

WALKING by FAITH

Grade 2 / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 6 GOD GIVES US LIFE

Objectives

- Identify signs of love in our lives.
- Affirm that we celebrate the gift of God's grace in the sacraments.
- Explore the seven sacraments.

Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), page 36

Share a happy memory from your childhood that involved a family member. Invite your child to do the same. Remind him or her that we look for signs of God's love in family members. Then pray together the opening **Prayer** on page 36.

Read the chapter title, **God Gives Us Life**, and read or summarize the text. Discuss the relationship the young girl had with her grandmother. Respond to the bulleted question. (The grandmother spent time doing things with her granddaughter; she hugged her, provided special food for her, listened and gave advice, and wrote her notes.)

Read the **Activity** suggestion to your child, and give him or her time to think about and share a story to go with the picture. Then discuss: What signs of love have you shared with loved ones?

Step 2: *We Explore* (Doctrine), pages 37–39

As you read **The Gift of Grace** and **Catholics Believe** on page 37, use the **Language of Faith** section in the back of the textbook to explain the terms *grace*, *sacraments*, and *Baptism*.

Share with your child memories of his or her Baptism. Why is the Sacrament of Baptism so special? (Because we become a member of the Church community when we are baptized. It is the beginning of our journey of faith.)

Call attention to the photograph of the newly baptized baby. Who usually baptizes a person? (a priest or deacon) Who also welcomes a baby into the Church community? (family members, godparents, friends, members of the faith community) If time permits bring out pictures from your child's Baptism and share these memories with him or her.

Then have your child do the **Activity** at the bottom of the page. Post the drawing on the refrigerator or another important place in your home.

Turn to page 38 and read the text under **Celebrating Grace**. Refer to the chart on **The Sacraments**. As you read the chart together, focus on the grace of each sacrament (what it celebrates). Discuss with your child any of the sacraments he or she has celebrated or seen celebrated. Ask: Which sacraments are shown in the photographs? (Eucharist, Reconciliation, Matrimony)

Before you read the **Scripture Story** on page 39, tell your child that a long time ago a man named Paul spread the good news of God's great gift of grace. Then as you read aloud or summarize **Paul's Message**, emphasize that Paul spread the word of God by talking to people and by writing letters to them. What happened after Paul was baptized? (He taught others about Jesus.) Why did Paul tell people to follow Jesus? (By following Jesus, they would share in the grace of God.)

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 40

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 11 and 12.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 41

Before reading the text on **The Waters of Baptism** on page 41, explain that the Church gives us reminders of our Baptism because this sacrament is so special. Then read the paragraph. What reminder of Baptism did the priest give at Mass? (a sprinkling of holy water)

Call attention to the picture of the baptismal font at the top of the page. Explain that the top half slides off or rotates to the side to reveal the holy water. Compare this font to the one in your parish church. Ask: What do you often see people do as they pass the baptismal font? (They dip their hand in and bless themselves making the Sign of the Cross). Why do they do this? (It is a reminder of their Baptism.)

Close the lesson by leading your child through the closing **Prayer**.

For additional activities contact your director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 16–18.