



Jesus Calls Us to Love

Engage: Page 45

- ▶ Invite your child to talk about times he or she has felt left out of activities at home or at school. **Ask:** *How did it make you feel?*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's responses. **Say:** *When people include others, they are acting like Jesus. In this session we will learn how to act more like Jesus.*
- ▶ Ask your child to think about someone he or she knows who might be feeling left out. **Say:** *We grow closer to God when we grow closer to others. Pray aloud the prayer together.*

Explore: Pages 46–47

- ▶ **Ask:** *Who is a leader at your school? (principal, headmaster)* **Say:** *Like schools, the Church also has many leaders.* Display a picture of the current pope.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the heading and first paragraph on page 46. Read aloud Our Pope and point out the vocabulary word. **Ask:** *What makes a good leader? (listening, encouraging others, being helpful)* **Ask:** *Who leads the church? (the pope)* *Where does the pope live? (Vatican City)* Tell your child the name of the pope. **Say:** *The pope asks us to do things Jesus wants us to do.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Ask:** *How are our Church leaders like Jesus? (They teach and share God's message.)*
- ▶ Read aloud Our Bishops on page 47 and point out the vocabulary words. **Say:** *Like the pope, bishops are important Church leaders.* Tell your child who their bishop is. Explain that there are thousands of parishes and bishops all around the world.
- ▶ Read aloud the Ready for the Sacraments feature. **Say:** *What matters is not so much the sin, but that we ask God for forgiveness and work hard not to do the same thing again.*

Art Exploration: Page 242

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture that shows the parable of the banquet.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including how it reminds him or her of a family dinner.
- ▶ **Say:** *God wants to be close to everyone.*



- ▶ Have your child turn to page 242. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the questions.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud The Parable of the Banquet and point out the vocabulary word. **Ask:** *How do you think the host of the dinner party felt when his guests did not come? (sad, angry, disappointed) Who came to the banquet? (those who were poor, sick, blind, and lame) What do you think Jesus wants us to learn from this parable? (God wants to be close to everyone.)*
- ▶ Read aloud God's Invitation and have your child write a thank-you note to God. Encourage him or her share it with you.
- ▶ Ask your child to imagine that God invited him or her to a banquet. **Ask:** *What would you bring to share with the other guests?* Invite your child to speak heart-to-heart, telling God how it feels to gather at his table. Close with a prayer of thanks to God and a promise to accept his invitation to follow him.

Reflect: Pages 48–49

- ▶ Together look at page 48. **Ask:** *What do you think the boy in the picture is doing?* **Say:** *You can talk to God as you would talk to your best friend.*
- ▶ Read aloud page 48. Pause after the third paragraph to give your child time to speak silently with Jesus. Close by praying the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Read aloud Jesus' Invitation on page 49. **Ask:** *What does it mean to be close to someone? (to know, accept, and trust the person)* Invite your child to complete the activity and share his or her work with you.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the Meet a Saint feature. **Ask:** *How did Saint Martin de Porres follow God? (by caring for others)* **Say:** *He had an orphanage and a hospital built, and he cared for African slaves who were brought to his country. He wanted the people and animals to know that God cared for them.*

Respond: Page 50

- ▶ 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 do kind deeds for others.
- ▶ 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.