

God Directs Our Lives

Engage: Page 21

- ▶ Together with your child, think about the people you encounter every day. **Ask:** *In what ways do we depend on some of these people?*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's lists. Point out the picture. **Ask:** *How does this picture show people depending on others? (It requires working together. It is physically demanding.)*
- ▶ **Say:** *In this session we will learn about ways that we depend on God and one another.*
- ▶ Ask your child to choose one or two people you talked about earlier and write an "I Promise" pledge, giving specific ways that he or she plans to help the person. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 22–23

- ▶ Give your child a note card. Ask him or her to write the following: *In the story of the child being first in the Kingdom of God, Jesus wants to teach me _____.* *Because of this story, I will _____.* Ask your child to complete the sentences after reading page 22 and then put them on the refrigerator as a reminder of Jesus' lesson.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud The Fruits of the Holy Spirit and Forming a Good Conscience on page 22. **Ask:** *Who did Jesus say was the greatest in the kingdom? (a child) Why do you think he said this? (A child is humble and recognizes his or her dependence on parents.)*
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *As God's people it is important for us to love and trust God.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud The Members of God's Kingdom on page 23. **Ask:** *Why are the Beatitudes important to follow? (They help us live as members of God's kingdom and act as signs of God's goodness.)*
- ▶ Read aloud Find the Beatitudes. Have your child locate the Scripture verse cited. Invite him or her to read the Beatitudes and choose one to illustrate.

Art Exploration: Page 228

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Saint Philip Neri listening to the confession of Pope Clement VIII.

- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, noting the actions and dress of the people.
- ▶ **Say:** *We feel good when we can talk to a trusted friend and when we can be that friend to someone else.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 228. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud the heading and the first two paragraphs. **Ask:** *How did Philip inspire others?* (He encouraged people to be happy and to receive the sacraments.) Have your child read aloud Following the Example. Invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Discuss people you know who try to live their lives like Jesus, such as clergy or teachers.
- ▶ On a sheet of paper, draw an outline of your child. Tell him or her to decorate the outline with talents and attributes he or she is proud of such as *"I'm a good singer"* or *"I'm a good listener."* Then ask your child to write one way he or she can use his or her talents to help someone.

Reflect: Pages 24–25

- ▶ Together look at page 24. **Ask:** *How is the girl dressed? (in pajamas) What time of day do you think it is? (morning)* **Say:** *Praying the Morning Offering gives us direction for daily living.*
- ▶ Read aloud the introduction on page 24. Invite your child to pray the prayer silently. Then read aloud the final paragraph. Lead your child in praying the Glory Be to the Father.
- ▶ Read aloud the directions on page 25. Work together as partners. Look on page 209 to find the Beatitudes to answer each item. **Ask:** *What three words do you think best describe a person who lives the Beatitudes?* (Possible answers: generous, kind, caring)

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 shows concern for others by volunteering to help those who are less fortunate.
- ▶ 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.