



Psalms, the Prayers of Jesus

Engage: Page 69

- ▶ If possible, show your child prayer books for children and for adults. Encourage your child to look through the books. **Ask:** *What are some of your favorite prayers?*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. **Say:** *In this session we will learn about prayers in the Bible and different ways to pray.*
- ▶ Ask your child to think about how they prefer to pray. Discuss how it is similar or different from the way you pray. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 70–71

- ▶ **Ask:** *What do we do between the First and Second Readings at Sunday Mass? (We sing or say a prayer.)* **Say:** *The song or prayer that we say between the First Reading and the Second Reading is a psalm.*
- ▶ Have your child read A Prayer Collection on page 70 silently. Point out the vocabulary terms. **Ask:** *How many psalms are there? (150) What are the five most common types of psalms? (praise, lament, thanksgiving, intercession, wisdom)*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Prayer Together and Alone. **Ask:** *What is the difference between communal prayer and personal prayer? (We pray communal prayer with other people. Our own conversations with God are personal prayer.)*
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. If possible, go to the Sunday Connection at www.loyolapress.com and read example Responsorial Psalm aloud. Have your child pray the response.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 71. Point out the vocabulary terms. **Say:** *Wisdom is a gift of the Holy Spirit.* **Ask:** *Why is Mary called the Seat of Wisdom? (Mary trusted God and had the wisdom and faith to cooperate with him.)*

Art Exploration: Page 240

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of a shepherd leading his flock.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the setting and the job of the shepherd.
- ▶ **Say:** *Our relationship with God and Jesus is similar to that of a shepherd and his sheep. A shepherd cares for his sheep just as God cares for us. God is our shepherd.*



- ▶ Have your child turn to page 240. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud Daily Experiences Make the Word Come Alive. **Ask:** *Why do you think God uses an ordinary person and the person's daily job to describe the way he cares for and protects us? (A simple, ordinary experience helps us bring God's message into our daily lives.)*
- ▶ Read aloud The Lord Is . . . and have your child describe his or her image of God.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Ask:** *What words could replace or define reproving? (correcting, scolding) What about admonishing? (warning, threatening)*
- ▶ Invite your child to copy Psalm 23 and illustrate the theme or message learned from the psalm.

Reflect: Pages 72–73

- ▶ Together look at page 72. **Ask:** *What words would you use to describe the setting in the picture? Say:* *It is a peaceful place to thank and praise God.*
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph. Explain that in this verse, the word *holocaust* means "a burnt offering." Then take turns with your child reading alternate verses of Psalm 20. Allow time for quiet reflection and then join your child in praying the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ **Say:** *Psalms are aligned closely with the seasons of the Church.* Have your child read aloud the heading and first paragraph on page 73. Tell him or her to look at page 152 to review the meaning of each season. Have your child complete the activity. Read aloud each psalm and discuss your child's response.

Respond: Page 74

- ▶ 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 times he or she can pray the psalms.
- ▶ 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.