I	B	I	S	D	P	Z
O	G	C	L	A	V	I	G	L	E
D	E	A	D	T	E	O	V	E	D
M	O	T	H	E	R	N	L	S	S



## Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# Preparing for Jesus

Scripture Focus: Mark 1:4–8

## Lesson Goals

- to indicate that John the Baptist prepared the people for Jesus
- to identify ourselves as wanting to prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas
- to describe ways we can make ourselves ready for Jesus

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1526 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 1:4–8).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Advent activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Advent activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to recall times when something exciting was about to happen. Talk with your child about her or his feelings leading up to the event and whether it required any special preparation.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn about what we do in Advent to prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ at Christmas.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1526 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 1:4–8).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did John tell the people? (*He called them to reject their sins and be baptized so God would forgive their sins.*)
- After the people confessed their sins, what did John do? (*He baptized them in the Jordan River.*)
- John told people that a man would come after him who would be much greater than he was. Who might this person be? (*Accept any response; tell your child this person will be revealed later in the lesson.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1527 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the Advent activity booklet.

*Answer: JOHN*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Changing Our Hearts in Advent" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Advent activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Advent activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. On Christmas Eve, invite your child to place the Baby Jesus in the manger.





# Changing Our Hearts in Advent

How do you **prepare** for something exciting? If you play sports, you practice a lot before games. If you have a music or dance recital, you rehearse your pieces over and over. To prepare for a vacation, you might think hard about what toys and clothes to pack.

In today's reading, John the Baptist told people to prepare for the coming of someone special. He called people to turn away from sin, believe in God, and trust that God would forgive them. Then he baptized people in the Jordan River. His baptisms cleansed people who wanted to turn their hearts toward God.

John explained that his baptisms only prepared people to receive Jesus. John said Jesus would offer a more powerful Baptism in the Holy Spirit. The

Baptism that Jesus gave us brings us into God's family and makes us members of the Church.

We learn about John the Baptist in **Advent** because we are preparing to receive Jesus at Christmas—just as John prepared people to receive Jesus. We can get ready for Jesus by praying, telling God we are sorry for our sins, and doing kind things for others. Like the people John baptized, we can change our hearts, turning away from selfish thoughts toward love and kindness.

In Advent, the color purple stands for turning away from sin, and the color pink (or rose) stands for joy. If your family has an Advent wreath, spend time thinking about the colored candles today.

## Key Words

**Advent** Season of preparation for Christ's birth; advent means "coming."

**prepare** To get ready.

## Review

1. What does it mean to change our hearts?
2. What does the season of Advent prepare us to do?
3. What can we do to get ready to welcome Jesus?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Advent," page 31

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

*Answers: 1. We turn away from sin, follow Jesus, and try to be loving and kind. 2. It helps us prepare to receive Jesus at Christmas. 3. We can pray, tell God we are sorry for our sins, and do kind actions for others.*







## Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# We Celebrate Jesus' Birth

Scripture Focus: Luke 2:8–11, 13

### Lesson Goals

- to explain that angels are God's messengers
- to identify that the shepherds' fear was turned to joy when they heard about Jesus' birth
- to name that Jesus' birth is Good News for us too

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1578 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 2:8–11, 13).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Christmas activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Christmas activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to think of a time when he or she heard really exciting news.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores some wonderful news that was shared a long time ago.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1578 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 2:8–11, 13).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did the angel, the messenger from God, tell the shepherds? (*The angel told them that Jesus, the savior, had been born in Bethlehem.*)
- How did the shepherds feel about the news at first? (*They were afraid.*)
- How did the shepherds' feelings change? (*They became filled with joy.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1579 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the puzzle on page 2 of the Christmas activity booklet.

*Answers: See solution on the third page of this home guide chapter.*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Joy to the World" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Christmas activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Christmas activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. You may want to use your Nativity set as a focal point. As suggested, take a moment to kneel together to pray the "Thank you, Jesus" prayer.





# Joy to the World

Pretend that you are a shepherd at night. You and the other shepherds are looking after the sheep on a hillside. The night is dark, and the sky is full of stars. All is quiet. Suddenly a stranger appears in front of you—an **angel**, shining a glorious light over you and your sheep. The angel announces, “I have good news for you!” Then more and more angels appear and begin to sing praises to God. How do you imagine you might feel?

The shepherds in today’s story were frightened. But their fear turned to joy when they understood the angel’s message. The angel had come to announce that Jesus, their **savior**, had been born in Bethlehem. He was Christ the Lord!

## Key Words

**angel** A pure spirit; some angels are messengers of God.

**savior** One who saves others from danger or death.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- “Jesus Is Born” + activity, pages 12–13

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

Angels are pure spirits. That means they don’t really have bodies—and they don’t really have wings. We show angels with wings to show that they can move quickly from one place to another. All the angels live with God in Heaven. They see God and sing his praises at all times. Some angels are messengers of God and appear to human beings with important news.

Like the shepherds, we have every reason to rejoice at Jesus’ birth. His birth is Good News for us too, because he is our savior. He will keep us safe from sin and lead us toward Heaven.

He is joy for the world! Alleluia!

## Review

1. What are angels? What do they do?
2. How did the shepherds’ feelings about the angel’s message change?
3. Why is Jesus’ birth Good News for us?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

Answers: 1. Angels are pure spirits. Some angels are messengers of God. 2. At first they were afraid, but later they were joyful. 3. Jesus is our savior who saves us from sin and leads us to Heaven.





## Answer Key

A	H	S	F	C	L	B	L	V
N	Y	H	J	H	I	Y	C	K
G	M	E	O	R	L	C	W	D
E	G	P	Y	I	G	N	B	B
L	Y	H	O	S	X	T	A	R
U	Y	E	X	T	N	N	I	T
S	U	R	T	G	R	E	L	M
J	O	D	F	J	S	W	I	H
H	Y	S	H	X	R	S	P	U





## Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# Following Jesus More Closely

Scripture Focus: Luke 15:11, 20–24

## Lesson Goals

- to identify that the father in the story is a reminder of God and his forgiveness
- to state that during Lent we make a special effort to be kind and to forgive others
- to recall our need to ask for forgiveness

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1620 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 15:11, 20–24).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Lent activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Lent activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to brainstorm examples of actions that are kind and unkind.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores a story that Jesus told about forgiveness.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1620 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 15:11, 20–24).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- When the son was still a long way from home, what did the father do? (*He ran to his son, hugged and kissed him, and asked the servants to bring him the best clothing.*)
- How did the father feel when he saw the son on his way? (*See verse 20.*)
- Why do you think the father felt this way? (*Allow all reasonable answers.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1621 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the puzzle on page 2 of the Lent activity booklet.

*Answer: See solution on the third page of this home guide chapter.*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Preparing for Jesus' Resurrection" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Lent activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Lent activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. You may want to light a candle as a sign of God's presence, and use a globe as a focal point as you pray together for the needs of the world.





# Preparing for Jesus' Resurrection

Two sisters, Anna and Hannah, were playing in the sandbox together. Hannah suddenly poured sand on Anna's head. The sand got into Anna's hair, her eyes, and even her mouth. Hannah giggled, but Anna started crying.

How would you feel if you were Anna? How would you feel if you were Hannah? What could Hannah do to make things better? How could Anna respond?

Lent is a season when we prepare to celebrate Jesus' Resurrection at Easter. We think of ways to follow Jesus more closely. One way is by saying we're sorry and asking forgiveness when we have been unkind—just as Hannah should **apologize** to Anna and make **amends**. Another way is by doing good things for others.

## Key Words

**amends** Actions to make things right with someone we have harmed.

**apologize** To say, "I'm sorry."

**reflect** To think or pray about.

During Lent, we decorate our churches with purple, because purple stands for sorrow. We **reflect** on our sorrow for our own sins and for Jesus' suffering and death. This is why we also do not sing the joyful "Alleluia" during Lent.

To prepare for Jesus' Resurrection, we spend Lent finding extra ways to be kind to one another. Some people also give up something they enjoy but don't really need—like candy or television. Instead people can use that time or money to help those who truly are in need. What kind act can you try to do more this Lent? And what can you give up in order to focus on what's really important—our Savior, Jesus?

## Review

1. What do we focus on during Lent?
2. What does the color purple mean during Lent?
3. Why might we give up treats in Lent?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

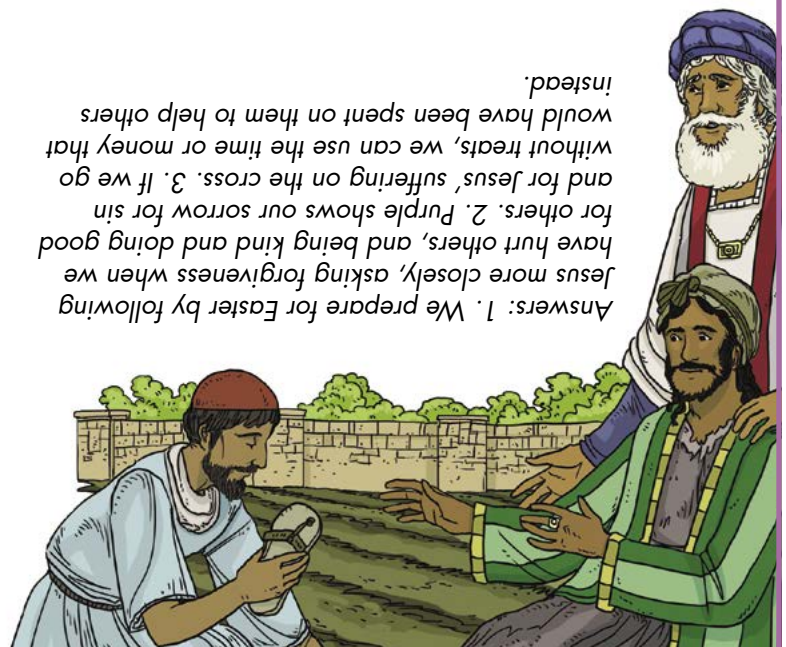
## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Lent," page 33

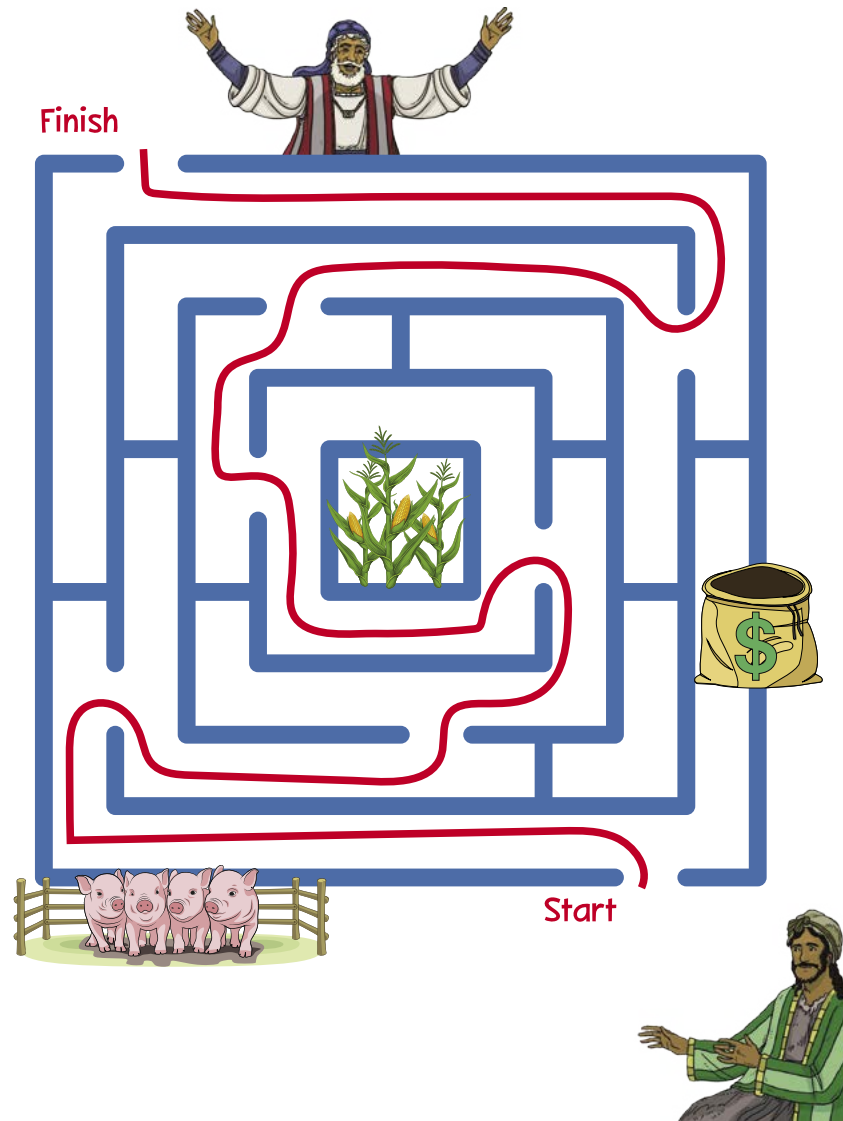
If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

Answers: 1. We prepare for Easter by following Jesus more closely, asking forgiveness when we have hurt others, and being kind and doing good for others. 2. Purple shows our sorrow for sin and for Jesus' suffering on the cross. 3. If we go without treats, we can use the time or money that would have been spent on them to help others instead.





# Answer Key







## Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# We Celebrate the Resurrection

Scripture Focus: Mark 16:1–6

## Lesson Goals

- to indicate that Jesus rose from the dead
- to state that we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection on Easter Sunday
- to explain that Jesus' Resurrection means that we also will rise with him one day

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1568 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 16:1–6).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Easter activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Easter activity booklet.

**Focus** on eggs as an Easter symbol. Explain that the egg reminds us of the tomb. Share that from the outside, it looks like nothing is happening. But, after some time, a new chick comes out of the egg, just like Jesus came out of the tomb.

**Tell** your child that together you will explore the story of this hopeful event: Jesus rose from the dead.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1568 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 16:1–6).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- When did the three women visit Jesus' tomb, and why? (*The women visited on Sunday morning to anoint his body with spices.*)
- What did the young man wearing the white robe say to the women? (*He told them not to be alarmed. He knew they were looking for Jesus, but Jesus was not in the tomb. He had risen from the dead.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1569 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the Easter activity booklet.  
*Answers: Two boxes on top: 2 and 3;  
 Three boxes on bottom: 5, 1, and 4.*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Christ Is Risen, Alleluia!" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

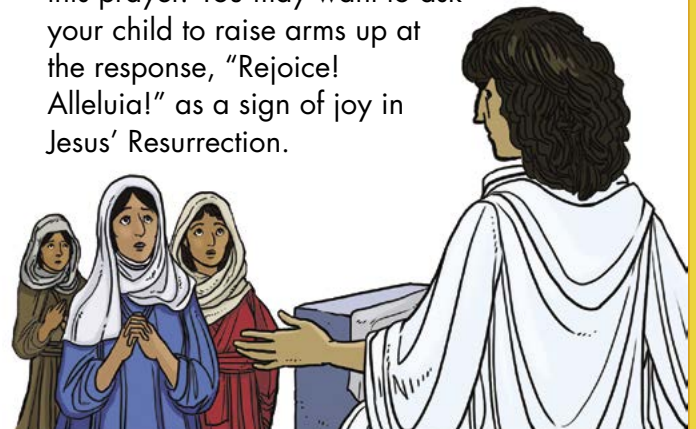
## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Easter activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Ask** your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 7 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Easter activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. Ask your child to stand for this prayer. You may want to ask your child to raise arms up at the response, "Rejoice! Alleluia!" as a sign of joy in Jesus' Resurrection.





# Christ Is Risen, Alleluia!

Look around at the Easter decorations in your home and church—even in the grocery store. You probably see eggs, chicks, bunnies, and Easter lilies and other spring flowers. These **symbols** help us understand the **Resurrection** of Christ because they remind us of the promise of new life.

Jesus' Resurrection means we will also rise to new life. In fact, if you have been baptized, you already have new life from God, given to you in the waters of Baptism. This new life does not end after we die—we will have new life forever with God. Jesus promised us this new life. We know that Jesus keeps his promises.

Jesus rose from the dead on a Sunday. So every Sunday has become holy to Christians—it is the Lord's Day. So we celebrate the Resurrection every Sunday, but especially on Easter Sunday. Our Masses become especially joyful, as we sing, "Christ is risen!" We join family to eat delicious food—and candy—after the Lenten season of fasting. And we go on celebrating Easter for seven weeks—fifty days in all. Easter is the high point of our year in the Church.

Jesus' Resurrection, and the promise of our own resurrection, is Good News! How will you celebrate this joyful news this Easter?

## Key Words

**Resurrection** Jesus' rising from death to new life.

**symbol** Something that means or stands for something else.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Jesus Rises from the Dead" + activity, pages 16–17
- "Easter," page 34

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

## Review

1. What does Jesus' Resurrection mean?
2. What did Jesus promise to those who follow him faithfully?
3. Why are Sundays holy to us?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

Answers: 1. Jesus' rising from death to new life. 2. He promised that we would also rise with him. 3. Because Jesus rose from the dead on a Sunday.





## Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# Filled with the Holy Spirit

Scripture Focus: Acts of the Apostles 2:1–6

## Lesson Goals

- to state that the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples at Pentecost
- to identify that Pentecost is often called the birthday of the Church
- to name that we were filled with the Holy Spirit at our Baptism

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1714 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Acts of the Apostles 2:1–6).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Pentecost activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Pentecost activity booklet.

**Ask** your child to share a situation—at home or at school—when she or he knew the right thing to do.

**Tell** your child that this lesson focuses on a time when Jesus' disciples became very certain about the right thing to do, because of the Holy Spirit.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1714 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Acts of the Apostles 2:1–6).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What happened after Jesus' followers heard the noise like a strong wind? (*They saw tongues of fire that spread out and touched each person.*)
- What happened to the believers after they saw what looked like tongues of fire? (*They were filled with the Holy Spirit.*)
- What did the believers do after they were filled with the Holy Spirit? (*They went out to speak to the people in many languages.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1715 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the Pentecost activity booklet.

*Answers: gathered, wind, tongues, touched, Holy Spirit, talk*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Come, Holy Spirit" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Pentecost activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Pentecost activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. You may want to light a candle as a reminder of the fire of the Holy Spirit.







# Come, Holy Spirit

What comes to mind when you think of fire? Do you think about its warmth and light—or its power to destroy? What about wind? Do you think about gusts of air blowing leaves from the trees—or perhaps tornadoes and hurricanes?

In the Bible, fire and wind point to the presence of the Holy Spirit. Wind can be very powerful, so it reminds us of the power of the Holy Spirit. Fire is a sign of the love of the Holy Spirit. Even though fire can be dangerous, it also warms us and gives us light.

Today's reading about **Pentecost** tells us that the Holy Spirit first came to Jesus' followers in both forms:

## Key Word

**Pentecost** The day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit on Jesus' followers, fifty days after Easter.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The Church," page 26

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

wind and fire. The Spirit gave the disciples new life and new power to go out and preach in his name. It even made them able to speak many different languages, so that all who heard them could receive the Good News. This is why Pentecost is often called the "birthday of the Church"!

Two sacraments fill us with the power of the Holy Spirit: the Sacrament of Baptism and the Sacrament of Confirmation. One day you will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, but we are first filled with the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Baptism. Because of this, we can tell others about Jesus. How can you share the Good News with one other person today, in your words or actions?

## Review

1. What are the signs of the Holy Spirit's presence in Scripture?
2. Why is Pentecost sometimes called the birthday of the Church?
3. What did the disciples do after they were filled with the Holy Spirit?
4. What two sacraments fill us with the Holy Spirit?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

Answers: 1. Wind and fire. 2. The Holy Spirit gave the disciples new life and new power. 3. They went out to tell others about Jesus. 4. Baptism and Confirmation.





# We Learn from Jesus

Scripture Focus: Matthew 7:7-11

## Lesson Goals

- to state that Jesus wants us to ask God for what we need
- to recall that God loves us and that we can pray to him at any time
- to identify Ordinary Time as the time to learn more about Jesus and how he revealed God's love for us

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1464 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 7:7-11).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Ordinary Time activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Ordinary Time activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to name some things that are "needs" and some things that are "wants." Explain the difference as needed.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn how one thing we can always do, if we have a big need, is to pray to God.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1464 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 7:7-11).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did Jesus tell us to do when we pray? (*ask, seek, and knock*)
- What did Jesus say will happen when we pray this way? (*He said we will receive what we want, find what we are looking for, and have the door opened.*)
- How is God like a good parent? (*He gives us things that are good for us, not things that are bad for us.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1465 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the Ordinary Time activity booklet.

Answers: 1. receive, 2. find, 3. opened, 4. good, 5. ask

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "God Always Answers" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Ordinary Time activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Ordinary Time activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. You may want to light a candle as a reminder of the presence of God as you pray together for your daily needs.





# God Always Answers

What does it mean to be **ordinary**? You might think ordinary means boring or plain. But in the Church calendar, **Ordinary Time** is special!

Ordinary Time really refers to two times, which together make up more than half of the Church year. The first Ordinary Time is the season between Christmas and Lent. The second Ordinary Time is the season between Pentecost and the end of the Church year, when Advent begins again.

During Ordinary Time, the priest's vestments and the altar cloths are green. Green is a color that reminds us of life and growth. During Ordinary Time, we hear Scripture readings about Jesus' everyday life. We grow in understanding of his life by hearing about the miracles he performed and the stories he told to teach us about God.

## Key Words

**ordinary** Normal, expected, regular.

**Ordinary Time** The season of the Church Year when we learn more about the life of Jesus.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activities in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Prayer Is Talking to God" + activity, pages 48–49
- "Prayer Is Listening to God" + activity, pages 50–51

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activities.

Answers: 1. Ordinary Time. 2. The Church uses the color green because it stands for life and growth. We grow in understanding of Jesus' life during Ordinary Time. 3. No, but he does answer all prayers. Sometimes he responds by giving us what we need, not what we want.

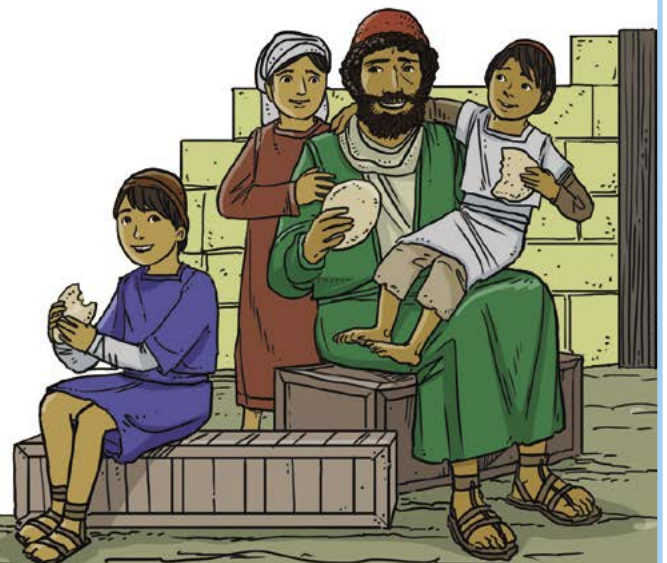
One of the things Jesus taught us is that we can turn to God any time in prayer. Part of understanding God better is knowing that we can talk to him. We can ask him for whatever we need, whenever we need it. God always answers our prayers! Like a good parent, he might not give us the answer we want, especially if he knows it isn't good for us. But he always gives us the answer we need.

Think about the last thing you prayed to God for. Was it truly a need, or was it a want? What answer did he give you, and how did you know? Was it the answer you wanted, or was it the answer you really needed?

## Review

1. What Church season makes up more than half of the year?
2. What color does the Church use during Ordinary Time, and why?
3. Does God answer all prayers the way we expect him to?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!







## Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# Saying "Yes" to God

Scripture Focus: Luke 1:30–33, 38

### Lesson Goals

- to identify Mary as the wife of Joseph and the mother of Jesus
- to identify that Mary trusted God, which made the birth of Jesus possible
- to state that we can also trust God in our lives

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1574 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 1:30–33, 38).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Mary activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Mary activity booklet.

**Find** an image of flowers in a magazine that your child can cut out, or make a flower out of tissue paper together.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson focuses on Mary, our Mother, who trusted God to lead her.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1574 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 1:30–33, 38).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did the angel say to Mary? (*He told her not to be afraid. He told her that she would become the mother of Jesus.*)
- What did the angel say about Jesus? (*He said that Jesus would be the Son of God. He would become a king like David and would be the king of God's people forever. His Kingdom will never end.*)
- What did Mary say to the angel? (*She said that she was the Lord's servant. She agreed to have everything happen as the angel said.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1575 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the Mary activity booklet.

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Say 'Yes' to God!" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Mary activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Mary activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. You may want to use a statue or image of Mary as a focal point, and, at the end of the prayer service, ask your child to place the image of flowers or the tissue-paper flower (prepared earlier) near Mary.





# Say "Yes" to God!

In our families, we are often asked to do many things. When is it easy to say "yes" to your parents? When is it hard? What makes it easy or hard to say "yes" to your parents?

As we journey toward holiness, God asks us to trust him. He asks us to say "yes" when he calls us to do good works and make good choices. He asks us to say "yes" even when we don't understand his plan.

Today's Bible reading tells us about the most important "yes" of all: Mary's "yes" to God! Mary was engaged to marry Joseph. God sent an angel to tell Mary that she would become the mother of his Son. Saying "yes" to having a baby, the Son of God,

was a big **responsibility** for Mary to accept. But by agreeing to God's plan, she made the birth of Jesus possible.

We honor Mary in the months of May and October, and on several days throughout the year, because of her special role as Jesus' mother. We read today's Scripture story on many of those days to help us recall the trust and faith that Mary had for God's plan.

Saying "yes" to God is not always easy. But God is always with us. If we trust him, just as Mary did, he will help us do what he asks of us.

## Key Word

**responsibility** Something we must do to care for something good we have been given.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Holy Mary, Mother of God" + activity, pages 10–11

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

## Review

1. Why was it a big responsibility for Mary to say "yes" to God's plan for her to be the mother of Jesus?
2. When do we honor Mary, and why?
3. What will God do for us if we trust him as Mary did?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

Answers: 1. Having a baby is a big responsibility; being the Mother of God is a big responsibility. 2. We honor Mary on special days throughout the Church's year, because of her special role in Jesus' life. 3. He will help us carry out his plan for us, as he did for Mary.



# Acknowledgments

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