

WALKING by FAITH

Grade 2 / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 2 A WORLD OF SIGNS

Objectives

- Describe how the signs of God's love are known through the senses.
- Recognize signs of God's love in creation.
- Identify the Bible as our holy book.
- Explore the structure of the Bible.

Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), pages 12–13

Ask your child to think about the people he or she loves. Discuss: What are some ways you show love for other people? (Possible answers: smiles, hugs, kisses, and high fives, as well as words and actions.)

Ask your child to keep in mind the signs of love as you pray the opening Prayer together.

Read or summarize the text on page 12. Point out how Rachel, Tim, and Rosa uses their five senses (seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, touching) to recognize signs of love in their lives. Discuss the caption question.

Ask: Who gave us our five senses? (God) Explain to your child that we use our senses to perceive signs of God's love in the world.

Read or summarize **Jesus Saw Signs of Love**, page 13. Help your child understand how Jesus used his senses to recognize signs of God's love in the world.

Read **Saints Walk with Us: Hildegard of Bingen**. Explain that Hildegard was born in Germany in 1098. She was a nun, a writer, a poet, a musician, a doctor, and a preacher. Ask your child to respond to the question, either in words or with a drawing.

Call your child's attention to the picture at the bottom of page 13. Discuss what other pictures they might choose as signs of God's love. Provide drawing paper for your child to complete the **Activity** on this page.

Step 2: We Explore (Doctrine), pages 14–15

Read **Stories and Signs** and **Catholics Believe**, page 14. Ask: Why do you think Jesus told stories about God's love? (He knew stories would help people learn about God.)

Call attention to the illustration of Jesus and the children. What signs of creation is Jesus pointing out? (a tree, a bird, flowers) Explain that we, like Jesus, can call attention to these and other signs of God's love.

Read or summarize **The Book of God's Love** on page 15. Refer to the **Language of Faith** section in the back of the textbook to explain the highlighted words, *Bible* and *Scripture*.

Why is the Bible called a holy book? (It tells stories of God's love.) If you have a place where you could display your family Bible, follow up on the **Activity** on this page.

Read aloud each step in the **Stepping Stones: Getting to Know the Bible**. Open your family Bible, and spend some time going through the various books. Point out some of your favorite stories, and read some of them to your child. Invite your child to draw some of his or her favorite Bible stories. Read the statements under **Where Will This Lead Me?**

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 16

Review the lesson by discussing **Recall, Think and Share, Continue the Journey**. Have your child complete the activity.

Read **We Live Our Faith: At Home and In the Parish**. Try to follow through on the suggestions found there.

Refer to the **Language of Faith** section in the back of the textbook for clarification and review of all highlighted words.

Complete the **Faith Journal**, pages 3 and 4.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 17

Read or summarize **Praise God!** Be sure your child understands the meaning of the word *hosanna*. What other languages might people use to pray to God? (Possible answers: English, Spanish, French, Polish, Vietnamese.) Point out that God hears and understands our prayers no matter what language we use.

Close the lesson by reciting or singing the closing **Prayer**. Remind your child to listen and join in on this prayer the next time you are at Mass.

For additional activities contact your director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 4–6.