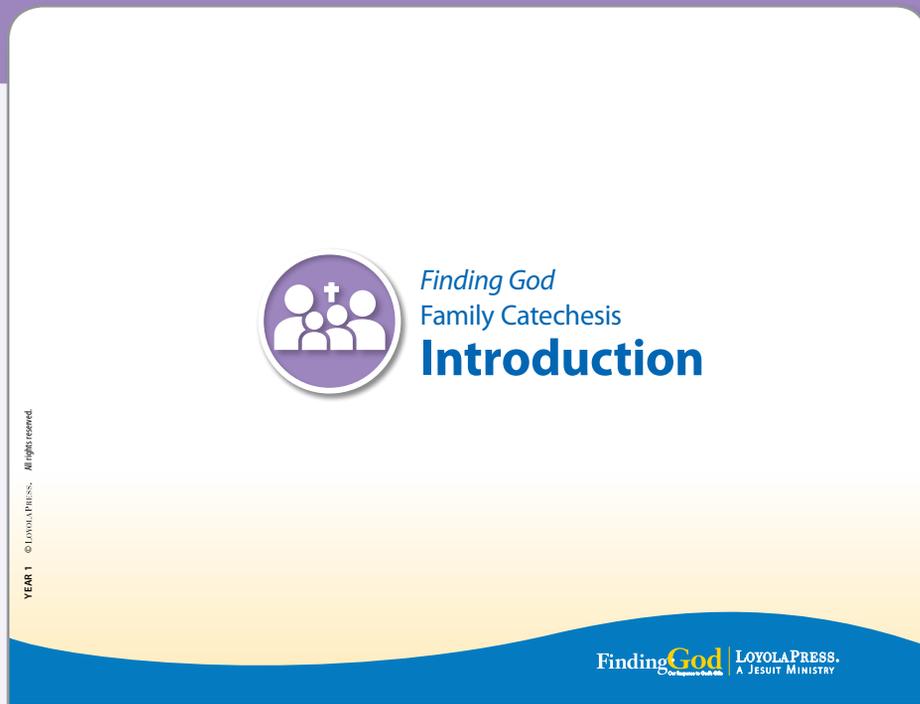


INFORMATIVE PRESENTATION 1



In advance of this presentation, review the slides and notes. Make any adjustments to reflect your parish's process.

Display this opening slide as participants enter the room. After participants are settled, introduce yourself and explain your role in the parish and program.

Say: Thank you for participating in *Finding God* Family Catechesis. Today I will introduce you to this wonderful program and describe our roles within it.

Presentation Overview

- Define family catechesis.
- Explain how it works.
- Outline what you need.



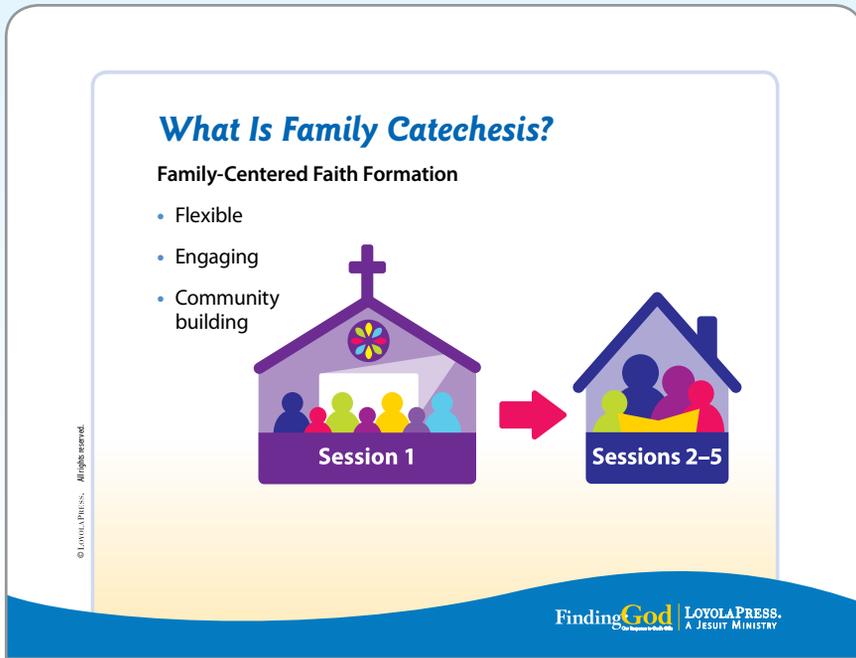
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Say: In this first presentation, I'll explain what family catechesis is and how our program will run.

Then we will do a second presentation that explains the program's online resources. We'll have time for questions after both. Let's begin.



Explain what family catechesis is. A brief description is provided, but you may wish to define it based on your approach.

Say: According to the *National Directory for Catechesis*, “Family-centered catechetical programs are opportunities for parents to catechize their children directly, for spouses to catechize each other and for children to catechize one another and their parents.” (p. 259)

In *Finding God Family Catechesis*, you will guide your child's formation in the faith. While the program provides you flexibility and resources to help you succeed in this role, your presence is the most important aspect; being present as your child grows in our Catholic faith is a wonderful gift.

As part of this program, we will gather for one group faith formation meeting per month. These meetings will feature a variety of activities that support the theme of each *Finding God* unit. Through these engaging activities, we'll nurture our Catholic faith and build community with other families in our parish.

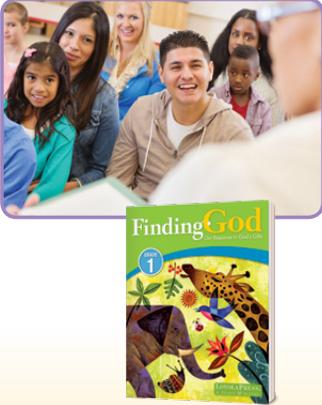
How It Works

Unit Topics

- Unit 1: God
- Unit 2: Jesus
- Unit 3: The Church
- Unit 4: Sacraments
- Unit 5: Morality

Seasonal Lessons

- Advent/Christmas
- Lent/Holy Week/Easter



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Say: Your child's *Finding God* book is organized into five units, each containing five sessions.

Read aloud the five unit titles on the slide.

Say: Family catechesis is organized in the same manner. Each monthly meeting will introduce the unit theme being covered that month. We'll provide background information and support so you're prepared to guide your children through their sessions.

We will also come together for two meetings using liturgical season lessons from *The Year in Our Church* section of the *Children's Book*.

Read aloud the two seasonal lesson titles on the slide.

Note: If your parish's religious education program chooses to administer the units in a different order, prepare and distribute an outline showing that order.

What We'll Do Together

Each monthly meeting has three sections.

Welcome (15 minutes)

- For children and parents
- Introduces unit theme through prayer, Scripture, and discussion
- Children dismissed to grade-level classrooms to discuss first session in unit

Connect (30 minutes)

- For parents only
- In-depth coverage of unit theme through multimedia and discussion

Close (15 minutes)

- For parents only
- Summarizes unit theme through prayer, discussion, and multimedia

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Explain the Finding God Family Catechesis process.

Say: Each monthly meeting has three sections: Welcome, Connect, and Close. During the Welcome, we will introduce the theme to you and your children together. After the Welcome section is concluded, your children will leave to join their grade-level catechists to complete the first session of the unit.

While your children meet with their grade-level catechists, you will stay for the Connect and Close sections of our meeting. We will spend approximately 45 minutes expanding on the unit theme through the use of multimedia, group prayer, discussion, and Scripture readings.

Adjust the section below if you plan to have grade-level catechists bring the children back after the session is completed.

Say: The Connect and Close will end about 15 minutes before your children complete their grade-level session, so you can stay and visit with other parents, ask questions, or walk over to your child's classroom.

What You'll Do at Home

After each meeting

- Use the remainder of the month to teach your child at your own pace, using the grade-level **At-Home Edition** and **Children's Book**.
- Complete the **Interactive Session Review**, an online assessment, after each session to gauge your child's understanding.



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Tip

Refer to the *Finding God* Director Guide for more information on the At-Home Edition and Interactive Session Reviews.

Say: After each meeting, you will have the rest of the month to teach your child the remaining four sessions of the unit. To guide you through each session, you will use an online resource called the At-Home Edition in conjunction with the Children's Book. As you have the whole month to complete each unit, you can teach when and how it works best for your family. That could mean one session per week or all four sessions in one day. You can teach around the kitchen table or in the backyard. You choose what works best to help you teach your child the Catholic faith.

Determine how your parish will manage the Interactive Session Reviews and adjust the language below as necessary.

Say: And, to gauge your child's understanding of the faith concepts, he or she will complete an Interactive Session Review online after each session and e-mail the results to me. Please note, the Interactive Session Reviews do not apply to Kindergarten.

What You'll Need

Grade-Level At-Home Edition

Grade-Level Children's Book

Interactive Session Reviews

www.findinggod.com/family

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Say: The three things you will need are the *Finding God* Children's Book, the At-Home Edition, and the Interactive Session Reviews. Children will receive their *Finding God* book during the grade-level session of the first monthly meeting. The At-Home Edition and Interactive Session Reviews can be accessed online at www.findinggod.com/family.



Tip

Information regarding online resources will be available in the second presentation.

Before we move on to questions, let me mention some accommodations for our youngest students. Kindergarten does not have Interactive Session Reviews; instead children will complete a discussion and activity-based worksheet referred to as the Art Print BLM. This worksheet can also be found online.

We will discuss the online resources further in the second presentation.

Your Questions



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Use this slide to conclude the presentation and to answer any questions that participants may have.

Say: Are there any questions? Keep in mind, I will expand on the online resources in the second presentation.

After questions have concluded, either take a short break or move directly into the second presentation.