



## Jesus Cares for Us

### Engage: Page 129

- ▶ **Ask:** *What are some examples of bad decisions people make? (saying hurtful things, not allowing someone to play, not listening to parents)*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's responses. **Say:** *We all make bad decisions sometimes. In this session we will learn that there are always things we can do to make a wrong decision right. We'll also learn that God cares for us no matter what we do.*
- ▶ Ask your child to think about bad decisions he or she has made toward other family members. **Ask:** *How did it make you feel?* Pray aloud the prayer together.

### Explore: Pages 130–131

- ▶ **Ask:** *Do you feel good or yucky when you do something wrong? Maybe you told a lie or hurt someone's feelings.* **Say:** *When we do something wrong, it is called a sin.*
- ▶ Read aloud God Always Forgives on page 130 and point out the vocabulary word. **Say:** *When we sin, we hurt our friendships with God and with others. What are some sins that hurt our friendship with God? (using God's name in ways that are not nice, forgetting how important God is to us) What are some sins that hurt our friendships with others? (taking things, not telling the truth)*
- ▶ Read aloud Avoid Sin and have your child complete each sentence.
- ▶ Read aloud the first two paragraphs on page 131 and point out the vocabulary word. **Say:** *God will always forgive us when we are sorry for doing or saying hurtful things. All we have to do is tell him we are sorry.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. **Say:** *We can be like Jesus and forgive others with the help of God's gift of grace.*

### Art Exploration: Page 234

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Jesus as the Good Shepherd.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including what Jesus is doing.
- ▶ **Say:** *Jesus cares for us as a shepherd cares for his sheep.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 234. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.



- ▶ Read aloud the heading and the Scripture passage. **Ask:** *How do you think the shepherd felt when he lost one of his sheep? (worried, frightened)* **Say:** *God is worried when we don't follow him or do what he asks of us. He is happy when we say we are sorry and follow him again.*
- ▶ Read aloud the activity directions and have your child complete the maze.
- ▶ Invite your child to make a lamb from air-dry clay. Have your child add small balls of clay to represent wool and use plastic utensils or small art tools to add details. **Say:** *Share your sheep with the rest of our family. Tell the story of the lost sheep. Describe how Jesus is our shepherd.*

### Reflect: Pages 132–133

- ▶ Together look at page 132. **Say:** *Whenever you feel lost or sad because you've done something wrong, Jesus is watching over you and is ready to forgive, no matter what. Always take time to say you are sorry.*
- ▶ Read aloud Pray for Forgiveness. Pause after each sentence and question to give your child time to imagine what you are describing and how he or she would respond. When you are finished, **say:** *Now is your time to talk to Jesus.* Count silently to 10, then invite your child to pray *Amen* with you.
- ▶ Read aloud A Caring Shepherd on page 133. Allow time for your child to use the words in the word box to complete each sentence. Read the sentences aloud together.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Say:** *Who is the Good Shepherd? (Jesus)* **Say:** *Like the Good Shepherd, God protects us, keeps us safe, and always forgives us.*

### Respond: Page 134

- ▶ 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 specific ways to forgive others the way Jesus forgives us.
- ▶ 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.