

WALKING by FAITH

Grade K / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 5 WE LOVE GOD

Objectives

- Affirm that God loves us.
- Understand that we serve God by sharing our love with other people.
- Recognize that we learn about God from people we love.
- Demonstrate love for God by helping each other.

Step 1: We Are Invited (Life Experience), page 29

Take a few minutes to talk with your child about times when he or she felt especially loved by someone and loved that person in return. Ask: How do you know that your family and friends love you? How do you show your love for them? (Answers will vary but may include examples of caring words and actions.)

Read the title of the chapter to your child: **We Love God**. Pray together the opening **Prayer** by inviting your child to echo it after you.

Connect your child's own experience of being loved with his or her feelings about God.

Then have your son or daughter write or dictate his or her name to complete the activity sentence on page 29. Help him or her read the entire sentence.

Read aloud the **Scripture** verse on this page. Remind your child that these words are from the Bible. Explain that we belong to God just as we belong to our families.

Step 2: We Explore (Doctrine), page 30

Remind your child that God made us and loves us. Explain that we can serve God by sharing our love with other people. Encourage your child to name some of the people he or she loves.

Have your child recall that he or she has learned many things about God from the people who love him or her. Help your child recall the songs, prayers, and stories about God that he or she has learned from family members, teachers, friends, or other people.

Direct your child to **We Share God's Love**, page 30. Invite your child to draw in the picture frames provided pictures of three people he or she loves. Point out that these people teach us about God by sharing their love with us. Label each person's picture with his or her name as your child draws him or her.

Read aloud **Catholics Believe**. Help your child understand that God loves all people.

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 31

Read **We Help Others**, page 31. Remind your son or daughter that we serve God by helping others.

Have your child point to each picture on this page while naming the ways these people are helping others. Point out that regardless of age, we can all help each other.

Be sensitive to the issue of adults who take advantage of the innocence of children. Remind your child that he or she should guard against talking to strangers who ask them for help. Explain that the best thing to do is get an adult to help out. Never help out alone!

Tell your child how someone has recently helped you. Then invite your child to do the same.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 32

Brainstorm with your child some people in your family or neighborhood or at school whom your child might help in some way, such as helping a sibling with a chore, helping you prepare a meal, or helping the teacher in the classroom distribute supplies.

When your child has decided on a person he or she would like to help, have him or her write or dictate the person's name on the helping hand outline provided on this page. Cut out the helping hand, and display it on the refrigerator as a reminder to your child to follow through on helping this person this week.

Then close the lesson with the **Prayer**. Start the prayer by completing this sentence yourself. "God, I promise to help ____." Invite your child to respond, "God, we love you!" Then have your child pray the first sentence aloud, while you respond, "God, we love you!"

For additional activities contact your director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 14–17.