

WALKING by FAITH

Grade K / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 17 WE ARE SPECIAL

Objectives

- Recognize that God made each person different.
- Understand that our differences make each of us special.
- Recognize that people are God's greatest creation.
- Understand that each person is created to be like God.
- Recognize that we show love for God when we treat others kindly.

Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), page 83

Begin the lesson (**We Are Special**) by praying aloud the opening **Prayer** on page 83.

Have your child name something special about a brother, sister, friend, or neighbor. Suggest that he or she talk about something that makes that person nice.

Ask your child to look carefully at the picture on this page. Have him or her describe the people in the picture. Develop the understanding that all these people are children of God, so each of them is someone special.

Read aloud the following poem to your child:

We are special.
You and me.
So are the people that we see.
God made everyone
As special as can be.

You might repeat the last two lines of the poem, substituting your child's name for the word *everyone*.

Read aloud **Catholics Believe** on page 83. Talk with your child about how special we are to be God's greatest creation.

Step 2: We Explore (Doctrine), page 84

Remind your child that God created all things. Then explain that God created people to enjoy all of creation and especially to enjoy and love one another.

As your child looks at the picture on page 84, ask him or her to name the things that God created. (animals, trees, sun, and so on) Ask your child to name God's greatest creation, which is missing from the picture. (people)

Provide your child with crayons and have him or her add drawings of people to the picture. As your child draws, talk about how very special people are. Develop the understanding that we are all created to be good and loving like God.

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 85

Invite your child to tell about a time when someone was kind to him or her. Ask how that kindness made him or her feel.

Take note of the statement: **Treat Others Kindly** on page 85. Have your child point to each picture as he or she tells what the people are doing to treat each other kindly. Develop the understanding that we show love for God when we treat others kindly. Give your child an opportunity to describe a time when he or she was kind to others.

Read aloud the **Scripture** quote on page 85. Remind your child that these words come from the Bible. Explain that even though we are all different, everyone wants to be treated with kindness and love.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 86

Recall with your child that we should treat others just as we want to be treated. Read aloud the situations below, and after each one is read, have your child talk about how he or she would want to be treated.

- You have moved to a new neighborhood where you know none of the children.
- You see two children playing ball and want to join in.
- Your friends have just learned a new song that you want to learn to sing.

Have your child trace the words on page 86. (*Be kind to others.*) Then help your child hang the poster on the refrigerator or other appropriate place in your home as a reminder of today's lesson.

Have your child close his or her eyes and think about a time when they treated others kindly. Then pray together the closing **Prayer** on page 86, having your child repeat the lines after you.

For additional activities contact your director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 51–53.