

WALKING by FAITH

Grade 5 / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 16

WE CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS: FOLLOWING A STAR

Objectives

- Evaluate the call to believe in and follow Jesus.
- Identify the events celebrated during the Christmas season.
- Summarize past and present Christmas customs.

Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), page 122

Look at the background picture on page 122. Ask your child to think about times he or she has seen many stars in the night sky. Remind him or her that Jesus is the Light of the world. Then pray the opening **Prayer** together.

Read the text and make sure your child understands the term, *magi*. Refer to the **Language of Faith** section at the back of the textbook for further information. Explain that in Jesus' time gold was a traditional gift given a king, frankincense was a fragrant incense used in worship, and myrrh was a perfume and incense used in burials. If you were one of the magi, what gift would you bring Jesus? Why? (Answers will vary.)

Step 2: *We Explore* (Doctrine), page 123

Read **The Savior Is Born** on page 123 and make sure your child understands the term *Epiphany* by referring to the **Language of Faith** section at the back of the textbook. Ask: What do the Epiphany, Jesus' Baptism, and the miracle at Cana reveal about Jesus? (Jesus is the Savior promised by God.)

Look at the picture inserts and answer the caption question. (through Scripture, the Church, the Sacraments, acts of kindness, family, friends)

Read **Catholics Believe**. Explain that Jesus came to save people of all races, cultures, ethnic groups, nations, and stations in life. We should imitate Jesus by treating all people with respect and dignity.

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Daily Life), page 124

Review material taught in this lesson by discussing the answers to **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 words.

Complete the **Faith Journal**, pages 31–32.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 125

Read **The Twelve Days of Christmas** on page 125, and discuss with your child various Christmas customs you both enjoy.

Pray the closing **Prayer** together (If you are not singers, play a tape of a Christmas carol and offer your own prayer to God.)