

People for Others

Engage: Page 203

- ▶ **Ask:** Why do we like to be notified when someone calls or texts us? (Possible answer: so that we don't miss anything) **Say:** God doesn't have a cell phone. **Ask:** How does God call us? (Possible answers: through our conscience, our experiences, prayer, the Church)
- ▶ Read aloud the title and discuss the text in the blue box. **Say:** Answering these calls from God can give us a much bigger boost than we receive through a text message or an e-mail. In this session we're going to read about ways we can respond to God's call.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 204–205

- ▶ **Ask:** What does it mean to be poor? (to have very little money) What are some of our basic needs? (food, rest, shelter) **Say:** Poverty comes in many forms. As Christians we are called to see it and respond to it.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the article title Hearing the Cry of the Poor and the section Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. Point out that Church leaders call on us to care for people in need. **Ask:** What do you find most remarkable about Blessed Teresa of Calcutta's life story? Discuss your child's response.
- ▶ Read aloud Our Catholic Character. Brainstorm examples of contemporary people or organizations that care for people in need. Encourage your child to name ways that he or she can support this work. **Say:** When we serve the needs of others, we follow the example of all those in the Communion of Saints.
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud A Call Within a Call on page 205. **Ask:** How would you describe Blessed Teresa? (Possible answer: intuitive, decisive, energetic, action-oriented) **Say:** The Church recognizes that Blessed Teresa lived a life worthy of emulation.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Faith and Doubt. Point out that many people of faith have experienced times of doubt and uncertainty. **Say:** Doubt is a sign that a person takes his or her faith seriously. It is a sign of active engagement.
- ▶ Read aloud the Sacred Art feature. Explain that before the founding of the Daughters of Charity, women in religious communities led private, or "cloistered," lives. **Say:** The Daughters of Charity lived and worked among the people of the community.
- ▶ Use the Study Corner as a quick review of the article.

Explore: Pages 206–207

- ▶ Place your child's favorite treat in front of him or her. **Say:** Let's pray together the Act of Faith. (Pause.) You don't seem focused. **Ask:** Is something distracting you? **Say:** The Church understands that the needs of the body are very strong and must be fulfilled before the needs of the spirit can be addressed. Let's eat our treat and then begin.
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud the article title Works of Mercy, the introductory paragraph, and the Scripture passage. **Say:** In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit." He wants his listeners to realize that hunger, thirst, and poverty can apply to the spirit as well as to the body.



- ▶ Have your child read aloud Our Catholic Character. Turn to page 274 in the back of the book. Pray together the Prayer of Generosity. **Say:** *This is a great prayer to take to heart.*
- ▶ Read aloud Corporal Works of Mercy on page 207. Remind your child that while the Corporal Works of Mercy refer to people's physical needs, they can also refer to other needs that people have. **Say:** *We can visit people imprisoned by loneliness, for example, by spending time with people who live in nursing homes.*
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud Spiritual Works of Mercy. Together find examples from newspapers and magazines of different ways that people live out the Works of Mercy.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Ready for Confirmation. Suggest that whenever your child receives a thank-you for an act of kindness, he or she can mentally "pass it on" to the Holy Spirit for giving your child the strength to act.
- ▶ Use the Study Corner as a quick review of the article.

Reflect: Pages 208–209

- ▶ Have your child read aloud the title and the paragraphs in the left column. **Say:** *For Jesus' followers, the Beatitudes are a way of life. One of the Beatitudes describes the reward for those who work for peace. Today we're going to reflect on this beatitude.*
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud Beatitude Reflection. After each paragraph, allow time for reflection before reading the beatitude. Conclude the prayer by exchanging the Sign of Peace.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the introductory paragraph of Where Do I Fit In? on page 209. **Say:** *God has a plan for each of us, and the more we listen to him, the more faithful we will be at following that plan.*
- ▶ Read aloud Discovering Who You're Meant to Be. Discuss with your child the idea that Jesus gradually discovered who he was. **Say:** *God rejoices as we discover who we are too.* **Ask:** *What kinds of actions brought Jesus closer to the truth about himself? (listening to his heart; helping people who were poor, sick, and lonely; sharing God's message with others)* **Say:** *When we do these things, we get closer and closer to finding out who we are too.*
- ▶ Have your child complete Vocation Reflection independently. Invite him or her to share the response with you.

Respond: Page 210

- ▶ Have your child read aloud the directions and complete the matching activity.
- ▶ Ask your child to list, define, and use in sentences the terms under Say What? Use the Glossary if necessary.
- ▶ Read aloud Now What? Give your child time to complete the activity. **Say:** *The Church has given us many tools to help us respond to the needs of people who are suffering and vulnerable. We can rely on God's grace and the strength of the Holy Spirit to practice the Works of Mercy. Together pray the Sign of the Cross.*
- ▶ Invite your child to pray a 3-minute Retreat at www.loyolapress.com/retreat.