

# God Is Faithful

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 2, Session 6**.

## PAGE 45

John Neumann established nearly 100 Catholic schools in the United States.

## PAGE 45

John Neumann was born in 1811, in Bohemia, now a part of the Czech Republic. His knowledge of eight languages helped him work with New York's immigrants.

## PAGE 48

Isaac and Rebekah had two twin sons, Jacob and Esau. The brothers were very competitive and nothing alike.

## PAGE 48

Jacob convinced his brother to trade his birthright for a bowl of stew. Jacob then tricked a dying Isaac out of his final blessing. When Esau found out he had been tricked, Jacob had to leave home.

## PAGE 49

Jacob was tricked by Laban. He worked seven years for Laban in order to marry his daughter Rachel, but her sister Leah was switched at the last minute. In order to marry Rachel too, Jacob had to work seven more years.

## PAGE 49

Jacob's story is a good example of Divine Providence—the way God's wisdom and love influence all he has created.

## PAGE 49

God is able to bring about good results from bad choices.

## PAGE 49

Eventually God gave Jacob a new name: Israel.

## PAGE 50

Jacob is one of Jesus' ancestors. Through the examples of Jesus and his ancestors, such as Abraham and Jacob, we can see that our choices and actions are part of God's plan.

## PAGE 52

Sometimes people count on God to get them out of trouble when they deliberately do something wrong. This shows disrespect for God's love and patience.

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# Passover and the Eucharist

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 2, Session 7**.

## PAGE 56

During a time of terrible famine, Jacob's sons and their families moved to Egypt. Jacob's descendants came to be called Israelites, also known as Hebrews.

## PAGE 56

As the Hebrews grew in number, the pharaoh enslaved them. The Hebrews were slaves in Egypt for almost 400 years. God chose Moses, a Hebrew raised by Egyptians, to lead the Hebrew people out of slavery.

## PAGE 57

While Moses was in Midian, God appeared to him as a voice coming from a bush. The bush burned, but the flames did not consume it. When Moses asked God's name, he responded, "Yahweh," which means "I am who I am."

## PAGE 41

Today God makes his presence known to us through the Holy Spirit.

## PAGE 57

When the pharaoh refused to free the slaves, God had to perform many wonders to change his mind. The last of these was the Passover. Today the Jewish people celebrate Passover as a memorial to God for freeing them from slavery.

## PAGE 58

God told Moses that on a certain night an angel would travel over Egypt and kill the firstborn child in every family. Moses told each family to kill a lamb and sprinkle its blood on the door so the angel would pass over their house.

## PAGE 58

When God created the world, he rested on the seventh day. He commands us to do the same. We call this day the Sabbath.

## PAGE 60

The Last Supper was a Passover meal that Jesus shared with his disciples before he was crucified.

## PAGE 60

For Catholics, Mass is a memorial of Christ's Passover sacrifice granting us new life.

## PAGE 60

The Eucharist strengthens and unites us in a community of faith.

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# God Leads His People

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 2, Session 8**.

**PAGE 64**

The pharaoh released the Israelites because he saw God's incredible power. After hundreds of years of slavery, Moses and the Hebrews began their Exodus.

**PAGE 64**

The Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years before they settled in the land of Canaan.

**PAGE 64**

Because they faced many hardships along the way, the Israelites began to lose their trust in God. They thought they would die in the desert.

**PAGE 64**

God provided everything the Hebrews needed. When they became hungry, God gave them manna: food that fell from the sky. He provided a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night to guide them along the way.

**PAGE 65**

The most miraculous events of the Exodus occurred when the Hebrews crossed the Red Sea.

**PAGE 65**

God told Moses to raise his staff and part the waters to let the Hebrews cross. The second time Moses raised his staff, the waters crashed down and the Egyptian army was destroyed.

**PAGE 66**

When the Hebrews reached Mount Sinai, God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. God asked the Hebrews if they wanted to be his people.

## Being Faithful to God

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 2, Session 9**.

### PAGE 72

After the Exodus the Hebrews settled in Canaan and established a kingdom.

### PAGE 72

King David united the various tribes under one rule and established Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

### PAGE 72

As David's power grew, he became arrogant and used his power to get whatever he wanted. This led him to make several bad decisions.

### PAGE 73

David's decisions concerning Bathsheba broke three of God's important commandments. He committed adultery with her, submitted to the temptation of lust, and committed the capital sin of envy.

### PAGE 74

David and Ruth both made life-changing decisions with different consequences.

### PAGES 73 AND 74

Bathsheba, Ruth, and Naomi were all widows.

### PAGE 74

King David would not have been born had it not been for Ruth, who made a choice to care for her mother-in-law. Ruth became the great-grandmother of King David.

### PAGE 76

If we make poor choices, we can be forgiven, but we still have to live with the consequences.

### PAGE 76

Having freedom of choice, or free will, does not mean we can do anything we please. God reminds us that choice is not only a gift granted to us but also a responsibility.

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# Celebrating Advent

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 2, Session 10**.

## PAGE 79

God the Father shows us his loving care with the gift of his Son, Jesus, our Savior from sin and death.

## PAGE 80

Advent is celebrated with a spirit of reflection, anticipation, and preparation. We reflect on the world as it was before the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

## PAGE 80

Whether we were born thousands of years before Jesus' birth or just a few years ago, we are all God's people.

## PAGE 81

Readings from Isaiah foretell Jesus' coming. Isaiah compares Jesus' coming to a bud growing from the stump of Jesse, who was David's father.

## PAGE 81

During Advent, the altar is draped in violet cloth, and the priest wears violet vestments.

## PAGE 81

Images in the stained-glass windows might depict the connection between the time before and after Jesus.

## PAGE 82

A Jesse tree is decorated with symbols from the Bible.

## PAGE 82

The symbols on a Jesse tree help teach about the Messiah's ancestry. Mary, Joseph, and Jesus appear near the top of a Jesse tree.

## PAGE 83

The Church's liturgical year begins on the first Sunday of Advent.

## PAGE 83

The Advent season gives us time to prepare our celebration of the birth of Christ, the "Anointed One."

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