

WHAT'S MY CHILD LEARNING?

This is a review of ideas, concepts, and information your child is learning in *Christ Our Life: God Loves Us*.



AGES 5-6

Unit 1: Learning About God's Love

Goals

Children learn to be aware of God the Father's love. They learn some ways in which God shows his love.

Chapter 1: Welcomes Are Good

Children learn that God's Son, Jesus, welcomes and loves children. In turn, children welcome others and are made to feel welcome by others.

Chapter 2: Names Are Good

Children learn that God calls each of them by name. They learn that names are important and that Jesus' name is holy. Children practice bowing their heads.

Chapter 3: Stories Are Good

Children learn that the Bible is God the Father's holy book. During Mass, we hear God's story and God's Word. Children hear the story of Jonah, who ran from God but then was brought to a place where he would help people turn to God.

Chapter 4: God's World Is Good

On a nature walk, children view creation as a gift of God's love. They learn that we praise God our Father for the goodness and love he shows in his creation.

Chapter 5: Quiet Is Good

Through the experience of blowing bubbles, children learn the value of silence. They learn to quiet themselves. They learn that the church is a place where they can feel especially close to God in quiet. They learn that the Three Persons of God form the Trinity.

Chapter 6: Talking to God Is Good

Children reflect on verbal and nonverbal communication. They learn about prayer as talking with God our Father. They learn that there are many different ways to pray.

Unit 2: Growing in God's Love

Goal

Children learn to appreciate their uniqueness as a gift from God.

Chapter 7: Families Are Good

Children think about their own families and then learn about the Holy Family. They learn that we belong to our human family and to God's family, the Church. God the Father is our Father, and we are brothers and sisters in the Church. We join God's family when we are baptized. Children learn the beginning of the Lord's Prayer.

Chapter 8: I Am Good

Children learn that they are wonderful because God the Father made them. God loves each child as a person he made. God enables us to do wonderful things and to love his creation.

Chapter 9: Growing Is Good

Children think about how all living things grow and that they are growing too, in their bodies and minds and in their faith. They learn that Baptism is a sacrament, a sign of God's love and grace. Jesus gave us the sacraments to help us grow in faith. At our Baptism, we are blessed with water and anointed with oil. Children learn more of the Lord's Prayer.

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Chapter 10: Thanking Is Good

Children learn that meals are one occasion for giving thanks. Saying thank you is a way we express appreciation. Children say a prayer of thanks to God and learn other ways to thank him. Children learn the prayer before meals and more of the Lord's Prayer.

Chapter 11: Preparing Is Good

Children learn that at Christmas we celebrate Jesus' birthday, and during Advent we prepare for that celebration. Advent is the four weeks before Christmas. Children learn about the Advent wreath and its four candles, one for each Sunday in Advent.

Chapter 12: Choosing Is Good

Children learn that God's grace helps them make good choices. Mary made a choice to say yes to God. They learn that Mary is the mother of Jesus and our mother, who shows us the way to say yes to God. Children learn that the Hail Mary is a prayer to Mary, and they learn the first words of that prayer.

Unit 3: Sharing God's Love

Goal

Children learn ways God reveals his love and ways to share God's love.

Chapter 13: Shepherds Are Good

Jesus is the Good Shepherd, who cares for all his sheep and calls them by name. Children learn that they are all like Jesus' lambs. They learn that a bishop is a shepherd in the Church who leads God's children.

Chapter 14: Hearts Are Good

Children learn that love is a gift God places in his people's hearts. As Jesus showed love for his friends, children learn how they can show love for others through kindness.

Chapter 15: Hands Are Good

Children explore ways in which people help others with their hands. They learn about miracles Jesus performed with his hands. Using our hands to help others brings us blessings.

Chapter 16: Forgiveness Is Good

Children learn that Original Sin is the sin committed by Adam and Eve. They learn that sins are choices that harm our relationship with God. Children learn that when we sin, we admit that we did, we say we are sorry, and we ask for forgiveness, both to the person we have hurt and to God.

Chapter 17: Church Is Good

Children learn that the Church is the family of God and is everywhere in the world. We worship at Mass in a building called a church. Children learn that a priest is the leader of a church and that a church is a gathering place for God's Church.

Chapter 18: Meals Are Good

Children reflect on meals as a time for sharing love. They listen to the story of Jesus' Last Supper and learn about the Eucharist. In the Eucharist, we receive the gifts of the Body and Blood of Jesus. Children learn again that God's family gathers at Mass. There, we hear God's Word and remember Jesus' Last Supper with his friends, the Apostles.

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Unit 4: Celebrating God's Love

Goal

Children learn to celebrate with others God's gift of love.

Chapter 19: Seeds Are Good

Through the growth of a seed, children learn how new life arises after something dies. The Cross represents the new life we have received through Jesus' Death, which he suffered for us. Children learn to pray the Sign of the Cross.

Chapter 20: Butterflies Are Good

Children learn that spring and butterflies remind us of the new life God has promised us. On Easter, Jesus rose from the dead. We celebrate the new life we receive through Jesus' Resurrection. Children learn that we sing *Alleluia!*, our praise for the risen Lord, as we celebrate Easter.

Chapter 21: Light Is Good

Children learn that God came as Jesus to be the Light of the World. The flame on the Easter candle represents the light Jesus brings to the world. The light appears in the form of his love for us. Children learn that they spread Jesus' light by loving others.

Chapter 22: Celebrating Is Good

Children learn parts of our celebration of the Mass. One part is the Creed, when we say together what we believe. They learn that during Mass, we celebrate the Eucharist. We bring gifts of bread and wine, and we receive Jesus' Body and Blood. Children learn a part of the Creed.

Chapter 23: Air Is Good

Children think about air, an invisible substance needed for life. They learn about the Holy Spirit, which is also invisible. They learn that the Holy Spirit is our helper sent by Jesus and is always with us. Children learn the beginning of the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Chapter 24: Joy Is Good

Children learn that the risen Jesus is the source of joy and that we all are invited to share this joy. As Catholics, we bring joy to others by helping and by sharing God's love.

Chapter 25: Life Is Good

Children learn that God cares about every person and values each life. He gave us the Ten Commandments so we will respect one another and value one another's lives. Children learn that Christ is a name for Jesus and that he lives in heaven with God. Jesus will come to earth again, and then we will all live forever together in heaven with the saints. Children learn that the saints are holy people whose actions were guided by God.