

BE MY DISCIPLES (NOVEMBER OUTLINE)

"Throughout the year you have the opportunity to enter into the mystery of faith with your children and walk with them as they learn what it means to know, love, and serve God."

CHAPTER 1

Grade 1 - The Bible - the word of God where we learn about God's love

Grade 3 - God Speaks to Us

"God's gift of faith helps us know and believe in Him; God speaks to us through the Bible and through the Church"

Grade 4 - God's Word to Us

"The Holy Spirit inspired the human authors of the Bible, which is the inspired Word of God; the New testament begins with the four Gospels."

Grade 5 - Speak, Lord

"Divine revelation is God making Himself known and revealing his plan of Creation and Salvation; God most fully reveals himself through his son, Jesus Christ."

Theme: Teach Me Your Ways

"Teach me, Lord, your way that I may walk in your truth" (Psalm 86:11)

Background

This chapter will focus on faith concepts such as God's Word, the gift of faith, the meaning of Divine Revelation and how God most completely reveals himself to us through Jesus Christ. They will learn that their lives can be guided by the Gift of the Holy Spirit and will explore how people of faith have lived their life by these teachings. The last thing is how they will be challenged to use this gift to make good decisions as Disciples of Jesus.

Main Focus

- God reveals himself to us and shows us the way to Himself
- God gives us the gift of faith to help us to know and believe in Him

Starting Prayer

(Have children bow their heads and remember that God is present with them in this time and place. Bless yourself with the sign of the cross.)

*Holy God, we praise your name.
You are all knowing and all loving.
You are always present with us.
Teach us your way.
Show us how to love you.
Teach us how to love each other the best that we can.
Guide us as we learn the truth about you.
Bless our family.
Bless all those in need today. Amen.*

Who is God?

Ask your children this question. See if you can write down words and phrases that come to their mind. Tell them that they will be learning so much more about God and how He is present in the world around us.

In the Book

Pg. 11 - Have children/child read to themselves (or out loud) and have them share what they just read. Point out that each child will discover how God teaches us about Himself.

Pg.12 - this page explores how the Church sets an example for us of how to be good disciples. Read together or silently.

Encourage them to share with you what they read or learned. (How did this person or group follow Jesus?)

Read “Disciple Power” and talk about how it relates to what they already read. See if they can give examples of how family members practice these virtues. Pick one to try to practice this week.

Pg.13 - read Faith Focus question. Pages 13-15 will answer that question. When you finish reading those pages, discuss what they have learned. Have them answer the faith focus question in their own words.

Pg. 16 - this page will summarize the lesson, have an activity to tie it all together, and invites them to make a faith choice for the week.

Pg. 17 - have the children complete the Chapter review

Closing Prayer

Leader: *God, our creator, we are thankful for the time we have shared today. Be with us as we pray together.*

(have each child fill in the blank) *God I thank you for _____ who has helped teach me your ways.*

Leader: *God of truth, Help us find you in the Bible, in the Church, in creation, and in other people. Help us to always listen when you speak. We ask this in Christ our Lord.*

All: Amen

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CHAPTER 2

Grade 1 - God Loves Us

"God is the creator; God created us in his image and likeness"

Grade 3 - God the Creator

"God is the creator; God created us in his image and likeness"

Grade 4 - I Will Be Your God

"God gives us the gift of faith; God has revealed Himself most fully in his Son, Jesus Christ"

Grade 5 - The Word of God

"The Bible is the inspired Word of God; the New Testament reveals that Jesus Christ is the new and everlasting Covenant"

Theme: See God's Works

"Come and see the works of God, his tremendous deeds among the people"

(based on Psalm 66:5)

Background

This chapter will look into faith concepts such as the Bible and God's loving plan for salvation; God the Creator and his loving care for us and all of His creation; God's gift of faith which helps us to know and love him; and Jesus as the greatest sign of God's love. Together you will reflect on how your family, a household of faith filled people, sees the works of God in your home and in the world around you.

Main Focus

- God reveals himself to us in Jesus, His son
- The wondrous works of God are all around us

Starting Prayer

(Have children bow their heads and remember that God is present with them in this time and place. Bless yourself with the sign of the cross.)

*Loving God, Creator of the universe, we ask for your blessing upon us.
Help us remember that you have created each of us in your image and likeness.
Help us to remember that each member of our family is a work of God.
Jesus, your son, shows us who you are and teaches us to know you, to love you, and to serve you.
Bless our time together today.
Amen.*

Where do you see works of God?

Ask your children this question. Listen to the examples that they give and add a few of your own. Point out that the works of God are all around us, everywhere we look.

In the Book

Pg. 19 - Have children/child read to themselves (or out loud) and have them share what they just read. If more than one child is learning, have them compare what they will be learning in this chapter. Point out that in this chapter they will be learning ways that we come to see works of God.

Pg. 20 - this page explores how the Church sets an example for us of how to be good disciples. Read together or silently.

Encourage them to share with you what they read or learned. (How did this person or group follow Jesus?)

Read "Disciple Power" and talk about how it relates to what they already read. See if they can give examples of how family members practice these virtues. Pick one to try to practice this week.

Pg. 21 - read Faith Focus question. Pages 21-23 will answer that question. When you finish reading those pages, discuss what they have learned. Have them answer the faith focus question in their own words. Have them explain to you how your family honors the works of God's creation.

Pg. 24 - this page will summarize the lesson, have an activity to tie it all together, and invites them to make a faith choice for the week.

Pg. 25 - have the children complete the Chapter review

Closing Prayer

Leader: *God, our creator, we are thankful for the time we have shared today. Be with us as we pray together.*

(have each child fill in the blank) *I am thankful for _____*

Leader: *God, help us to remember to always give thanks for your wondrous deeds. Help us to show reverence for all that you have made. Guide us so that we can work together to bring your love to the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

All: Amen

BE MY DISCIPLES (NOVEMBER OUTLINE)

CHAPTER 3

Grade 1 - God, Our Father and Creator

"God made the world out of love. We are created in God's image and likeness. Jesus taught us that God is our Father."

Grade 3 - Mary Trusted God

"God chose Mary to be the mother of His son, Jesus. Jesus is the son of God and the son of Mary. Mary shows us what it means to say 'yes' to God."

Grade 4 - The Mystery of God

"God is the almighty who is all knowing, all loving, and faithful; God is the creator and we are created in His image and likeness."

Grade 5 - The Holy Trinity

"The Holy Trinity is the central belief of the faith of the Church whose mystery is fully realized in Jesus Christ. We profess belief in the Holy Trinity when we say the Nicene Creed."

Theme: Great is the Lord

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; My spirit rejoices in God my savior"

(Luke 1:46)

Background

The main focus of this chapter is the greatness of God. It explains faith concepts such as God the Father, God's creation of the world out of love, the mystery of the Holy Trinity, and the role of Mary in God's plan for salvation. Together you will reflect on how your family rejoices in the presence of our God and proclaims the greatness of the Lord by how you live as disciples of God.

Main Focus

-God reveals himself and His loving plan of creation and redemption

-As Jesus' disciples, we proclaim God's greatness when we say "yes" to God through our words and actions

Starting Prayer

(Have children bow their heads and remember that God is present with them in this time and place. Bless yourself with the sign of the cross.)

Loving God, we ask for your blessing upon us.

Help us place our trust in you as all of the people of faith who have come before us have done.

Help us see your greatness and love in every moment of our day.

May we always rejoice in your presence here in our homes.

Bless our time together today. Amen.

How do people react when something amazing, or wondrous happens?

Ask your children this question. Listen to the examples that they give and add a few of your own. Point out that something amazing and wondrous happened to Mary in the Gospel. If they remember this passage, ask how she reacted.

In the Book

Pg. 27 - Have children/child read to themselves (or out loud) and have them share what they just read. If more than one child is learning, have them compare what they will be learning in this chapter. Point out that in this chapter they will be learning ways that we come to see works of God.

Pg. 28 - This page explores how the Church sets an example for us of how to be good disciples. Read together or silently.

Encourage them to share with you what they read or learned. (How did this person or group follow Jesus?)

Read "Disciple Power" and talk about how it relates to what they already read. See if they can give examples of how family members practice these virtues. Pick one to try to practice this week.

Pg. 29 - read Faith Focus question. Pages 29-31 will answer that question. When you finish reading those pages, discuss what they have learned. Have them answer the faith focus question in their own words. Ask the children what reasons their family has to rejoice in God. Discuss their answers. Ask what they have learned about God's greatness in this chapter.

Pg. 32 - this page will summarize the lesson, have an activity to tie it all together, and invites them to make a faith choice for the week. Have the children complete the activity on this page and share it with the others.

Pg. 33 - have the children complete the Chapter review

Closing Prayer

Leader: *Lord, you are great indeed. We rejoice in your presence here in our home. Be with us as we pray together.*

(Ask each child to share one way they have seen the greatness of the Lord) *Oh God you are great indeed*

Leader: *May we sing praise to God as Mary did.*

All: *My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; My spirit rejoices in God my Savior*

Leader: *God of all goodness, we rejoice in your presence. May we experience wonder and awe at your great love and your great works in our lives. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

All: *Amen*

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Chapter 4

Grade 1 - Jesus, The Son of God

“Jesus is the son of God and son of Mary.”

Grade 3 - Jesus, The Son of God

“Jesus is the messiah, the savior God promised to send. Jesus announced the Good News of God’s kingdom.”

Grade 4 - God’s Promise

“God created us to be happy with him now and forever. God promised to send someone who would save all people from sin. Jesus is the Savior God promised.”

Grade 5 - Great is the Lord

“God is one, almighty, holy, eternal, love, and truth. God is the creator. The sin of Adam and Eve was the beginning of sin in the world.”

Theme: A New Creation

“So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold the new things have come. and all is from God...” (2 Corinthians 5:17,18)

Background

The main focus of this chapter furthers their discovery of God’s plan for goodness, intended from the beginning of creation. They will explore faith concepts such as: God the creator, Jesus the son of God who shared God’s love with everyone, Jesus the Messiah, the Savior God promised to send to announce the kingdom of God, Qualities of God, Original Sin, and our reconciliation with God the Father through Jesus Christ.

Main Focus

- Jesus has reconciled us with God the Father, with one another, and with all of creation
- As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are a “new creation”

Starting Prayer

(Have children bow their heads and remember that God is present with them in this time and place. Bless yourself with the sign of the cross.)

Holy God, you created this beautiful world and this beautiful family.

Guide us as we discover how to love you in the best way possible by the way we love each other.

Help us see your greatness and love in every moment of our day.

May we always look to Jesus Christ, your son, and follow him as true disciples.

Through your son, we have been made new creations to know, love, and serve you every day.

Bless our time together. Amen.

What does it mean to become a “new creation”?

Ask your children this question. Listen to the examples that they give and add a few of your own. Examples would include being forgiven, forgiving others, being compassionate, thinking of others first and so on.

What are ways that God’s creations have become less than beautiful due to people and the way they abuse or mistreat them?**In the Book**

Pg. 35 - Have children/child read to themselves (or out loud) and have them share what they just read. If more than one child is learning, have them compare what they will be learning in this chapter. Point out that in this chapter they will be learning ways that we come to see works of God.

Pg. 36 - This page explores how the church sets an example for us of how to be good disciples. Read together or silently.

Encourage them to share with you what they read or learned. (How did this person or group follow Jesus?)

Read “Disciple Power” and talk about how it relates to what they already read. See if they can give examples of how family members practice these virtues. Pick one to try to practice this week.

Pg. 37 - read Faith Focus question. Pages 37-39 will answer that question. When you finish reading those pages, discuss what they have learned. Have them answer the faith focus question in their own words. Ask the children what new things God is doing in their family. Discuss their answers. Ask what they have learned about the new things that came because of Jesus Christ.

Pg. 40 - this page will summarize the lesson, have an activity to tie it all together, and invites them to make a faith choice for the week. Have the children complete the activity on this page and share it with the others.

Pg. 41 - have the children complete the Chapter review

Closing Prayer

Leader: As new creations in Jesus Christ, Let us bring God’s love and goodness to our world each day.

All: Yes, Amen

Leader: Let us look for God in the goodness of creation.

All: Yes, Amen

Leader: Let us look for God in the goodness of the people we meet this week.

All: Yes, Amen

Leader: Let us look for God in family and friends who comfort and guide us.

All: Yes, Amen

Leader: Let us go in peace. Let our words and actions spread God’s Word to all.

All: Amen