



## Jesus Heals and Forgives

### Engage: Page 115

- ▶ Ask your child to rank the following problems on a scale from 1–10. Explain that a ranking of 1 means “not at all serious” and 10 means “extremely serious.” Present these problems: missing the bus, dead cell phone, lost wallet, grounded by parents again, forgot permission slip, out of money, wore two different socks, lousy lunch, bad hair day. **Ask:** *What does it feel like to find a solution to a problem?* (Answers will vary.)
- ▶ Read aloud the title and discuss the text in the box on page 115. Discuss how problems can be frustrating but may lead us to see things in a new and different way. **Say:** *In this unit we will learn how even illness can lead to a new experience of God’s presence.*
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer together. Pray aloud the Sign of the Cross.

### Explore: Pages 116–117

- ▶ Explain that certain insects and snakes use toxins released in their bite to paralyze their prey. **Say:** *The paralysis renders their prey helpless.* **Ask:** *How can sin paralyze you?* (Possible answer: It can prevent a loving relationship with God.)
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the article title Jesus Heals on page 116. Take turns reading aloud the first four paragraphs. Have your child read aloud the definition of *blasphemy* in the Glossary. **Say:** *Jesus’ visible miracle makes the healing of the man’s sins, an invisible miracle, more believable to the witnesses.*
- ▶ Read aloud the sections Jesus Cures the Man Born Blind and Jesus Empowers the Apostles to Forgive. **Ask:** *How did Jesus prepare his Apostles to heal spiritual ills?* (He gave them the authority to forgive sins.) **Say:** *In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we ask for God’s forgiveness and for the healing that takes place when we return to a state of grace.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the section Sacrament of Healing that begins on the bottom of page 116. Clarify the meaning of the terms in the section, referring to the Glossary as needed. **Ask:** *What is sin?* (deliberately doing or desiring something that is contrary to God’s law) *What happens during confession?* (We receive God’s merciful forgiveness for sins. We are reconciled with God and with others.)
- ▶ Read aloud the sections Repentance and Seeking Forgiveness on page 117. **Say:** *Conversion is not a command but an opportunity to break bad habits and become more like Christ.* Discuss *contrition*, using the Glossary to further clarify the meanings of *perfect contrition* and *imperfect contrition*. Review the steps to take when seeking forgiveness. Ask your child to refer to pages 296–297 in Prayers and Practices. Then pray together the Act of Contrition on page 275 in Prayers and Practices.
- ▶ Read aloud Our Catholic Character. Discuss the meaning of *sacramental seal* by using the Glossary definition.
- ▶ Bring the article discussion to a close. **Ask:** *How does the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation heal your relationship both with God and with the Church?* (Answers will vary.)
- ▶ Use the Study Corner as a quick review of the article.



### Explore: Pages 118–119

- ▶ Read aloud Mark 1:29–31. **Say:** *Notice how the woman responds to her healing. She receives Jesus' healing touch, and her immediate response is to serve others.*
- ▶ Read aloud the article title The Gift of Healing on page 118. Take turns reading aloud the paragraphs in the first column. **Ask:** *What is Jesus' message in curing the leper? (Society, groups, and individuals are called to recognize attitudes that result in the exclusion of others. It is our responsibility to accept the call to reach out to those who are excluded.)*
- ▶ Read aloud the section Apostolic Mission. **Say:** *Jesus wants us to turn to him in faith when we are suffering. He also wants us to reach out to heal one another.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the section Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick on page 119. Read aloud the definition of *Anointing of the Sick* in the Glossary. Invite your child to talk about a family friend or relative who is sick or elderly. Explore how the search for God can lead to comfort in this sacrament. Explain that the Anointing of the Sick is administered to those who are struggling, either physically or spiritually, with illness or old age.
- ▶ Read aloud the section Celebrating the Sacrament. Say the words the priest prays when administering the sacrament: "The Lord in his love and mercy [may] help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit." **Say:** *Just as Christ suffered, the anointed are reminded to persevere in their faith and trust in God. They are strengthened and comforted.* Read aloud the meaning of *Second Vatican Council* in the Glossary and discuss its significance in ushering in a time of change in the Church.
- ▶ Have your child complete the activity and discuss his or her responses.
- ▶ Read aloud the Sacred Art feature. Together read aloud Mark 5:35–43. Explain that the works of service or prayer for those who are seriously ill help those who are suffering know that they are not alone.
- ▶ Use the Study Corner as a quick review of the article.

### Reflect: Pages 120–121

- ▶ Read aloud the title Asking Forgiveness and the paragraphs in the left column on page 120. Point out that the more readily we can forgive others, the more we can experience the forgiveness of Jesus in our own lives. Review the prayer *lectio divina*.
- ▶ Follow the steps of *lectio divina* by reading Scripture, meditating, responding with personal prayer, and contemplating. Together pray aloud the All part and the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Look at page 121. Have your child read aloud the introductory text of Where Do I Fit In? Discuss what the title Two Wrongs Don't Make a Right means. Share stories about small acts of vengeance that backfired. **Say:** *Our desire for justice can blind us unless we practice seeing with eyes of faith.* Take turns reading aloud the article. **Ask:** *Why do you think Mike never bothered the author again? (Possible answers: He was shaken by the experience; he was impressed by the author's refusal to hurt him.)* **Say:** *In the heat of the moment, it is difficult to remember how powerful forgiveness is. If we stop and listen, God will speak to us in some form or another.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Scripture passage and have your child work independently to complete the activity. Invite your child to share his or her ideas.



### Respond: Page 122

- ▶ Read aloud the directions in What's What? Suggest that your child read all the clues before choosing a letter for an answer.
- ▶ Review the terms you learned in this session in Say What?
- ▶ Read aloud Now What? Before writing, invite your child to recall that although he or she may not be able to heal someone physically, it is possible to perform good deeds that help heal a person in other ways.
- ▶ Invite your child to access a 3-Minute Retreat at [www.loyolapress.com/retreat](http://www.loyolapress.com/retreat).