



Prophets Give Hope

Engage: Page 99

- ▶ **Ask:** *What challenges do you face when starting a new school year? How do these challenges make you feel? Whom do you talk to about your feelings?*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's responses. **Say:** *You can rely on people you trust to give you hope and guidance, just as the prophets gave the people of their time. In this session we will read more about the Jewish people in exile and about another prophet.*
- ▶ Ask your child to write an acrostic poem using the word *hope*. Have your child use each letter of the word to start a line of the poem. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 100–101

- ▶ **Say:** *A coach trains us to play a sport. What else does a coach do? (shows us how to work together, encourages us to play well, motivates us)*
- ▶ Have your child read silently page 100. Point out the vocabulary term. **Ask:** *Why was life difficult for the exiled Jews? (They were captives and severely mistreated. They couldn't see an end to their misery.) What was Second Isaiah's message? (God still loved them, would care for them, and lead them home.)*
- ▶ Have your child read silently Early Christians Turn to the Prophecies on page 101. **Ask:** *What did early Christians think of when they read Second Isaiah? (that Isaiah's message of hope was fulfilled in Jesus Christ)*
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *Early Christians used the Old Testament to help them understand Jesus. We know that Jesus himself read and studied the Scriptures. Ask: What did Isaiah mean when he said these words?*

Art Exploration: Page 245

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online an image of the prophet Isaiah.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including how the artwork shows the role of the prophets in the Old Testament.
- ▶ **Say:** *The Old Testament prophets offered hope and encouragement to the people of their time.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 245. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.



- ▶ Read aloud Jesus and the Prophecies of Old. **Ask:** *Why did Matthew share the words of the prophet Isaiah?* (Matthew was trying to show the Jews that Jesus fulfilled the prophecies concerning the Messiah.)
- ▶ Read aloud Isaiah and Matthew and give your child time to complete the activity. Discuss your child's explanation.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Ask:** *How many parts make up the Book of Isaiah?* (three; chapters 1–39, 40–55, and 55–66)
- ▶ Show the Art Print from Unit 1, Session 1, showing an illuminated page of the Bible or look at examples of an illuminated Bible on the Internet. Have your child choose a verse from the Book of Isaiah, such as "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." Have your child copy the verse from the Bible and illuminate it with a large, colorful opening letter and text surrounded by a colorful border. Display the verse in your home.

Reflect: Pages 102–103

- ▶ Together look at page 102. **Say:** *We can bring all our needs to God just as we see in the Psalms. There is nothing too big or too small because God loves us unconditionally.*
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph. Then take turns with your child reading aloud the psalm. Read aloud the last paragraph. Focus on how God responds to us when we are facing difficulties. Pray *Amen* and the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Read aloud Connecting Matthew and Isaiah on page 103. Work together to complete the activity. Read aloud both the Old Testament and New Testament passages and discuss each event.

Respond: Page 104

- ▶ 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 he or she can offer hope to those who need it.
- ▶ 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.



Sacraments of Initiation

Engage: Page 105

- ▶ Together flip through a calendar from last year and discuss interesting events that happened to your child and your family.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's responses. **Ask:** *Did any of these events have a lasting impression on you? Why?* **Say:** *In this session we'll learn that the Sacraments of Initiation are special events that change us in good ways.*
- ▶ Ask your child to write a short newspaper article describing an important event in his or her life. Tell your child that the article should include how the event changed him or her. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 106–107

- ▶ **Say:** *The Church has special traditions for the sacraments.* **Ask:** *What do you know about Baptism?*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the two sections on page 106. Point out the vocabulary words. **Ask:** *What do we call adults preparing for Baptism today? (catechumens) What must they learn? (what God has done through Jesus, Church teachings, how to respond to God's call) Have your child complete the activity.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. **Say:** *Holy water is a sacramental that helps us remember our relationship with God. In most churches you may fill a bottle with holy water to use in fonts at home.*
- ▶ Have your child read silently The Eucharist on page 107. **Ask:** *Why is the Eucharist so important? (It nourishes us so that we can go out and serve others. It forgives venial sins, and it brings us closer to Christ.)*
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *This passage from John's Gospel tells us that Jesus is present to us and gives us eternal life in the Eucharist.*

Art Exploration: Page 246

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online an image of St. Peter's Church in France.
- ▶ **Say:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the statue of Saint Peter as the keystone in the arch.
- ▶ **Say:** *When you go into a church, look for structures that remind you of your faith.*