



## God Gives Us Peace

### Engage: Page 21

- ▶ Invite your child to play a game that he or she enjoys playing with friends, such as hide-and-seek or checkers. Discuss how being with friends can make us feel good.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. **Ask:** *If you feel sad, how can your friends help cheer you up? (visit, play a game with you)* **Say:** *In this session we will learn about God's wonderful gift of peace.*
- ▶ Ask your child to think about how friends help one another feel happy and peaceful just as God does every day. Pray aloud the prayer together.

### Explore: Pages 22–23

- ▶ Ask your child to write a sentence on a slip of paper about how he or she can help someone in your family or neighborhood. Suggest that your child give the gift of his or her time or help with a chore. Put the paper in a small box and wrap it. Encourage your child to present the gift to the person at the end of this session or to use it as a reminder to help that person.
- ▶ Read aloud page 22 and discuss the picture. **Ask:** *Whom do you see in this picture? What do you think is happening? (Jesus is telling his friends that the Holy Spirit is with them.)* Then invite your child to breathe in and out. Point out the words *Holy Spirit*. Explain that God's Holy Spirit is as close as your own breath.
- ▶ Read aloud page 23. Point to the word *Trinity*. **Ask:** *Who are the three Persons of the Trinity? (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit)*
- ▶ Have your child look at page 23 to answer these questions: *Which Person of the Trinity made us? (the Father) Which Person of the Trinity brings us God's love? (the Son) Which person of the Trinity brings us God's peace? (the Holy Spirit)*

### Art Exploration: Page 216

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of a dove holding an olive branch.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, noting the olive branch being held by the dove.
- ▶ **Say:** *The dove in this artwork holds an olive branch, which also stands for peace. People all over the world want peace and pray to God to help them find it.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 216. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.



- ▶ Read aloud the title and the first paragraph. **Ask:** *When might we pray for peace? (when we are arguing, when we hear a sad story on the news)*
- ▶ **Say:** *Everyone can pass along peace simply by smiling.* **Ask:** *How else can you pass along peace? (treat others with kindness, say I'm sorry when making a mistake, forgive others)*
- ▶ Take turns smiling into a mirror. Then read aloud the directions and have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Together read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *If we listen to God's messages and believe them, we will have peace.*
- ▶ Together with your child cut out dove silhouettes from sheets of white paper. Then complete the following sentence on each dove cutout: *I can bring peace by \_\_\_\_\_.* Decorate the other side of the doves with white feathers and glitter. Suspend them from string to decorate your home.

### Reflect: Pages 24–25

- ▶ Together look at page 24. **Ask:** *What do you think the girl in the picture is thinking about?* **Say:** *When you talk to Jesus in your heart, you can use any words you want because he always understands.*
- ▶ Read aloud the sentence above the prayer. Invite your child to read aloud the Glory Be to the Father with you. Read aloud the last paragraph. Allow your child time to pray silently and then Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the heading and the paragraph at the top of page 25. Invite your child to color the picture. Read the word *Trinity* together. **Ask:** *How many Persons are there in the Trinity? (three)*
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature emphasizing peace and goodness. **Ask:** *What are other ways we can be peacemakers? (by being good listeners, by making friends with people different from us)*

### Respond: Page 26

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest other ways to share to bring God's love to others.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the With My Family suggestions. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today.