



God Gives Us Jesus

Engage: Page 9

- ▶ **Ask:** *How does it feel to receive a gift?* Discuss examples of “gifts of themselves,” such as reading a book aloud to a little sister, helping with chores, or playing a game with a grandmother. Invite your child to write the names of family members or neighbors on squares of construction paper. On the other side, have your child draw a picture of a gift of himself or herself to give each person.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child’s responses. **Ask:** *What gifts does God give us?* (our family and friends, animals, beaches, forests) **Say:** *In this session we will find out about God’s most precious gift of all.*
- ▶ Have your child give the gifts to the intended recipients. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 10–11

- ▶ Have your child draw a picture of his or her favorite possession and place it in a sealed envelope addressed to a loved one. **Say:** *Now imagine that sending the picture of your favorite possession was equal to giving it away.* **Ask:** *How would it feel to give this precious gift away?*
- ▶ Read aloud page 10. **Ask:** *To whom did God give his Son?* (everyone in the world) *Who is God’s Son who became man?* (Jesus) **Say:** *Imagine what it will be like to live with God in Heaven.*
- ▶ Read aloud the first two sentences on page 11. Point out the vocabulary words. **Say:** *When something is consecrated, it is made to be special to God through prayer.*
- ▶ Read aloud the rest of the paragraph. Point out the vocabulary words. **Ask:** *What does it mean to honor someone?* (to show respect) Discuss the picture of the tabernacle. **Say:** *The Blessed Sacrament is kept in the tabernacle after Mass.*
- ▶ Read aloud We Genuflect. Demonstrate how to genuflect and have your child practice. Have your child write his or her response to the question.
- ▶ Read aloud the Ready for the Sacraments feature. **Say:** *Preparing to receive these sacraments is a joyful, challenging, and exciting journey.*

Art Exploration: Page 236

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of the Holy Family.



- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the expressions on the faces of Jesus and his parents.
- ▶ **Say:** *God's greatest gift to us is his Son, born into a special family here on earth.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 236. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud The Story of Joseph. **Ask:** *Why did Joseph name the child Jesus?* (an angel told him in a dream) Point out the vocabulary word. **Say:** *The name Jesus was chosen because Jesus is our Savior.*
- ▶ Read aloud Families Are Special. Have your child complete the activity and share his or her ideas with family members.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *These words tell us that Jesus promises to be with us always.*
- ▶ Ask your child to use watercolor paints or markers to make his or her own version of the Holy Family. Remind your child to sign his or her artwork. Discuss the ideas that your child has about the painting as well as how he or she thinks Joseph and Mary cared for Jesus.

Reflect: Pages 12–13

- ▶ Together look at page 12. **Ask:** *What do you think the girl in the picture is thinking about?* **Say:** *Jesus is always with you and loves to spend time with you.*
- ▶ Slowly read aloud the first paragraph. Continue reading, pausing after each paragraph to give your child time to reflect. Provide a moment of silence for your child to talk to God in his or her heart. Pray *Amen* and join your child in praying the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Talk about the meaning of your child's name. Then read aloud page 13. **Ask:** *What does the name Emmanuel mean? ("God with us") What does the word Savior mean? ("one who saves")*
- ▶ Read aloud the directions for Names for Jesus. Help your child complete the activity. Discuss names and nicknames of family members. Remind your child that there are many names for Jesus.

Respond: Page 14

- ▶ 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 show love to a friend today.
- ▶ 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.