

OPENING PRAYER

Begin your discovery session today with your child or children in prayer. Gather together in your dedicated prayer space and ask your children to quiet their minds and hearts as you pray together. Begin with the [SIGN OF THE CROSS](#) and recite a favorite prayer, choose one of the [COMMON PRAYERS BY GRADE](#) or, sing [AS IT IS IN HEAVEN](#) or [THE LORD'S PRAYER](#) (both by Matt Maher) together. Conclude by praying the [SIGN OF THE CROSS](#).

ENGAGE

(Mental warm-up)

Say, "Today, we are going to learn about Jesus Christ. I want to share with you one of my favorite passages about Jesus, found in the Bible... (*Read your favorite passage from the Bible about Jesus and explain WHY it is important to you or your favorite passage*)...You know, the Bible is our best source for learning about who Jesus Christ is."

EXPLORE

(Pre-assessment of faith concepts)

Ask/Discuss, "What do you know about Jesus Christ?"

- ❖ As your child or children share their ideas, have them jot a few down on a sticky note (with their name) and then place them on the wall in your discovery space. (For younger children, you may act as the 'scribe'). Retain the sticky notes to have an understanding of what your child or children already know or don't know. This will be helpful as you move along in your lessons.
 - ❖ To facilitate thinking and discussion, use some of the following prompts: Who were Jesus' parents? Where was Jesus born? When do we celebrate Jesus' birth? What do you know about Jesus' childhood? What did Jesus do and teach us while he was on earth? Who were Jesus' friends? How did Jesus die and what happened after he died? *Plus, any others you can think of...*
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EQ "Essential Question"

(This question serves as a cognitive bookend for your child or children – i.e., it is the targeted "so what" or "take-away" of the lesson being presented)

Share and post a physical representation of the lesson's EQ in your study space:

What do we know about the life of Jesus Christ on earth?

EXPLAIN (Either guided with your assistance or working independently, have your child or children review their relevant grade-level material – listed below - and complete the workbook activities. *Empower older children by allowing them to mentor younger siblings*):

- PREK3:** *Allelu! Lesson 27 (I am Growing); Allelu! Home Session Plan [Lesson 27 Home Session Activity Plan](#)*
- PREK4:** *Allelu! Lesson 8 (Jesus is the Good Shepherd); Allelu! Home Session Plan [Lesson 8 Home Session Activity Plan](#)*
- Kinder:** *Call to Faith, Chapter 4: pgs. 48-50 (God the Father) and Chapter 7 (God Sends His Son)*
- Grade 1:** *Alive in Christ, pgs. K4 & K5 + Chapter 8 (Jesus Teaches Love)*
- Grade 2:** *Alive in Christ, pgs. K4 & K5 + Chapter 5 (God the Son)*
- Grade 3:** *Alive in Christ, pgs. K4 thru K6 + Chapter 3 (Families Teach Love)*
- Grade 4:** *Alive in Christ, pgs. K1, K2 & K4 + Chapter 8 (Love God and Neighbor)*
- Grade 5:** *Alive in Christ, Chapter 7 (Living Image of Christ) and Chapter 9 (Celebrating the Paschal Mystery)*
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EXTEND

(As a family, gather back together and have each child share, in turn, what they learned about Jesus Christ and his life on earth. Together as a family, come up with a list of *at least three new things* that you learned, were surprised by or think others should know about Jesus. Then, *extend the lesson together by completing at least one of the activities* provided below).

Lower Elementary

- Video: [LET'S MEET JESUS IN SONG](#)
- Craft: [JESUS LOVES ME](#)
- Activity: [THE NAMES OF JESUS GUIDED MEDITATION](#)

Upper Elementary

- Video: Watch [THE STORY OF JESUS](#) or [THE NAMES OF JESUS](#) video
 - Crafts: Create a set of the [NAMES OF JESUS CARDS](#) or complete the [NAME OF JESUS](#) or [JESUS I AM'S](#) craft
 - Activity:
Recite the [LITANY OF THE MOST HOLY NAMES OF JESUS](#) together as a class, or spend some time completing the [NAMES OF JESUS GUIDED MEDITATION](#) or the [NAMES OF JESUS REFLECTION ACTIVITY](#)
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EVALUATE/REFLECT

Restate today's Essential Question (EQ) – *What do we know about the life of Jesus Christ on earth?*

- Summarize what's been learned during this lesson, emphasizing those concepts which may have been missed or misunderstood in the EXPLORE step above.

Say, "Jesus is the Son of God. He was born into a Jewish family and lived with his mother Mary and his earthly father, Joseph, who was a carpenter. Jesus became a man and lived on earth. He was kind to everyone and showed us how to be kind to and love

- **Say**, “Think back to the passage that I read from the Bible at the beginning of our lesson today. What does it specifically share with us about Jesus Christ’s life here on earth?” *(Discuss together, affirming and reinforcing appropriate answers/teaching points).*
- **Separately reflect on these questions: *How was Jesus’ life similar to my own life? How was it different? Who is Jesus Christ to me?*** *(After some reflection time, turn and share your answers with another family member).*

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[THE TEMPLE GAME](#), [LIFE OF JESUS PRINTABLES](#), [EASY BABY JESUS CRAFT](#), [NAMES OF JESUS NOTEBOOK](#), [MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS CRAFT](#)

- ***Meditations:*** (Video about meditating with children – for parent catechists - [MEDITATION](#)) [MEETING JESUS](#) (play some soft music and guide the children through this meditation which you read), [THE NAMES OF JESUS GUIDED MEDITATION](#)

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