

WALKING by FAITH

Grade K / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 20

LENT

Objectives

- Locate signs of new life in the spring.
- Associate Lent with signs of new life.
- Understand the meaning of Lent.

Step 1: We Are Invited (Life Experience), page 95

Tell your child that in this lesson, he or she will learn about Lent, the time during which we prepare for Easter.

Have your child pray the opening **Prayer** on page 95 by praying it after you.

Step 2: We Explore (Doctrine), page 95

Ask your child to describe what he or she sees pictured on page 95. Point out that all these are signs of spring, a time of year when new life begins.

Explain that in many parts of the world Lent ends in the spring. Lent is the six weeks when the Church prepares for our celebration of Easter. Tell your child that Easter is the time when we celebrate Jesus' being raised from the dead.

If possible, take your child to your parish church to look for signs of Lent, including the use of the color purple. Explain that Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, when Catholics visit church to receive ashes on their foreheads. The ashes remind us that we belong to God and must return to God.

Recall with your child some of the ways he or she can be more like Jesus.

Read aloud the **Scripture** quote on page 95. Point out that we wait for new life during Lent, just as farmers wait for their crops to grow.

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 96

Tell your child that in the spring we look for signs of new life. During the spring we use the six weeks of Lent to prepare for Easter.

Remind your child that lots of baby animals are born in the spring. Remind him or her that spring is also a time when flowers and trees begin to bloom.

Provide your child with crayons. Have him or her draw signs of new life on the Lenten cross on page 96.

Read aloud **Catholics Believe**.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 96

Share with your child some of the ways that you hope to use Lent to become more like Jesus in your words and actions. Then invite your child to do the same. Brainstorm some ideas together, for example:

Pray for homeless and sick people.

Ask for forgiveness of others, and offer forgiveness to others.

Help out family members without being told.

Hug someone you love.

Close the lesson with prayer. Pray aloud the closing **Prayer** on this page. Begin and end with the Sign of the Cross.

For additional activities contact your director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 60–62.