

Christ Our Life: God Loves Us

NEW EVANGELIZATION EDITION

K

AGES 5-6

AT-HOME EDITION

UNIT 1

Learning About God's Love

Say: **The title of our book is *God Loves Us*.** Have your child repeat the title. Take time to look through the book together. Say: **This book will help you know about the good things God has given us because he loves us. You will learn how to use these good things to show that you love God.**

Point to the unit title on page 1 and read it aloud. Say: **In Unit 1 we will learn about ways that God shows his love to us.**

Chapter 1 Welcomes Are Good

Centering PAGE 1

- Read aloud the chapter title and the Scripture feature on page 1. Say: **These are Jesus' words from the Bible.** Show your child your family Bible. Say: **We will be learning stories about Jesus. We find these stories in a very special book called the Bible.**
- Direct your child's attention to the picture on the page. Point to each word bubble and say the word. Then have your child repeat it. Say: **These are different words that all mean the same thing. Welcome. They tell people we are glad to be with them.** Take turns saying these words of welcome to each other. Say: **Jesus welcomes little children. Our hearts are happy because we know God's Son, Jesus, loves us and wants us near him.**

Sharing PAGE 2

- Together look at the picture on page 2. Ask: **What does the picture show?** (Jesus welcoming children) Say: **Jesus is with us even though we can't see him in the same way the children did long ago. Jesus knows you. He knows everyone's name. He knows your name, and he loves you very, very much.**
- Read aloud the top half of the page and have your child point to the words *Savior* and *faith*. Help your child find these words in the Glossary. Read aloud and discuss the definitions. Ask: **What would you have said to Jesus if you were one of these children?**

- Introduce A Moment with Jesus by pointing out the feature box at the bottom of the page. Say: **In each chapter, we will pray together using A Moment with Jesus.** If possible, visit www.christourlife.com/family beforehand and print the corresponding A Moment with Jesus prayer cards. Cut the pages along the dotted lines to separate the cards. As you complete the feature in each chapter, distribute the chapter's card to your child and have him or her collect them as you work through the book.
- Say: **Jesus wants you to talk to him. Because Jesus is with us always, you can speak to him now. To do this, be quiet and still so that we can focus on our prayer time with Jesus. Close your eyes and picture Jesus welcoming you.** Read aloud A Moment with Jesus.
- Give your child the Chapter 1 A Moment with Jesus prayer card. Say: **This card has the prayer we just prayed on it. You'll receive a new card like this one as we work through each chapter.** Direct your child to look at the card. Say: **Without saying anything out loud, tell Jesus about how you feel, knowing that Jesus welcomes you.** (Pause for several seconds.) **Perhaps there is something else you would like to say to Jesus. If so, you may do that now.** (Pause for several seconds.) **When you are finished speaking with Jesus in your heart, open your eyes.** Direct your child to pick a safe place to store the cards. Say: **You can look at the cards anytime you'd like to use them to pray.**
- Provide your child with paper and a yellow crayon or marker. First, direct him or her to draw a circle. Say: **Today we are going to draw a special picture of the sun.** Then draw a few lines around the circle to be the sun's rays. Ask your child to think of people who show them love. As he or she responds, help write the name of each person one by one on the rays.

Sharing PAGE 3

- Read aloud page 3. Discuss who the people in each picture might be and describe their actions. Say: **When we show welcome to others, we also show the welcome of Jesus.**
- Point out the crayon in the corner of the activity. Say: **When you see a crayon or a pencil like this, it means you get to do an activity.** Guide your child in completing the activity.
- Practice ways your child might welcome others to share in their play activities. Together role-play such situations and model invitations or requests such as, "Would you like to join our game?" or "May I sit next to you so I can share your crayons?"

Acting

- Say: **Each chapter, we will learn and pray a psalm together. You can also pray this psalm with other family or friends.** Ask: **When might you pray this?** (at bedtime; at mealtime; in the morning) Say: **These are all great times to pray.**
- Say: **Now is also a good time for us to pray our thanks to God our Father for all that we have learned today.** Using your family Bible, lead your child in praying the beginning of Psalm 73:28.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 4–5

Inspire

- Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 4. Say: **Think about a time you were welcomed by someone.** Ask: **How did it make you feel?** Say: **When we welcome others, we are acting like Jesus.**
- Pray aloud: **Thank you Jesus, Son of God, for welcoming us. Amen.**

Proclaim

- Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **Jesus welcomes you through the love of people you know. We welcome others and they welcome us.** Discuss ways your family can welcome others at Mass and at other times. Say: **Jesus loves and welcomes the children and wants us to love and welcome one another.**
- Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question by coloring the circle next to the correct answer.
- Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 5. Say: **Saint Teresa shared God’s message by taking care of people who needed help. Every person has his or her way of sharing God’s message. Some people teach. Others play music, draw, or write stories.** Ask: **How would you like to share God’s message?** Discuss how people you both know share God’s message with others.
- Read aloud the directions in Witness and Share and have your child complete the activity.

Transform

- Point to your child’s welcome sign. Say: **There are many ways to welcome others. A sign is one way.** Model a friendly greeting with a smile, wave, or handshake. Invite your child to practice welcoming people he or she may encounter at Mass and at other times.
- Pray aloud as your child prays silently. Say: **Dear God, help us welcome others as you welcome us. Amen.**

Chapter Review PAGE 6

- Help your child complete the drawing activity in the Chapter 1 Review on page 6. Ask: **How is Jesus making you feel welcome in your picture?**
- Read aloud the question in We Remember. After your child answers, ask: **Who does Jesus welcome in our family?**
- Read aloud the Words to Know. Ask: **Who is our Savior?** (Jesus) **What gift helps us believe in God?** (faith)
- Say: **Look at the We Respond section. It always has a prayer. Pray this one after me: “I love you, Jesus.”** Have your child repeat the prayer.
- Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review. For more ideas on how to connect to the lesson, read Living the Lesson by Tom McGrath, found at www.christourlife.com/family.

Chapter 2 Names Are Good

Centering

- Write your child's name on a strip of paper and have him or her trace around the name with three different colors of crayons. Say: **Names are good because they let people know who we are. People who know and love us call us by name.**
- Say: **God calls us by our name and invites us to know his name. Today we will learn more about the importance of our names and the importance of God's name.**

Sharing PAGE 7

- Read aloud the chapter title on page 7 and discuss the picture. Point to the question and say: **This asks "Who are you?" The girl is saying her name is Anna.** Ask: **How do you think she feels?** (happy, proud)
- Read aloud the rest of the page and help your child write his or her name. Ask: **What do you think is the greatest name in the whole world? (God)** Say: **God's name is the greatest name throughout the whole Earth because God is so wonderful. Whenever we speak about God or say God's name, we speak our words with care. This is how we show our respect for God.**
- Say: **We have other special ways of showing our respect for God. One is by kneeling in a special way, called genuflecting.** Demonstrate how we genuflect and have your child practice genuflecting on the right knee. Gestures can and should be adapted when necessary to accommodate different needs, such as bowing instead of genuflecting.

Sharing PAGE 8

- Read aloud the body of page 8. Help your child find the words *Jesus* and *God* in the Glossary. Read aloud and discuss the definitions. Then reread the text aloud, pausing before the last word in each sentence and allowing your child to say the last words with you.
- Ask: **Why do we always say the name Jesus with love?** (Jesus is God's Son.) Say: **Remember that Jesus is with us always.**
- Read aloud the Scripture feature on the bottom of page 8. Remind your child that these words come from the Bible.

Sharing PAGE 9

- Read aloud A Moment with Jesus on page 9. Then say: **You can always speak with Jesus in the quiet of your heart.** Distribute the Chapter 2 A Moment with Jesus prayer card and guide your child to spend a few moments in silent prayer. When your child is done, remind him or her to keep this card in the same place he or she saved the card from Chapter 1. Reinforce that your child can use these cards to pray at any time.
- Say: **We can draw and color pictures in a special way when we want to show that something or someone is holy.** Show examples of holy cards, an icon, or a stained-glass window. Discuss what makes these pictures different from other pictures.
- Read aloud the directions to the activity on the page. Say: **Color and decorate the name “Jesus” to show that it is holy. When you are finished, look at Jesus’ name and say it softly with love.**

Acting

- Give your child the Jesus Name Card punchout found at the back of his or her book. Have your child color the punchout using a variety of colors to make a “stained-glass” picture of Jesus’ name. Say: **Put this card in a place where it will help you remember to pray.**
- Remind your child that he or she should say God’s name only for prayer and for talking about God.
- Have your child hold the “stained-glass” picture and pray with you. Pray the first part and invite your child to respond by praying “Jesus.” (“You welcome us...[Jesus].” “You are the Son of God... [Jesus].” “You love us...[Jesus].” “Your name is holy...[Jesus].” “We love you...[Jesus].”)
- Using your family Bible, lead your child in prayer using Psalm 8:2.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 10–11

Inspire

- Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 10. Explain that the word *praise* means “to show respect, love, and gratitude.” Say: **The words *Every tongue confess* mean “all people will say.”** Reread the Scripture verse substituting those words.
- Ask: **How do we act during Mass?** (We are quiet, respectful, and thoughtful.) Ask your child to demonstrate how to pray with folded hands, bowed head, and closed eyes.

Proclaim

- Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Point out the word *Creed*. Say: **A creed tells about what we believe.**
- Have your child turn to page 210 in the What Catholics Should Know section of his or her book. Point out the Apostles’ Creed. Say: **This is a prayer that tells what we as Catholics believe.** Read the prayer aloud. Say: **Jesus is God’s Son. We say Jesus’ name when we pray this prayer. We think about the love we feel for Jesus and how much we honor him.**
- Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **We show respect for God when we praise him in prayer.**
- Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 11. Say: **Saint Matthew shared Jesus’ story with the world. You can share Jesus’ name with others.** Ask: **What story about Jesus do you like to tell?**
- Read aloud the directions in Witness and Share and have your child complete the activity.

Transform

- Help your child read aloud the sentence in Witness and Share. Say: **When we say Jesus’ name is holy, we mean that it is set apart and sacred.**
- Say: **When you show love and respect to other people, you show love and respect for God.** Ask: **What are things you can do to show love and respect for others?** (Possible answers: treat them fairly; listen carefully; include them in your prayers)

Chapter Review PAGE 12

- Help your child complete the Chapter 2 Review on page 12.
- Read aloud the question in We Remember. After your child answers, ask: **Why do we say Jesus’ name with love?** (to show respect for Jesus)
- Pray aloud the prayer in We Respond. Then have your child repeat the prayer aloud with you.
- Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.
- Read the Chapter 2 Living the Lesson by Tom McGrath, found at www.christourlife.com/family.

Chapter 3 Stories Are Good

Centering

- Look through some familiar storybooks together. Read aloud the titles. For each book, ask: **Whose story is told in this book?** Then ask your child to share details about his or her favorite story.
- Say: **People have been telling stories for a long, long time. Before stories were printed in books, people told stories to one another. You have a story too. I'll ask you some questions to help you tell it.** Help your child by asking questions such as *Who are the people in your family? What do you like to do? What is your favorite toy?*

Sharing PAGE 13

- Read aloud the chapter title and the text at the top of page 13. Read it aloud again and invite your child to fill in the missing words when you pause.
- Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus at the bottom of the page. Distribute the Chapter 3 A Moment with Jesus prayer card and repeat the prayer together. Remind your child to save the card with the others and encourage him or her to use them at any time.
- Display your family Bible. Say: **There is one book that is different from all others. It is the best book of all. It tells the story of God's Son, Jesus.** Ask: **Do you know what it is called?** (the Bible) Say: **Because God is holy, God's words are holy. Because God's words are in the Bible, it is a holy book and should be treated respectfully.**
- Allow your child to handle the Bible and look through it. Then together pick a special and safe place to display the Bible in your home.

Sharing PAGE 14

- Read aloud the top of page 14. Help your child find the word *Bible* in the Glossary and discuss the definition. Say: **God's people come together every week to pray to God. At church during Mass we listen to God's story in the Bible. We listen to what God tells us.**
- Say: **Even though you may not understand everything you hear, you can listen quietly when the Bible is read aloud. This shows God that you know that God's Word is holy. We show respect for God when we listen carefully to his words to us in the Bible.** Read aloud the Scripture feature on page 14. Remind your child that these words come from the Bible.

Sharing PAGE 15

- Help your child prepare to listen to a Bible story. Use gestures to emphasize your words as you say: **It's time to be a good listener. Besides having listening ears, you must have listening eyes, listening hands, listening feet, and listening hearts.**
- Read aloud the story of Jonah and the Whale from a children's Bible. Ask: **What was your favorite part of this story?**
- Ask: **What did Jonah learn about God?** (how much God loves us; that God loves all people)
- Read aloud the directions on page 15 and help your child complete the activity.

Acting

- Explain to your child that we sometimes mark holy things with a cross. Teach the child to trace a cross slowly and reverently on his or her forehead, lips, and heart. Note that we do this at Mass before we listen to the reading from the Bible called the Gospel.
- Give your child the Chapter 3 Bookmark punchout from the back of the book. Read the Scripture verse from Jeremiah aloud and then say: **Listen to these words again.** [Reverently reread the verse.] Ask: **Who is saying these words?** (God) **What do you think the words "age-old love" mean?** (God's love for us has always been and will never stop.)
- Using your family Bible, lead your child in prayer using Psalm 78:4.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 16–17

Inspire

- Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 16. Say: **Observe can mean to look at something, but here it means “to follow” or “to obey.” We please God our Father when we obey his Word. God is happy, and so are we!**

Proclaim

- Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Talk about different things your child learns about from looking at books or articles. Say: **We read books to learn about all kinds of things. We read the Bible to learn about God’s love.**
- Ask: **What lessons can we learn from the stories we read in the Bible?** (Possible answers: how to be a good friend, how to love one another)
- Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **The people who wrote the stories of the Bible could hear God’s Word in their hearts.**
- Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 17. Say: **Saint Jerome studied and worked hard. He wanted everyone to be able to hear and share the stories of God’s creation and Jesus’ life.** Ask: **Why do you think this was a good idea?** (Possible answer: Many people could learn about God and his love for us.)
- Read aloud the directions of the Witness and Share activity. Have your child read the words on the dot-to-dot. Say: **Holy means that the Bible is set apart, or sacred. The stories in the Bible have been blessed by God.** Allow time for your child to complete the activity.

Transform

- Ask: **Where can you find stories about God’s creation and Jesus’ life?** (the Holy Bible) Together brainstorm ways to share God’s Word with others.
- Pray aloud as your child prays silently: **Dear God and Father, help us find ways to share your lessons with others.**

Chapter Review PAGE 18

- Help your child complete the Chapter 3 Review on page 18.
- Read aloud the question in We Remember.
- Point to the word *Bible* in Word to Know and have your child complete this sentence: *The Bible retells the story of _____.* (Accept reasonable answers.)
- Pray aloud the prayer in We Respond. Then have your child repeat the prayer aloud with you.
- Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.
- Read the Chapter 3 Living the Lesson by Tom McGrath, found at www.christourlife.com/family.

Chapter 4 God's World Is Good

Centering PAGE 19

- Say: **God made everything around us—people, plants, animals. Let's name good things God has made.** Take turns completing this sentence: *God made* _____.
- Read aloud the chapter title on page 19. Then read aloud the text in each box and have your child point to the picture when they hear you name it.
- Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus at the bottom of the page. Distribute the Chapter 4 A Moment with Jesus prayer card and repeat the prayer together. Then remind your child to save the card with the others and encourage him or her to use them at any time.
- Point to and read aloud the words *God made this wonderful world!* and have your child repeat it. Then say: **Today you will be learning more about the wonderful world that God made.**

Sharing PAGE 20

- If possible, take a nature walk with your child or look out the window to see the many good things God has made. Ask: **What do you see? What do you hear?** Allow time for your child to examine whatever captures his or her attention. Say: **God the Father has placed all of these things in the world for us to enjoy.**
- Encourage your child to collect interesting pieces of nature, such as a stone or a leaf, and bring them inside to admire and talk about. Ask: **Who made this wonderful world?** (God the Father) Say: **God the Father made everything in our world. Everything that God the Father made is good.**
- Read aloud the top of page 20. Point out the word *creation* and help your child find the word in the Glossary. Read aloud and discuss the definition.
- Read aloud the Scripture feature. Say: **These words come from God's special book, the Bible.**
- Have your child study the picture on the page. Ask: **What are the people doing?** (playing with animals; enjoying the outdoors) **Who made the ladybug?** (God the Father) **Who made the cute little puppy and kitten?** (God the Father) **What do all the good things God made tell us?** (God loves us.) Say: **God also wants us to care for the world he gave to us.**

Sharing PAGE 21

- Say: **People have not always taken care of the world and one another. A story in the Bible tells us that people acted so badly that God the Father was sorry he made the world. One day God decided to make the world over. Let's listen to the story of Noah.**
- Remind your child to be a good listener as you read aloud the story of Noah, the flood, and the rainbow from a children's Bible.
- Ask: **Why did God save Noah and his family?** (They lived the way God had asked.) **After they were able to leave the ark, what did Noah do?** (He thanked God.) **What did God give as a sign of his promise to love the world forever?** (a rainbow)
- Read aloud the text on page 21 and help your child complete the activity.

Acting

- Using the items your child gathered on your nature walk, help him or her create a collage of things God the Father has made. It can include pictures and cutouts from magazines or the internet as well.
- Play a game with your child, taking turns pretending to be one of God's gifts to the world. As one of you acts, the other should guess until you identify the gift.
- Using your family Bible, lead your child in prayer using Psalm 33:5.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 22–23

Inspire

- Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 22. Explain that *yielded* means "produced, or made" and *harvest* is usually a food crop. Say: **Everything in the world reminds us of God's love.** Together discuss your favorite things and trace these things back to God's love. Then pray with your child: **Thank you, God our Father, for the love you show us every day. Amen.**

Proclaim

- Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Ask: **How does caring for the world show your love for God?** (It makes God happy and shows respect for what he made and gave us.)
- Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **Name some things our family does to take care of the world.** (Possible answers: feed pets, pick up trash, show love to others)
- Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 23. Say: **Saint Francis loved all of God the Father's creation.** Ask: **Why is it good to show love and care for God's creation?** (Possible answers: When we show love for God's creation, we show love for God. We take care of the gifts God has given us.)
- Read aloud the Witness and Share directions. Have your child identify what is shown in the pictures and allow time for your child to complete the activity.

Transform

- Discuss the matching activity in Witness and Share. Ask: **What are some ways you have shown love and care for God's creation?** (Possible answers: I take care of my pet. I help care for the flowers and garden in my yard.)
- Pray aloud as your child prays silently: **Dear God, thank you for giving us the many gifts of creation. Help us care for the world and one another. Amen.**

Chapter Review PAGE 24

- Help your child complete the Chapter 4 Review on page 24.
- Read aloud the question in We Remember and discuss the answer. Ask: **What will rainbows remind you of from now on?** (God's love)
- Pray aloud the prayer in We Respond. Then have your child repeat the prayer aloud with you.
- Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.
- Read the Chapter 4 Living the Lesson by Tom McGrath, found at www.christourlife.com/family.

Chapter 5 Quiet Is Good

Centering

- Say: **Sometimes we do noisy activities.** Ask: **What are some you do outdoors?** (play games, play on playground equipment) Say: **Sometimes we do quiet activities.** Ask: **Can you name some?** (read books, color, draw) Say: **Both noisy and quiet activities can make us feel happy.**
- Say: **Quiet is good. Many good things happen in quiet. God speaks to us in quiet.**

Sharing PAGE 25

- Read aloud the chapter title and text at the top of page 25. Pause after each phrase to allow your child to put his or her fingers to their lips, as if to say “Shh-shh-shh.”
- Together name other good and beautiful things that are quiet. (sleeping baby, falling leaf, ladybug) Say: **Let’s remember to thank God for these quiet things.**
- Read aloud the Scripture feature. Remind your child that these words come from God’s special book, the Bible.
- Say: **If you wish to discover some of the good and beautiful things that happen in quiet, you can learn to be still and to have a quiet heart.**
- Play a listening game with your child. Sit quietly together for one minute, listening for sounds like a passing car, an airplane, or a bird. When the minute is up, see if your child, with your help, can recall three things he or she heard in the quiet. Then say: **Now that we have practiced listening for quiet sounds, let’s practice quieting our hearts so we can hear the quiet sounds within us.**

Sharing PAGE 26

- Say: **You have a wonderful world inside of you that you come to know when you are quiet. Your thoughts are part of this world. When we are very quiet, we become aware of our thoughts.**
- Read aloud the text at the top of page 26. Point out the word *church* and help your child find the word in the Glossary. Say: **Church is a holy, quiet place where we can meet Jesus in a special way. When we are in church, we might find it easier to enter into our quiet hearts and be with Jesus.**
- Say: **The way we sit can help us quiet our hearts so that we can listen carefully.** Help your child settle into a prayer posture by saying: **Sit tall in your chair. Keep your feet flat on the floor. Have your hands resting in your lap and open. Then to become even more quiet when you talk to Jesus in prayer, it helps to close your eyes.**
- Read aloud A Moment with Jesus. Distribute the Chapter 5 A Moment with Jesus prayer card and have your child spend some quiet time in prayer. Then say: **We cannot see or hear Jesus, but Jesus is always with us. Jesus meets us in the quiet of our hearts. When we know how to quiet ourselves, it helps us meet Jesus in our hearts.** Remind your child to save the card with the others and encourage him or her to use them at any time.

Sharing PAGE 27

- Read aloud the text at the top of page 27. Help your child find the word *Trinity* in the Glossary. Read aloud and discuss the definition.
- Say: **The Trinity is a mystery of our faith. We believe in one God. We also believe that there are Three Persons in this one God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.** Read aloud the last sentence together. Say: **We love the Trinity.**
- Read aloud the directions and have your child complete the activity.

Acting

- Play a listening game with your child. Have your child close his or her eyes and listen for sounds. Perform some of the following actions and have your child guess what they heard (*open and close a door, shuffle papers, tear paper, ring a bell*). Say: **Just as you've practiced listening for these sounds, you can also practice quieting your heart so you can hear the sounds within you.**
- Using your family Bible, lead your child in prayer using Psalm 131:2.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 28–29

Inspire

- Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 28. Say: **Draw near means “to feel a special closeness.” We draw near to God when we pray. We do not need to use words to pray. We can draw near to God by sitting quietly and still. Let’s sit quietly and let God hear what is in our hearts.**

Proclaim

- Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **We pray in many different ways at Mass. Sometimes we pray or sing aloud with others. Sometimes we listen as the priest or lector prays. Sometimes we talk and listen quietly to God.**
- Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **When we are quiet and still, we do not need to use words. We draw near to God, and we let God draw near to us.**
- Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 29. Say: **Saint Thérèse’s simple, quiet prayers showed her love for Jesus. She teaches us that we can talk to Jesus anytime and anyplace.**
- Read aloud the Witness and Share directions. Invite your child to quiet his or her body, mind, and heart to feel at peace before he or she completes the activity.

Transform

- Ask: **Why is it important to find a quiet place in your body, mind, and heart when you pray?** (Possible answer: When I am quiet, it is easier for me to talk and listen to God.)
- Describe your strategies for finding quiet during your daily routine and invite your child to identify times when he or she can find quiet outside of school.

Chapter Review PAGE 30

- Help your child complete the Chapter 5 Review on page 30.
- Read aloud the question in We Remember and discuss the answer. Ask: **Why is it hard to get to know God when you are loud and noisy?** (It is harder to concentrate on something when it is noisy.)
- Pray aloud the prayer in We Respond. Then have your child repeat the prayer aloud with you.
- Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.
- Read the Chapter 5 Living the Lesson by Tom McGrath, found at www.christourlife.com/family.

Chapter 6 Talking to God Is Good

Centering

- Help your child recall what he or she has learned about talking to Jesus. Ask: **How do you behave so that you can meet Jesus in your heart?** (quietly)
- Say: **Talking is one way we share our thoughts and ideas with one another.** Ask: **How can you talk to someone who is in a place that is far away from you?** (You could talk on the phone or video chat with them.)
- Say: **You can also talk to people without using words. Show me how you would say each of these things without words: Good-bye, Hello, I'm happy, Yum-Yum, Be quiet.**

Sharing PAGE 31

- Read aloud the chapter title and text at the top of page 31. Add other possible responses to the man's question, such as, "I like the blue one too!" "They are all pretty."
- Ask: **When we talk with someone, do we do all the talking?** (No.) Say: **When we talk, we also want someone to be listening. Let's practice talking and listening to one another now.** Suggest topics to talk about such as pets, favorite toys, or games.
- Ask: **Can we talk to God?** (Yes; God is with us always.) **Where can we talk to God?** (anywhere, in church) **When can we talk to God?** (in the morning, at night, anytime)
- Talk about ideas for night prayers. Say: **Just before going to bed is a good time for prayer. There are many things we might pray to God before going to sleep.** Ask: **How might you thank God for your day? How can you ask God for help? How might you ask God to bless you and watch over you?**
- Read aloud A Moment with Jesus. Distribute the Chapter 6 A Moment with Jesus prayer card and repeat the prayer together. Remind your child to save the card with the others and encourage him or her to use them at any time.

Sharing PAGE 32

- Read aloud the top of page 32. Have your child point to the word *pray* and help him or her find it in the Glossary. Read aloud and discuss the definition.
- Say: **Talking to and listening to God are not the only ways to pray. Music can help us think about and love God. Sometimes we move to talk to God. We can stand or we can kneel. Sometimes we may sing and dance to tell God how much we love him.**
- Play a song that lends itself to creative dance, such as "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands." Say: **Let's dance a prayer now.** Play the song and encourage your child to express prayer through dance. Participate to help your child feel free.
- Repeat these sentences together: **God always listens. God loves us.**
- Read aloud the Scripture feature. Remind your child that these words come from the Bible.

Sharing PAGE 33

- Read aloud the directions on page 33 and have your child complete the activity.
- Say: **Amen is a prayer word. It means “Yes, Lord.” When we answer “Amen” after a prayer is prayed by another person, we make the prayer our own.**
- Say: **Listen to my prayer. If you would like to make it your prayer, answer “Amen.” God, you are so very good. (Amen) God, you made the world beautiful. (Amen) We love you, God. (Amen)**

Acting

- Say: **Sometimes we pray to God using our own words. Let’s take time to do that now. Perhaps you would like to ask God to help someone you know.** Allow time for your child to pray.
- Say: **Sometimes we pray using words that other people have prayed before us. Many of the psalm prayers we are learning this year were written by King David. Let’s pray one now.** Using your family Bible, lead your child in prayer using Psalm 90:14.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 34–35

Inspire

- Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 34. Say: **When we communicate with God, we listen. God is listening to us, too. He wants to hear what we say, whenever we need or want to say it.** Together talk about your favorite places to pray.

Proclaim

- Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **At Mass, we sometimes pray together. We all speak or sing the same words at the same time.** Ask your child to share other parts of the Mass he or she can recall. Say: **Each of the different parts of the Mass is a form of prayer.**
- Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **God listens to us and gives us peace and comfort whenever we need it.**
- Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 35. Say: **Anthony’s gift was teaching others about God. You can share your gifts with others by spreading God’s message of love with everyone you meet.**
- Read aloud the Witness and Share directions and have your child complete the activity.

Transform

- Ask: **What are you thankful for? How can our family show God we are thankful for all that he does for us?**
- Pray aloud as your child prays silently. Say: **Dear Jesus, Son of God, thank you for always being near to me. Help me remember I can always talk to you. Amen.**

Chapter Review PAGE 36

- Help your child complete the Chapter 6 Review on page 36.
- Point to the word *pray* in Word to Know. Say: **Use the word *pray* in a sentence that tells about your drawing.**
- Pray aloud the prayer in We Respond. Then have your child repeat the prayer aloud with you.
- Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith and Growing Faith sections with other members of your family, or together read aloud the sections to review.
- Read the Chapter 6 Living the Lesson by Tom McGrath, found at www.christourlife.com/family.
- Conclude the unit by holding the Unit 1 Celebration found at www.christourlife.com/family.