



Jesus Calls Us to Eternal Life

Engage: Page 203

- ▶ Write the word *trust* vertically on a sheet of paper. Use each letter in the word to start a sentence or phrase that defines what trust means to you and your child. **Say:** *When we trust people, we rely on their good judgment and wisdom.*
- ▶ Read aloud the title and discuss the text in the box on page 203. **Say:** *We place our trust in God to guide and save us. He sent us his Son, Jesus, to open the way to eternal life.*
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer together. Pray aloud the Sign of the Cross.

Explore: Pages 204–205

- ▶ Display various types of writing such as a cookbook, an instruction manual, a newspaper, and a page from a social-networking site. Discuss how they are alike and different. **Say:** *Writing comes in many different forms and styles and has different purposes.*
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the article title The Struggle Between Good and Evil and the first two paragraphs on page 204. Discuss the meaning of *persecute* (to punish or harass). **Say:** *The Book of Revelation was written to address a crisis of persecution.*
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud the section Good Versus Evil. Discuss what Revelation is and what Revelation is not. Invite your child to read aloud the definition of *apocalyptic literature* in the Glossary. **Ask:** *What form of writing is the Book of Revelation?* (apocalyptic literature, a symbolic interpretation of good versus evil) **Say:** *Because the Book of Revelation is often misunderstood, it's important to learn about its writer, the time in which it was written, and the book's purpose if we are to appreciate the message it has for Christians.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the section Understanding Symbolic Language on page 205. Read aloud the definition of *literary forms* in the Glossary and have your child name literary forms in the Bible. **Ask:** *Why does the Bible contain different literary forms?* (Some styles of writing connect with listeners better to relay God's Word or to deliver a spiritual truth more effectively than others.)
- ▶ Read aloud the section Finding Truth. **Ask:** *What do Catholics believe about the Bible?* (The Bible is divinely inspired. This means that we find in the Bible the truth that we need to know for our Salvation.) *Where do we find guidance for our religious beliefs?* (Possible answers: pastors, teachers, catechists, Scripture scholars, the Magisterium)
- ▶ Read aloud pages 254–255 in Prayers and Practices.
- ▶ Use the Study Corner as a quick review of the article.

Explore: Pages 206–207

- ▶ Discuss ways that television shows or movies have addressed the topic of life after death. Compare and contrast these depictions with your understanding of Catholic beliefs about life after death.
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the article title Assumption of the Blessed Mother on page 206. Then take turns reading aloud the page. Read aloud the meanings of *Assumption* and *infallible* in the Glossary. Point out that we cannot comprehend fully some mysteries of our faith, but we know the teaching of Mary's Assumption is true because it was proclaimed infallibly. Point out that Mary did not ascend into Heaven but instead was assumed into Heaven. Read aloud Luke 24:50–53. **Ask:** *What do we*



know from *Mary's Assumption*? (Mary had a special relationship with God. We have a share in eternal life if we are reconciled with God at the time of our death.)

- ▶ Have your child read aloud *Our Catholic Character*. **Ask:** *What do Catholics believe takes place immediately after death?* (Each person comes before God for an individual [particular] judgment and experiences Heaven, Purgatory, or Hell.) Read aloud the definition of *Last Judgment* in the Glossary. Invite your child to read aloud Matthew 25:31–32 in the Bible and discuss how Jesus describes the Last Judgment.
- ▶ Read aloud the definition of *Communion of Saints* in the Glossary. Have your child read aloud the section *Communion of Saints* on page 207. Explain that saints are ordinary people who lived extraordinary lives. **Say:** *The holy men and women who have died continue to support us in our life of faith and through their intercession.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the Past Meets Present feature. **Ask:** *What sign validated Juan Diego's story for the bishop?* (Juan gathered in his cloak roses that did not grow naturally. An image of Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared on his cloak.) Point out that devotions to Mary remain popular Catholic practices as we seek her intercession on our behalf. The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is December 12.
- ▶ Use the Study Corner as a quick review of the article.

Reflect: Pages 208–209

- ▶ Have your child read aloud the title *Enter the Kingdom* and the paragraphs in the left column on page 208. Remind your child that some virtues are gifts from God and others can be acquired by good actions. Ask your child to read aloud the definition of *Theological Virtues* in the Glossary. Refer to page 269 of *Prayers and Practices* for more information about virtues.
- ▶ Read aloud the Leader parts in *Prayer for Faith, Hope, and Charity*. Together read the All parts. Encourage your child to reflect on the meaning of the words as he or she prays them aloud.
- ▶ Look at page 209 and have your child read aloud the introductory text of *Where Do I Fit In?* **Ask:** *What does status quo mean?* (the way things are) Take turns reading aloud *Witness for Peace in Haiti*. Explain that a subversive action or message challenges the status quo, meaning the way things are normally done. **Ask:** *If people like the author or Father Rex knew for sure that the status quo would never change, do you think they would stop their efforts? Why?* (Possible answers: No, because individuals might still be helped or saved. They would maintain hope.) **Say:** *As Christians, it is our duty to continue working for justice even when things seem hopeless.*
- ▶ Work together to complete the *Response to Injustice* activity. Use the activity as a springboard for further discussion about social injustice.

Respond: Page 210

- ▶ Have your child read aloud the directions in *What's What?* Ask him or her to complete the matching activity independently.
- ▶ Review the terms you learned in this session in *Say What?*
- ▶ Read aloud *Now What?* Discuss the *Theological Virtues* and brainstorm some ideas before encouraging your child to write a response.
- ▶ Invite your child to access a 3-Minute Retreat at www.loyolapress.com/retreat.