

WALKING by FAITH

Grade 2 / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 5 THE FATHER OF JESUS

Objectives

- Explore what it means to be a good parent.
- Identify God as the Father of Jesus.
- Realize that God wants us to follow his commandments.
- Relate to God through the Lord's Prayer.

Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), page 30

Ask your child to name a special person in his or her life and to tell you why that person is so special. Share with your child a special person in your life.

Remembering these special people, pray together the opening **Prayer** on page 30.

Read or summarize the text for your child. Then ask: Why do you think Richard chose to write about his father? (His father is his best friend who helps him and takes care of him)

Call attention to the picture at the bottom of the page. Read the caption, and discuss the question.

Step 2: *We Explore* (Doctrine), pages 31–33

Read loud or summarize the text on page 31, **A Good Relationship** and **Catholics Believe**. Use the **Language of Faith** at the back of the textbook to explore the meaning of the word *heaven*.

Help your child understand that Jesus used the term *Abba* (a term of affection) for God his Father. He was telling us that he was very close to God the Father. What are some names that children call their fathers today? (Dad, Daddy, Papa, Pa, and so on)

Discuss: What are signs of a good relationship? (People in good relationships love and care for each other) Have your child complete the **Activity** at the bottom of the page; provide materials.

As you read or summarize the **Scripture Story: How to Pray** on page 32, emphasize that prayer is a way of talking to and listening to God. Point out that we can pray at any time and in any place. Ask: Why do you think Jesus taught his disciples to pray? (Help your child understand that Jesus knew prayer helps us to know and love God.)

Read **Our Moral Guide** and discuss the question. (We show that we trust and obey God when we do what Jesus taught his followers to do.)

Turn to page 33 and read the paragraph under the heading, **The Lord's Prayer**. A definition of the *Lord's Prayer* can be found in the **Language of Faith** at the back of the textbook. Take note of the stained glass window with the words of the prayer.

Call your child's attention to the chart with the *Lord's Prayer*. Explain to your child that sometimes we call the Lord's Prayer by its first two words—*Our Father*. Remind your child that this prayer is an important part of Catholic liturgy and devotion. We pray this prayer at Mass and at many other church services. We also pray it when we pray the Rosary. Remind your child to pay attention closely and listen for this prayer the next time you are at Mass. Encourage him or her to join in praying this prayer with the priest and assembly.

Use the chart on page 33 to discuss the meaning of the Lord's Prayer. Talk with your child about specific examples of how we might live the prayer through our words and actions.

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 34

Review the material taught in this lesson by discussing **Recall, Think and Share**, and **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 9 and 10.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 35

Point out the photograph on page 35, which shows Native Americans in prayer. Ask your child what he or she thinks the people in the picture are doing. (praying)

Talk with your child about his or her own experiences of prayer with your faith community. Then read the first paragraph under **Father of All**. Who is the Father of all? (God)

Close the lesson by praying the **Prayers** from various cultures. Encourage your child to respond freely to the words of each prayer by telling what the words mean to him or her. Then pray together the Lord's Prayer to close the lesson.

For additional activities contact your director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 13–15.