

WALKING by FAITH

Grade K / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 22 GOD CREATED WATER

Objectives

- Associate the use of water with the activities of everyday life.
- Observe that water brings us life, cleanliness, and refreshment.
- Understand that in Baptism water is a sign of God's love.
- Recognize the importance of water as a sign of God's love.

Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), page 105

Share with your child one reason why you are glad you have water. Invite your child to do the same. Ask: Who made all the water that we have? (God)

Tell your child that today you will be talking about God's wonderful gift of water. Turn to page 105, and read the title: **God Created Water**. Have your child pray the opening **Prayer** after you.

Have your child identify all the ways the people in the picture on this page are using water. Then help your child consider some of the ways he or she uses water by acting out the following uses:

- Brush your teeth.
- Wash your hands.
- Drink from a glass.
- Water plants.
- Swim.

Read aloud the **Scripture** verse at the bottom of page 105 and remind your child that the verse is taken from the Bible. Explain that God's love for us will never end. God's love is like a fountain of water that keeps running and running and never stops. It is like a river of water that keeps flowing and flowing and never runs dry.

Step 2: We Explore (Doctrine), page 106

Remind your child that God gave us the wonderful gift of water to use each day. Provide your child with a pencil. On page 106 point out the picture of the boy holding a watering can. Let your child predict what he might use the water for. (to water plants) Then call attention to the picture of the flower that needs watering. Have your child draw a line to connect the two pictures.

Have your child match the remaining pictures in the two columns, assisting as needed. (girl holding toy boat, small wading pool; boy holding empty glass, water faucet)

Talk with your child about how the pictures show that people can use water. Let your child suggest some other ways we use water to help us live, keep clean, and feel refreshed. (Answers may include cooking, cleaning, and playing.)

Read aloud **Catholics Believe** on the bottom of page 106. Point out that all living things need water to live and to grow.

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 107

Point out to your child that in the picture on page 107, the priest is pouring water over the baby's head. If your child has seen a Baptism, he or she may be able to identify this as a baptismal scene. If not, explain that a priest or deacon presides at a Baptism, a special sacrament in which the Church welcomes new members. The holy water used for the Baptism is a sign of new life as a Church member.

Lead your child in making the Sign of the Cross. Explain that the words of Baptism are almost the same as those for the Sign of the Cross. As the priest or deacon pours holy water over the head of the one being baptized, he says, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Tell your child that whenever we make the Sign of the Cross, we remember our Baptism and the new life we have in Jesus.

If you wish to make the Sacrament of Baptism more realistic for your child, consider using a doll to demonstrate how a priest or deacon baptizes a baby. Then talk about the Baptism shown in the picture.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 108

Remind your child that all living things need water, which is a gift from God. You might give examples, such as flowers, trees, and people.

Read the title on page 108: **Water Brings Life**. Give your child crayons and have him or her color in all the things that use water in the hidden-picture puzzle on the page. When your child has finished, ask him or her to identify each picture he or she colored in. Talk briefly about how a fish, a turtle, a baby, and a flower need and use water.

Remind your child that holy water is used to baptize people. This is a special use of water to welcome new members of the Church. Help your child recall the words a priest or deacon uses to baptize a person. (“I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”)

Close the lesson with the closing **Prayer**. Begin with the Sign of the Cross. Then pray the prayer found on page 108, having your child repeat each phrase after you. Close the prayer with the Sign of the Cross.

For additional activities contact your director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 66–68.