



Jesus Sends Us Forth with His Spirit

Engage: Page 187

- ▶ Discuss mission experiences, such as caring for a sick family member or helping a sibling with homework. **Ask:** *How do you feel when someone sends you to do something?* (Possible answers: privileged, responsible, nervous, excited)
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and discuss the text in the box on page 187. **Say:** *You might feel apprehensive about the unknown but also excited about the chance to prove yourself.* **Ask:** *How do you think the idea of being asked to complete a task relates to the session title?*
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer together. Pray aloud the Sign of the Cross.

Explore: Pages 188–189

- ▶ Together discuss experiences when you were so enthusiastic about something that it was hard to control the excitement. **Say:** *When we receive good news, look forward to something, or feel happy for another person, we often want to talk about it. It feels good to share our joy with others.* Read aloud the article title The Gift of Pentecost and the first paragraph on page 188. **Say:** *Pentecost is the day the Church was born.*
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud the rest of the first column. **Ask:** *What books in the Bible reference the Holy Spirit?* (the Gospel of Luke, the Gospel of John, and Acts of the Apostles) **Say:** *When the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples, they were so filled with God's love that they felt compelled to proclaim the works of God.*
- ▶ Read aloud the section The Holy Spirit Descends. Refer your child to the Glossary and read aloud the meaning of the term *Good News*. **Ask:** *For whom is the Good News intended?* (everyone) *How do you know?* (The Apostles were given the ability to speak in tongues.)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the sections The Good News Proclaimed and Gifts of the Holy Spirit on pages 188 and 189. Emphasize that both Baptism and Confirmation are celebrations of the Holy Spirit. **Say:** *The Easter season is a time to recommit ourselves to the promises our parents and godparents made at our Baptism.* Have your child find and underline the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit in the last section on the page. (wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, fear of the Lord, and piety).
- ▶ Read aloud the Our Catholic Character feature. Point out the words *reflection, gratitude, and service*. Discuss the meaning of the virtuous circle. Work together to suggest an example of a virtuous circle. **Say:** *The Holy Spirit is in all of us and gives us help and guidance to live as Christ's disciples in the world.*
- ▶ Use the Study Corner as a quick review of the article.

Explore: Pages 190–191

- ▶ Ask your child to identify words or phrases that come to mind in response to these two situations: a movie director ready to film a scene ("Lights! Camera! Action!") and an announcer at the beginning of a race ("On your mark! Get set! Go!"). Point out that these phrases signal someone to begin an action.
- ▶ Read aloud the article title The Seal of Confirmation and take turns reading aloud the text on page 190. **Say:** *Jesus' directions to us are very clear; namely, to be his followers requires us to perform an action—proclaiming the Kingdom of God.* Point out that we



receive the Sacrament of Confirmation only once because the spiritual mark placed upon us cannot be taken away. **Ask:** *What is required before receiving Confirmation?* (state of grace, desire to receive, profession of belief in the Catholic faith, readiness to proclaim the Kingdom of God) Discuss the Rite of Confirmation and the bishop's use of *Chrism*, using the definition in the Glossary as needed.

- ▶ Have your child read aloud the Sacred Art feature. **Ask:** *Why might the artist have painted figures in different colors?* (to show universality, all races and nations)
Say: *Although Picasso probably didn't paint this work with Pentecost or Confirmation in mind, the figures and dove prompt us to think about the Sacrament of Confirmation.*
- ▶ Read aloud the sections on page 191. **Say:** *Confirmation gives us the ability to share the dream of a better world and to serve God's kingdom.* **Ask:** *What can happen when people refuse to use their spiritual gifts to help others right now in the present?* (Possible answers: God's vision for us will not be evident. People may refuse to use talents for resolution of social ills, use intellectual talents destructively, or withhold compassion and relief for suffering.)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the Past Meets Present feature. Point out that as we grow older, our ability to take care of others grows too. Together share experiences of volunteer work. Discuss volunteer work your child would like to do in the future.
- ▶ Use the Study Corner as a quick review of the article.

Reflect: Pages 192–193

- ▶ Read aloud the title *Stretching Our Wings* on page 192 and the paragraphs below it. Remind your child that every time we pray, it is the Holy Spirit who teaches us the way.
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Leader and Side 1 parts while you read aloud the Side 2 part of the Prayer to the Holy Spirit. Close by praying together the Glory Be to the Father.
- ▶ Look at page 193. Read aloud the introductory text of *Where Do I Fit In?* **Ask:** *How is Confirmation different from Baptism?* (Possible answer: Confirmation is a choice to commit to be an active and responsible witness for Christ in the world.)
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud *My Way to Confirmation*. **Ask:** *What do you think the title means?* (Possible answer: The author took her own path to Confirmation.) **Say:** *The author took time making the decision to be confirmed. She waited until it made sense to her. She waited until the Spirit moved her toward her own personal Easter.* Read aloud the activity. Invite your child to complete it and share responses with you.

Respond: Page 194

- ▶ Have your child read aloud the directions in *What's What?* and complete the crossword puzzle independently. Together discuss and review the responses.
- ▶ Review the terms you learned in this session in *Say What?*
- ▶ Read aloud *Now What?* Remind your child to reflect on the Kingdom of God and assess if his or her words align with the Kingdom of God before writing a response.
- ▶ Invite your child to access a 3-Minute Retreat at www.loyolapress.com/retreat.