

# WALKING by FAITH

## Grade K / Home Lesson

### CHAPTER 21 SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE

#### Objectives

- Connect good things in creation to God's love.
- Understand how Jesus used created things as signs of God's love.
- Recognize how the Church uses created things in its celebration of the sacraments.
- Recognize signs of God's love.

#### Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), page 101

Tell your child about something you saw in nature that was a sign of God's love. (for example, a beautiful sunset, a peaceful ocean, a new puppy)

Explain that in today's lesson you will be talking about more **Signs of God's Love**. Read the title, and pray aloud the opening **Prayer**; invite your child to repeat the prayer after you.

Have your child point to the picture on page 101 and name the signs of God's love he or she sees there. Emphasize that signs of God's love are everywhere.

Read the following riddles and have your child answer each one.

- What sign of God's love flies through the air? (bird)
- What sign of God's love blooms here and there? (flowers)
- What sign of God's love has loved ones that care? (child)

Encourage your child to name other signs of God's love. (Answers might include such things as kittens, stars, and people.)

Point out the **Scripture** verse at the bottom of page 101 and read it aloud. Explain that every place in the world has signs of God's love.

## **Step 2: We Explore** (Doctrine), page 102

Tell your child that Jesus wanted everyone to believe in God's love, so he used signs that people could see. Read the title on page 102: **Jesus Used Signs**.

As your child talks about the pictures on the page, have him or her tell what Jesus is doing. Read aloud the corresponding captions to call out the three signs that Jesus used.

Have your child tell how he or she uses water, light, and food. (Answers may include the following: I use water to bathe, to drink, and to swim; I use light to see in the dark and to help keep warm; I use food to eat, to keep healthy, and to grow.)

Read aloud **Catholics Believe** and ask your child to point out the water, light, and food in the illustrations. Remind your child that each of these created things is a sign of God's love.

## **Step 3: We Reflect** (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 103

Ask: What are some of the signs Jesus used to show God's love? (water, light, food)

Point out to your child that these same signs are used in the Church's celebration of the sacraments.

Explain that the word *sacrament* means "holy sign." A sacrament is a holy sign that shows us God's special love.

Discuss each picture on page 103 with your child. Read the title: **The Church Uses Signs**. Explain that the Church uses water in the Sacrament of Baptism to welcome new members into the Church family. The Church uses light in the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation to show that we follow Jesus, the Light of the World. The Church uses bread and wine in the Sacrament of the Eucharist to celebrate God's love for everyone. Have your child point out the water, light, and food used in the celebration of sacraments.

Have your child trace the words *water*, *light*, and *food*.

## **Step 4: We Celebrate** (Prayer and Conclusion), page 104

Remind your child that the world contains many signs of God's love. Then turn to page 104 and read the title: **My Favorite Sign**. Read aloud the activity question and have your child respond. Provide your child with crayons and sufficient time to complete his or her drawing.

Close the lesson with the closing **Prayer**. Take turns with your child naming your favorite signs of God's love as you both respond, "Praise the Lord!"

For additional activities contact your director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 63–65.