

Source of Our Redemption

Before You Begin

- Print the Chapter 3 BLM: Forces of Good found at the end of this document.
- Have a Bible available during the session for reference.
- Download and print the Chapter 3 Prayer Service: Jesus Our Redeemer.

Engage: Page 17

- ◆ Say: **Watching others suffer or feeling helpless with our own struggles is hard. We must remember that Jesus knows our pain. He came to be with us and to offer us a better way to live.** Read aloud the chapter title and the opening questions on page 17.
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the Scripture passage at the bottom of the page. Say: **Jesus, God the Son, became human to know our human ways. Through his Death and Resurrection, he came to save us from sin and bring us everlasting life.**
- ◆ Then lead your child in prayer by saying: **We are human, and sometimes we make wrong choices. We fail, but God wants to forgive us. Let's remember this gift from God and quietly ask for his forgiveness.**

Explore: Pages 18–23

- ◆ Have your child read the box *Something Is Wrong* at the top of page 18. Say: **The word Gospel means “good news.” The life and Resurrection of Jesus was full of good news for us. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches us how to live. If we follow his teachings, we will grow closer to God and deepen our relationship with him.**
- ◆ Take turns reading *What’s the Problem?* on pages 18 and 19. Have your child complete the *My Turn* activity at the bottom of page 18.
- ◆ Read aloud the first two paragraphs of *Original Sin* on page 19. Ask: **What happens to your body when you are sick? (If left untreated, sickness in one part of the body can spread to affect the entire body.)** Say: **Like sickness, sin can affect our whole being. It is not just single acts of disobedience. The more we allow sin to be part of our lives, the more it changes us. Sin impacts all aspects of our life.**
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the section *What the Story Means*. Say: **The first sin was about choices. Adam and Eve chose to separate themselves from God. They chose their own desire over what God wills/wants for them and us.** Explain that when we sin, we also choose our own plans and desires over the ones God has for us. Sin separates us from God and from each other.
- ◆ Read aloud the title *The Consequences of Original Sin*. Say: **We are affected by the Original Sin of Adam and Eve. Their disobedience rejected God’s plan and so we must live with the consequences of their action.** Take turns reading aloud the section, which continues on page 20. Ask: **How does this consequence directly affect people who are your age? What are some specific examples? (Accept reasonable answers.) Why might it be important to recognize these consequences of Original Sin? (Accept reasonable answers.)**

- ◆ Take turns reading aloud the first two paragraphs of *Jesus Our Redeemer* on page 20 and have your child complete the *My Turn* activity at the bottom of the page. Say: **It's important to remember that this rescue mission was meant for each of us. We are all special in God's eyes.** Read aloud Matthew 10:29–31. Invite your child to reflect on the meaning of these words.
- ◆ Have your child complete the Chapter 3 BLM: Forces for Good by researching organizations that promote peace and justice in their community, city, country, and world.
- ◆ Read aloud the section *God Becomes Man* on page 21. Say: **Jesus is a model for how we should be strong against the desire to make wrong choices.**
- ◆ Read aloud the title *The Great Reversal* and take turns reading each paragraph of that section. Say: **Jesus is often referred to as the “new Adam” because he showed what true obedience means. Through Jesus’ suffering, Death, and Resurrection, Jesus conquered sin and death and gave us the possibility of eternal life.**
- ◆ Read aloud the title *Salvation Today* and the first two paragraphs of this section. Say: **God wants us to be with him. For that reason, Jesus gave us ways to continue his work of salvation on earth.** Take turns reading the remainder of this section on pages 22 and 23. Together, brainstorm ways your family can continue the works described by each heading.
- ◆ Point out the cross on page 22. Ask: **Why is this cross a symbol of Christianity?** Have your child read aloud *The Cross Means Victory* on page 23. Ask him or her to think of places and ways a cross is displayed or used. (*Possible answers: on jewelry, in your home, as part of logos or signs, on flags, etc.*) Ask: **Why do individuals, groups, and organizations use the cross in these ways?** Have your child complete the *My Turn* activity at the bottom of the page.

Sacred Sign: Page 21

- ◆ Read aloud the *Sacred Sign* feature on page 21. Ask: **When have you heard Jesus referred to as the “Lamb of God?”** (*at Mass during the prayer before receiving the Eucharist*) Explain that Lamb of God in Latin is *Agnus Dei*.
- ◆ Tell your child that the symbol of *Agnus Dei* has been depicted in many forms of artwork including stone, metalwork, paintings, and embroidery. Point out that many examples of the image are used in stained glass windows. Say: **Jesus sacrificed his own life for our sins.**

Rite: Page 22

- ◆ Read the *Rite* feature on page 22. Arrange for your child to receive the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Have him or her prepare for the sacrament by reviewing page 87.
- ◆ Invite your child to reflect on the words of absolution and use them in their preparation for making a good confession.

Witness: Page 23

- ◆ Have your child read the *Witness* feature on page 23. Explain that although Saint Paul never actually met Jesus before the Resurrection, he did meet the risen Jesus on the road to Damascus.
- ◆ Discuss Paul’s name change. Remind your child that others in the Bible have also changed their name after conversion. Ask your child to think about the significance of a name and surmise why a name change might be a part of someone committing his or her life to God.

Reflect

- ◆ Have your child reflect on what he or she has learned about sin, salvation, and Jesus. Say:
We are born with the weight of Original Sin. However, through Baptism, this sin is washed away and we can live with hope and possibility. Jesus came into our world to fix our broken relationship with God. It is now our job, with God's help, to continue this work through our words and actions. Let us begin this today by reflecting on our sins and asking for God's forgiveness and mercy.
- ◆ Proceed to your family's prayer space. A prayer space can be a simple table on which you place a Bible, crucifix, statue, icon, or another religious icon. Invite your child to assist you in creating this sacred space.
- ◆ Share a copy of the Chapter 3 Prayer Service: Jesus Our Redeemer. Choose who will read the part for the Leader. You and your child will both read the parts labeled "All." Lead by example, participating actively and with reverence.
- ◆ Pray together the prayer service, following your assigned roles. Adapt it to your circumstances if needed. Observe the periods of silence and keep a prayerful pace. Allow time in between sections for reflection.
- ◆ Pause for a moment of silence before concluding.

Respond: Page 24

- ◆ Review with your child the *Faith Summary* on page 24. Ask your child to explain each sentence in his or own words and revisit concepts as necessary.
- ◆ Have your child read the *Remember* section silently and be sure he or she understands the main points of the chapter.
- ◆ Ask your child to choose one *Reach Out* item and follow the directions. Check in with your child and ask him or her to reflect privately on the outcomes.
- ◆ Read aloud the *Words to Know* and ask your child to use the words in sentences. Consult the Glossary at the back of the book and at www.loyolapress.com/calledtobecatholic/ if more clarification is needed.
- ◆ Invite your child to think about the *Reflect* scenario and write a response on the lines provided. If your child is comfortable doing so, encourage him or her to share the response with you.
- ◆ Pray together the closing prayer. Conclude by praying together the Sign of the Cross. Invite your child to pray this week whenever he or she feels a need for help or guidance.
- ◆ Continue the conversation about this chapter at www.loyolapress.com/CTBCconversations.

Name _____ Date _____

Forces of Good

Many groups and organizations work to promote peace and justice in the world. We can learn much from their example.

Profile of Good Works

Directions: With a partner, conduct an online search for organizations whose missions are to promote causes of peace and justice. You might want to start by looking at organizations in your diocese. Select one organization to research and answer the following questions.

Name of organization: _____

Summary of mission: _____

Accomplishments: _____

How volunteers can help: _____

Reasons you selected this organization: _____

