

# WALKING by FAITH

## Grade 4 / Home Lesson

### CHAPTER 14 THE WORK OF LOVE

#### Objectives

- Connect Church membership and love of God with service to others.
- Understand that we are all called to do Jesus' work in our daily lives.
- Explore ways to share time, talent, and treasure with others.
- Describe how service hastens the kingdom of God.

#### Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), pages 104–105

Pray together the opening **Prayer** of the chapter on **The Work of Love**, page 104.

Begin the chapter by reading the first part of the story about Josh. Ask: Do you think Josh might have fun helping with this project? Why or why not? Refer to the photo caption, and discuss with your child a time when either or both of you worked together with others to do something good for the community. How did you feel?

Read “**Do the Works I Do**” on page 105, and discuss the definition of the term *deacon*. See the **Language of Faith** at the back of the textbook for a complete definition. If there is a parish deacon, ask: Do you know the deacon in our parish? Explain to your child that there are two kinds of deacons: transitional (those who are preparing to become priests) and permanent (those who will remain deacons for life and may be married).

Refer to the **Activity**. Using your family Bible look up the three readings indicated on page 105. Discuss the caption question.

#### Step 2: *We Explore* (Doctrine), pages 106–109

Move on to page 106, and read **Doing Christ's Work** and **Catholics Believe**. Using the **Language of Faith** section in the back of the text, explain the term *ministry*. Many different ministries, both lay and ordained, are needed to carry out the work of the Church. With your child list the various ministries that exist in your parish. (Look through your parish bulletin to get some help.)

Discuss: What three things did Josh learn about being a Church member? (It takes a community to carry out Jesus' ministry; we are called to live out what we believe every day, in everything we do; each of us can do the work of Christ.) Then discuss the caption question. (They are giving their time to help raise money for people who are hungry.)

Read **The Soul of the World**, the story of Diognetus and his friend, on page 107. Discuss: What are the phrases that describe Christians? Then, thinking about your parish faith community, discuss the question at the bottom of the page.

Read the **Scripture Signpost** and answer the question posed there.

Read over the introductory paragraph on **Time, Talent, Treasure**, page 108. Then read and talk through the chart on **Sharing Love**. Discuss with your child the ways that your family shares each of these with your parish community. Then ask your child to name some ways he or she can share their time, talent, or treasure with the parish.

Read **The Kingdom at Hand**, page 109. Look at all the pictures on the page; these are examples of various ministries in our Church. Read and discuss each caption. Ask: Whom do you know that serves in any of these ministries?

Read **Saints Walk with Us: Frédéric Ozanam**. Explain to your child that Frédéric Ozanam lived at a time of great poverty during the Industrial Revolution. He formed the St. Vincent de Paul Society as a way to help people who are in need. If you know anything about the Society's work in your area, share that with your child.

### **Step 3: We Reflect** (Integration of Faith into Daily Life), page 110

Review the material taught in this lesson by completing the sections **Recall, Think and Share**, and **Continue the Journey**.

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 terms.

Complete the **Faith Journal**, pages 27–28.

### **Step 4: We Celebrate** (Prayer and Conclusion), page 111

Read **Open Our Hearts** on page 111. Emphasize that prayer is a powerful tool and is always available to us as a way of supporting one another. Discuss how the photos illustrate the idea of opening our hearts. (Two boys are sharing friendship and their love of basketball; people are sharing their faith in prayer.)

Pray the closing **Prayer** together.