

WALKING by FAITH

Grade 5 / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 12

WE CELEBRATE ADVENT: WAITING FOR THE LIGHT

Objectives

- Recognize Advent as a time of waiting for Jesus, the Light of the World.
- Discover Advent as a time to grow in love.
- Identify ways Jesus comes as light.
- Describe customs and traditions regarding Advent wreaths.

Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), page 92

Pray together the opening **Prayer** on page 92. Ask your child to explain why the black background was used for a chapter titled **Waiting for the Light**.

Invite your child to recall a time when he or she waited joyfully for something to occur.

Read the text on page 92. Ask: What would the world be like if there were no sun? (Possible answers: It would always be cold and dark; green plants would not survive.) When do we celebrate Jesus' birthday? (December 25) Why do we associate both the winter solstice and Christmas with joyful waiting? (We await more hours of sunlight, and we await the birthday of Jesus, the Light of the World.)

Step 2: *We Explore* (Doctrine), page 93

Read **A Time of Darkness** on page 93. Be sure your child understands the meanings of the words *Advent* and *Messiah*. (Refer to the **Language of Faith** section in the back of the textbook.) Ask: How does our family use Advent to prepare for Christmas? (Answers may include any of the ways mentioned in the text, as well as doing good deeds and attending Mass.)

Read aloud the caption question and invite your child to respond. (Jesus guides us along the path of faith from birth to death; he is the light that helps us "see" God.)

Read the **Catholics Believe** statement. Explain that Advent is a time to remember Jesus' first coming and to celebrate the ways in our daily lives and relationships in which Jesus comes to us now. It is also a time to prepare for Jesus' second coming at the end of time when the kingdom of God will be fulfilled.

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 94

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 with the suggestions found there.

Refer to the **Language of Faith** section in the back of the textbook to review the highlighted words.

Complete the **Faith Journal**, pages 23–24.

Step 4: Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 95

Close the lesson with prayer. Read together, **Come, Lord Jesus**. Then gather around your family's Advent wreath and pray the closing **Prayer**.