



## God's Life for Us

### Engage: Page 21

- ▶ Together cut out from magazines or newspapers pictures of people doing good things. Arrange the pictures into a collage and glue them onto a sheet of construction paper. Discuss how these people are filled with the Holy Spirit.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. **Say:** *The Holy Spirit helps us enjoy life by showing us how to do good things for ourselves and others. In this session we will learn more about the Holy Spirit.*
- ▶ Invite your child to think about ways your family celebrates the gift of life. Pray aloud the prayer together.

### Explore: Pages 22–23

- ▶ Display your Bible. **Say:** *The Bible is full of wonderful stories, many of them about Jesus. The story we are going to read is about Mary and Joseph bringing Jesus into the Temple.*
- ▶ Read aloud page 22 and discuss the picture. Point out the vocabulary words. **Say:** *Messiah means both "Savior" and "anointed with oil."* **Ask:** *When Simeon looked at Jesus, what did he see? (the Messiah, the one who had come to save his people)* **Say:** *Because Simeon listened to the Holy Spirit, he was able to see who Jesus really was—our Savior.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Ask:** *Why is the meaning of Simeon's name important? (because Simeon listened to the Holy Spirit)*
- ▶ Read aloud page 23. **Say:** *Faith is a gift from God that helps us believe in him and live as he wants us to live.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Learning to Care for Others and complete the activity. Encourage your child to follow through with his or her idea.
- ▶ Read aloud the Ready for the Sacraments feature. **Say:** *God wants to fill our hearts with strength, joy, and the desire to love him.*

### Art Exploration: Page 238

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Jesus bringing light to a dark world.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, noting the contrast between the light and the darkness.



- ▶ **Say:** *Imagine the light of Jesus shining on you. When we shine with the light of Christ, the Holy Spirit is working in us.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 238. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud the adapted Gospel story The Work of the Holy Spirit. **Say:** *When we choose to help others, we shine with the light of Christ.* **Ask:** *Where would you like to shine the light of Christ?*
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud Shine a Light on Good Deeds and complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *The Bible passage says that we can all be a light to the world.* Encourage your child to take the Scripture to heart and pray it from memory this week.
- ▶ Together sit in a dark room and shine a flashlight. Pass the flashlight back and forth as you complete this sentence: *The Holy Spirit shines through me with \_\_\_\_\_.* (Possible answers: love, peace, joy, kindness, patience)

### Reflect: Pages 24–25

- ▶ Together look at page 24. **Ask:** *What do you think the people are doing?* (comforting each other) Remind your child that he or she can ask the Holy Spirit for help anytime.
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph. Then invite your child to slowly and reverently pray aloud the prayer with you. Read aloud the sentence following the prayer. Allow your child time to pray silently. Then pray the Sign of the Cross together. You may wish to review the Prayer to the Holy Spirit in its entirety on page 190 of the Children's Book.
- ▶ Read aloud the heading and the first sentence on page 25. Together brainstorm ways in which the Holy Spirit has guided you this week. Then have your child read aloud the next sentence and complete the activity. Praise your child for allowing the Holy Spirit to fill his or her heart and mind.

### Respond: Page 26

- ▶ 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 look for God at home and in the world.
- ▶ 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.