



We Are Called and Sent

Engage: Page 195

- ▶ **Say:** Sometimes when trying to find an unfamiliar address, drivers head in the wrong direction. They might look for road signs to help them find their way. **Ask:** What if road signs could be applied to life? Together draw road signs that people could use on their life's journey. Explain the meaning of each sign.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and discuss the text in the box on page 195. **Say:** With God's grace we can turn our lives back onto the right track. **Ask:** How do you think turning around on our spiritual path relates to the session title?
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer together. Pray aloud the Sign of the Cross.

Explore: Pages 196–197

- ▶ Brainstorm inventions that have significantly changed the way people live. **Ask:** What are some ways that people react to new inventions? (Possible answers: excited, relieved, scared, apprehensive, grateful, doubtful)
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the article title Saint Paul Sees the Light and the first three paragraphs on page 196. **Say:** Saint Paul learned to let go of his way of living to learn a new way of living in Jesus Christ.
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud the sections Saul Encounters the Risen Jesus and Helpless to Help Ourselves. **Ask:** How did Paul's conversion begin? (He began to see religious rules he had learned in a new light. He began to see how people need God's help.) **Say:** The Jewish people, like the rest of the human family, longed for a way out of the pit of Original Sin. They wanted to be more than just conscious of sin—they wanted to be freed.
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud Our Catholic Character. Explain that living virtuous lives applies to all Christians, not only those in religious orders. Invite your child to read aloud the definitions of *poverty*, *chastity*, and *obedience* in the Glossary. Refer your child to pages 269 and 288 in Prayers and Practices for more information about virtues.
- ▶ Read aloud the sections Salvation Through Jesus Christ and God Makes Things Right on page 197. Clarify the meanings of *justification* and *righteousness*. Read aloud the definitions in the Glossary. **Say:** Justification is the act of God, and righteousness is the result.
- ▶ Read aloud the section Called to Conversion. **Ask:** From what is Jesus calling us to convert? (from sin to new life as his followers) **Say:** Jesus asks us to change ourselves for the better. **Ask:** How long does conversion take? (a lifetime)
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Sacred Art feature. Explain that we can put together a picture of Saint Paul by reading the information about him in the New Testament. Refer to pages 262–263 in Prayers and Practices for more information about Saint Paul.
- ▶ Close the article discussion by reminding your child to look for opportunities to try something new and to be open to true conversion, integrity, or authenticity.
- ▶ Use the Study Corner as a quick review of the article.

Explore: Pages 198–199

- ▶ **Say:** Name four reasons for sending letters, e-mails, text messages, or tweets. (Possible answers: to give information, to encourage a friend, to offer advice, to maintain a friendship) *Saint Paul sent letters that provide us with insight and direction for following Jesus.*



- ▶ Read aloud the article title Letters of Saint Paul. Take turns reading the first four paragraphs on page 198. Compare Paul's reasons for writing to the early Christian churches with the reasons you discussed for writing letters, e-mails, text messages, and tweets.
- ▶ Read aloud the section Sincerely Yours. Point out that travel in Paul's time was slow, dangerous, and difficult. Saint Paul's missionary work was an act of love.
- ▶ Read aloud the section A Lasting Message. **Ask:** *Why were Paul's Epistles effective? (He spoke with authority, passion, and poetic language.) Why are they still valuable today? (The fundamental doctrine, faith, and Christian behavior are the same.)*
- ▶ Read aloud the sections Called to Matrimony and Called to Holy Orders on page 199. **Ask:** *How are love and commitment signs in the Sacrament of Matrimony? (Lifelong love is a sign of God's enduring love for us.) Why is fidelity important? (Fidelity, or faithfulness, between a husband and wife reflects the faithfulness of God's covenant to be with and to care for his people.) What are the three levels of Holy Orders? (deacon, priest, bishop)* Ask your child to read aloud the definition of *deacon* in the Glossary. Together read more about the Sacraments at the Service of Communion on page 288 of Prayers and Practices.
- ▶ **Say:** *We've learned that we face many of the same struggles and challenges as the people of the early Church. By reading the Epistles, we are better able to understand our faith and ways to conduct our daily lives.*
- ▶ Use the Study Corner as a quick review of the article.

Reflect: Pages 200–201

- ▶ Have your child read aloud the title Accepting the Challenge on page 200 and the paragraphs in the left column. Discuss the meaning of *contrite* and its role in true conversion. **Say:** *Now that you are older, each step on your faith journey is a chance for you to choose conversion.*
- ▶ Slowly read aloud the Leader part of Called to Conversion. Pray together the Lord's Prayer. Prompt your child to pray aloud Side 1 while you pray aloud Side 2, pausing for reflection between each part. At the conclusion, pray *Amen*.
- ▶ Look at page 201 and read aloud the introductory text of Where Do I Fit In? Recall times when you or your child sent a text or an e-mail that you later regretted. **Say:** *We can minimize regrettable communication by waiting 30 minutes to send a message when emotions are too high. Technology makes communication speedy. We need to be responsible with the words and ideas we send to others.*
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud Of Faith and Phones. Recall receiving hurtful texts or e-mails. **Ask:** *What did your instincts tell you? (Possible answer: Respond to it instantly and in an equally hurtful manner.) How and when might God want us to respond? (Possible answer: only after reflection and with forgiveness)* **Say:** *Words are powerful. Use them carefully.*
- ▶ Have your child complete The Best Text activity. Discuss a variety of possible responses.

Respond: Page 202

- ▶ Read aloud the directions in What's What? Encourage your child to complete the 10 sentences with details from the referenced pages.
- ▶ Review the terms you learned in this session in Say What?
- ▶ Read aloud Now What? Together discuss good and bad habits and their consequences. Invite your child to complete the section independently.
- ▶ Invite your child to access a 3-Minute Retreat at www.loyolapress.com/retreat.