



Loving God Above All

Engage: Page 129

- ▶ **Ask:** *Who are some of the people in your life whom you love? (family members, friends) Why is it important to show our love to people? (When we express our love, we share God's love with others.)*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. **Say:** *There are many ways we can show our love to God. Whenever we do so, we give thanks for the many ways he shows his love to us. In this session we are going to learn about the first three commandments. When we follow these commandments, we express to God our love for him.*
- ▶ Invite your child to make a thinking-of-you card to give to a person he or she loves. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 130–131

- ▶ **Ask:** *As Jesus' followers, what do you believe is most important in our lives? (the Mass, the sacraments, following Jesus' example)*
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud page 130. **Ask:** *What is the main message of the first part of the Law? (You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.) What is the main message of the second part of the Law? (You shall love your neighbor as yourself.)*
- ▶ Read aloud The First Three Commandments on page 131. **Ask:** *What do the first three commandments help us do? (grow in our relationship with God)*
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *This passage sums up the first three commandments by reminding us that we are called to keep God at the center of our lives.*

Art Exploration: Page 250

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of people entering a church.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including how the people in the picture are following the first three commandments.
- ▶ **Say:** *The first three commandments teach us to love God above all.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 250. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.



- ▶ Have your child read aloud Love and Worship God. Point out the vocabulary word. **Ask:** *How do we honor God?* (use his name with reverence and love) *What does the Eucharist give us the strength to do?* (serve others by performing acts of love and service)
- ▶ Read aloud The Name of God and have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Give your child time to reflect on the Art Print. **Say:** *Think about the last time you were at Mass.* **Ask:** *What did you see? What did you hear? Were you able to smell flowers or incense?* After giving your child time to reflect, **say:** *Take a moment to have a conversation with Jesus. Thank him for giving us the gift of himself in the Eucharist.* Conclude by praying together the Glory Be to the Father.

Reflect: Pages 132–133

- ▶ Together look at page 132. **Say:** *We are going to pray a prayer called the Divine Praises. In this prayer we honor the name of God, the names of the members of the Holy Family, and the names of the angels and saints.*
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph. Take the role as Leader and have your child read the All parts and pray the prayer together. Read aloud the last paragraph. Give your child time to reflect silently. Conclude by praying together the Glory Be to the Father.
- ▶ Read aloud the heading and the directions on page 133. Have your child read aloud the words in the word box. Allow time for your child to write his or her answers and then go over them together.

Respond: Page 134

- ▶ 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 to show God that he or she loves him.
- ▶ 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.