

WALKING by FAITH

Grade 6 / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 13 SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Objectives

- Discover that the good news should be shared.
- Explain how the gospel is good news.
- Discover that Jesus is the fulfillment of prophecy.
- Summarize how the four Gospels were developed and compare the four gospels.

Step 1: We Are Invited (Life Experience), pages 96–97

Discuss with your child how your family spreads good news from one to another. Tell your child that in this chapter they will learn how the family of faith shares the good news of Jesus' life. Then pray together the opening **Prayer** on page 96.

Read the text on page 96. Ask: What are the friends sharing with each other? (good news) What happens when we share good news? (feelings of excitement and happiness grow) Refer to the **Activity** and help your child think about the good things in their life and discuss these family blessings.

Read **Spreading the Good Word** on page 97, and use the **Language of Faith** section to define the term *gospel*. Ask: How is the gospel story one of freedom, community, hope, healing, forgiveness, and love? (answers are in examples in the gospels) With your child think of headlines that would be good news for our society. For example: "Homelessness: A Thing of the Past" or "No One Will Go Hungry Again." Have your child answer the caption question on page 97.

Now read **Saints Walk with Us** about Julian of Norwich, and explain to your child that Julian's writings were considered so outstanding that she is considered the first great woman writer of the English language.

Step 2: We Explore (Doctrine), pages 98–101

Read the **Scripture Story: A Story Come True** and **Catholics Believe** on page 98. Explain to your child that both the Old and New Testaments are needed to tell the story of our salvation. The Christian story reaches its high point in the Gospels. Ask: What was Jesus really saying when he spoke these words to the people in the synagogue? (That he was the prophet mentioned in Scripture—he was the one bringing good news to the poor, freeing the captives, and restoring sight to the blind.)

Look at the picture of Jesus in the synagogue and answer the caption question. (Possible answers: because he seemed like one of them, because they had an image of the prophet that did not match anyone they knew, because they had never thought of him as a leader.)

As you and your child read **The Story at the Heart of Scripture**, page 99, refer to the **Language of Faith** section at the back of the textbook to better understand the highlighted terms. Use your Bible to complete the **Activity**.

Read aloud the **Scripture Signpost** and have your child answer the question. (Possible answers: repentance and belief change our hearts and our lives; they help us become the kind of people who can live in the kingdom of God.)

Read the text on page 100, **Ways of Telling the Story**. Why are the Gospels so important to the faithful? (They tell us more about Jesus than any other books in existence. They help people come to know Jesus and gain eternal life in the kingdom of God.)

Look at the photograph and read the **Landmark**. Why do we stand when the gospel is read? (As a sign of respect and as a sign that we are ready to go forth to spread the good news.)

Together read the chart on **The Four Gospels** on page 101. Discuss gospel similarities and differences.

Ask: What qualities of the Gospel writers might these symbols represent? (Accept all reasonable responses. Point out that the Lion [Mark] symbolizes Jesus' divinity or royalty, the Winged Man [Matthew] symbolizes Jesus' humanity, the ox [Luke] symbolizes Jesus sacrifice on the cross, and the eagle symbolizes the spirit of John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, soaring to God's throne.)

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Daily Life), page 102

Review the material taught in this lesson by discussing **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 25–26.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 103

Read **No Turning Back** on page 103. Ask: What does it mean to witness to our faith? (to demonstrate our commitment to following Jesus through all we say and do) Ask: Why is it sometimes difficult to witness to our faith? (Possible answers: many temptations in our society; can be easier to follow the crowd; usually requires we make sacrifices.) Ask: As people of faith what can we do when we are tempted? (We can recognize the temptation and pray to God.)

Before praying the closing **Prayer** explain to your child that “the world behind me” refers to life’s everyday problems. Consider having your child place a cross on the table, write down his or her problems on a piece of paper (you could also do this), and when they come to the last stanza of the prayer, place the lists at the foot of the cross, handing them over to Jesus.