

WALKING by FAITH

Grade K / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 2 ALL GOD'S GIFTS

Objectives

- Connect prayer with thanking God for all the good things we have and enjoy.
- Recognize that God made all things, seen and unseen.
- Understand that prayer is one way we respond to God's love.
- Express thanks to God for our food.

Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), page 11

Talk with your child about giving and receiving presents. Have him or her explain what makes both actions fun and exciting. Ask your child: What do you say to someone who gives you a present? (Thank you.)

Remind your child that it is God who gives us all the wonderful things in our world. Pray the opening **Prayer** aloud. Invite your child to repeat it after you. Point out that thanking God for the gifts he has given us is similar to thanking a friend or relative for a present.

Have your child look at the picture on this page and name the gifts God gives us. Then read aloud the following poem. Have your child respond, "We thank you, God," after each line.

For day and night, (response)

For sun so bright, (response)

For winds that blow and birds that sing, (response)

For everyone and everything, (response)

Read aloud the **Scripture** verse at the bottom of the page. Tell your child that the word *grateful* means "thankful." Ask your child: How do you feel when someone thanks you for doing something?

Step 2: We Explore (Doctrine), page 12

Draw your child's attention to the pictures on this page. Tell him or her that six children drew these pictures and that the pictures show things the children want to thank God for. Read aloud the sentences at the top of the page. Then have your child point to and name each of the six gifts from God.

Explain that the pictures on this page show gifts from God that can be seen. Invite your child to think about gifts from God that cannot be seen; ask these questions to help them: What blows leaves on the trees? (wind) What do you breathe? (air) What feeling would you have at your birthday party? (happiness)

Read the question below the pictures. Invite your child to respond.

Read aloud the **Catholics Believe** statement. Tell your child that prayer is one way we can say thank you to God. Explain that prayer is talking and listening to God. Tell him or her that the words *Thank you, God*, are a simple prayer that we can pray any time and any place.

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 13

To help your child think about his or her gifts from God, review some of the gifts already mentioned in the lesson. Include some gifts that are important to you, such as family and love.

Encourage your child to draw a picture on this page of a gift from God that is especially important to him or her. When he or she finishes the drawing activity, have your child tell you about the picture.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 14

Call attention to the words printed on the placemat on this page. Have your child attempt to read the words after you; then have him or her trace the words. Ask your child to tell you what foods are pictured on the border of the placemat. Explain that mealtime is a perfect time to thank God for these foods and for all the wonderful foods God has blessed us with. Give your child time to color the foods pictured.

Teach your child this simple mealtime prayer of thanks and the actions to go with it. Use this prayer of thanks to close the lesson.

Thank you for the world so sweet. (*Extend arms in a circle.*)

Thank you for the food we eat. (*Show eating gesture, hand going to mouth.*)

Thank you for the birds that sing. (*Flap arms.*)

Thank you, God, for everything. (*Circle arms in front of you.*)

For additional activities contact the director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 4–7.