

God's Presence in the Temple

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 3, Session 11**.

PAGE 87

When Constantine became emperor of Rome, he named his mother, Helena, empress of Rome. She used her influence to build churches in holy cities. Under Constantine's rule, the persecution of Christians ended.

PAGE 90

King David had dreamed of building a great temple to honor God. After King David's death, his son Solomon began construction of a temple on Mount Zion, a tall hill in Jerusalem.

PAGE 90

The Ark of the Covenant is said to have held the actual stone tablets with the Ten Commandments that Moses had received on Mount Sinai.

PAGE 90

The Temple was built according to God's instructions. The most sacred room inside the Temple was the Holy of Holies.

PAGE 91

In ancient Judaism, the Temple was an important part of life. Animal sacrifices were a common part of ceremonies.

PAGE 91

Before construction of the Temple, the Hebrews worshiped in a special tent called a tabernacle.

PAGE 92

During his life Jesus had a special respect for the Temple at Jerusalem. For Jesus the Temple was not just a monument to God; it was his Father's house.

PAGE 92

Jesus is the one mediator between God and us, his human family.

PAGE 94

Today we are all the Church because God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—dwells within us. We are called to love others as God loves us. Discrimination can make people feel that they are not good enough for God or that he does not love them.

PAGE 94

The men called to receive the Sacrament of Holy Orders are visible signs of the priesthood in Jesus Christ. Without them, we cannot speak of the Church.

For more games, activities, and resources related to *Finding God*, please visit www.findinggod.com.

FindingGod®
Our Response to God's Gifts

Psalms, the Prayers of Jesus

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 3, Session 12**.

PAGE 98

The Book of Psalms is a collection of 150 sacred songs and poems that are models for how we can pray. The Liturgy of the Hours includes specific prayers to say at different times of the day.

PAGE 98

When we participate in Mass or other liturgies, we join with other members of the Church in communal prayer. Personal prayers are our own private conversations with God our Father.

PAGE 99

Several books in the Old Testament explore the meaning of life and give us practical advice for every day living. These are known as Wisdom Literature.

PAGE 99

Ecclesiastes is a book that explores the meaning of human existence. The Book of Proverbs contains short, poetic advice for everyday life.

PAGE 99

The Book of Sirach has poetic verses about duty, humility, and the law. Wisdom of Solomon has poetic verses about justice and wisdom.

PAGE 99

The Book of Job is one man's story that explores the meaning of suffering. Song of Songs is a love poem with many meanings.

PAGE 99

Mary, who trusted God with perfect obedience, is called the Seat of Wisdom.

PAGE 100

Jacob sacrificed to protect his sheep, just as God cares for and protects us.

PAGE 100

Psalms 23 presents God as a shepherd with the beginning words "The Lord is my shepherd." It reminds us that God is there to protect us no matter what troubles we may encounter.

For more games, activities, and resources related to *Finding God*, please visit www.findinggod.com.

Finding God[®]
Our Response to God's Gifts

The Mission of the Church

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 3, Session 13**.

PAGE 106

God established the Church as the means of salvation for all. Through Jesus Christ in the Church, we receive forgiveness from our sins and become part of God's family.

PAGE 106

The Church is the sign and instrument of the unity that the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has with all humanity.

PAGE 106

The Church, as the People of God, carries out the mission Jesus entrusted to his disciples: proclaim the Good News to all people.

PAGE 107

Abraham and his tribe became God's people, the Hebrews, who were God's presence among all other peoples of the world.

PAGE 107

The People of God are all temples of the Holy Spirit.

PAGE 108

Peter proclaimed Jesus as the Messiah who fulfilled many prophecies of the Old Testament.

PAGE 108

When the crowd asked Peter what they could do, he told them to repent, be baptized, and receive forgiveness for their sins.

PAGE 110

As Catholics, we recognize and respect the value of other religions.

PAGE 110

Many images are used to describe the Church. Among them are the images of the Church as the Bride of Christ, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, and the Body of Christ.

PAGE 110

Muslims—followers of Islam—believe in the one God of Abraham and of his descendants.

For more games, activities, and resources related to *Finding God*, please visit www.findinggod.com.

FindingGod[®]
Our Response to God's Gifts

The Marks of the Church

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 3, Session 14**.

PAGE 114

The Nicene Creed is a summary of our Catholic faith in which we identify the four Marks of the Church.

PAGE 114

The four Marks of the Church are that it is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.

PAGE 114

We believe in one God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—and share in one faith in the one Spirit.

PAGE 114

The Church is holy because the Church lives in union with Jesus Christ—the source of holiness.

PAGE 115

Catholic means “universal.” The mission of the Church is universal because the Church was sent to proclaim Christ to the entire human race.

PAGE 115

The Church is apostolic because it traces its tradition directly from the Apostles. The pope and the bishops are the successors of the Apostles and pastors of the church.

PAGE 115

Mary, the Mother of God, is the greatest example of holiness. Her song of response to God, titled the Magnificat, praises God for the gift of grace.

PAGE 116

The law of God is written upon our hearts, and we are all part of one body with Jesus Christ.

PAGE 118

Many different people and cultures make up the Church. We are united because we worship the same God and receive grace from the same Savior, Jesus Christ.

PAGE 118

God gives each of us different gifts, or virtues, to perform good works.

For more games, activities, and resources related to *Finding God*, please visit www.findinggod.com.

FindingGod[®]
Our Response to God's Gifts

Celebrating Christmas

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 3, Session 15**.

PAGE 122

The word *epiphany* means “revelation”—making something known.

PAGE 122

Three Magi were the first to proclaim Jesus as King.

PAGE 123

The Magi were guided to Bethlehem and the infant Jesus by a star.

PAGE 123

During the Christmas season, we hear readings about the birth of Jesus, the Holy Family, and the Epiphany.

PAGE 123

Bright white is the Christmas season’s liturgical color.

PAGE 123

The traditional names of the Magi are Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar.

PAGE 124

The Feast of Epiphany celebrates the announcement of Jesus’ birth and the arrival of the Magi.

PAGE 124

The Magi’s long journey is a symbol of our own journey through life, seeking Jesus.

PAGE 125

On Christmas day we celebrate the Incarnation—the birth of Jesus Christ, true God and true man.

PAGE 125

Christmas is more than just December 25. It is a season of the liturgical year when we celebrate several feasts, including the Feast of the Epiphany.

For more games, activities, and resources related to *Finding God*, please visit www.findinggod.com.

Finding God[®]
Our Response to God’s Gifts