



# Morality, Our Lived Faith

## Begin

**Ask:** *What do you think when you see someone wearing a bandage? (They've been hurt, and the bandage is helping the wound heal.)* **Say:** *Besides bandages, people also help us.* **Ask:** *Who are people who help you? (parents, families, teachers, friends, neighbors)* **Say:** *We are blessed to have people who help us. We can also help others.* Read aloud the unit title on page 121.

**Say:** *In this unit, we will learn how to put our faith into practice and live as disciples of Jesus.*

## Introduce the Saint

Focus your child's attention on the picture of Saint Martin of Tours and invite him or her to read aloud the text. **Say:** *Saint Martin of Tours was a loving, caring man who reached out to help others.*

Turn to page 122. Read aloud the title and the first two paragraphs.

**Say:** *Martin saw that the man was freezing and needed help. He reached out to help the man at a personal sacrifice. We should try to notice when others need our help.* **Ask:** *Why do you think Martin saw Jesus wearing half of his coat in his dream? (Jesus told us that anything we do for others, we do for him.)*

Have your child read aloud the last paragraph. **Ask:** *How was Saint Martin like Jesus? (He helped many people.)* **Say:** *When we help others, no matter who they are or where they live, we are being like Jesus too.*

With your child add Martin of Tours's feast day, November 11, to your calendar. Plan an event together to celebrate the generosity of Saint Martin of Tours.



## **Being Like Jesus**

### **Engage: Page 123**

- ▶ **Ask:** *Can you remember a time when someone was being helpful or kind to you?*  
**Say:** *That person was being like Jesus. You can be like Jesus too!*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's responses. **Say:** *God is merciful to us, and he wants us to show mercy to others. In this session we'll learn how to follow the example of Jesus, who was merciful to everyone.*
- ▶ Write the word *mercy* on a sheet of paper. Together think of ways to show mercy to others. Each way should include a letter from the word *mercy*. Pray aloud the prayer together.

### **Explore: Pages 124–125**

- ▶ **Ask:** *What is a parable?* (a story Jesus told that shows us what God wants for the world) **Say:** *Jesus told a parable about the Good Samaritan to teach us how to treat our neighbors.*
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud the Bible passage of The Good Samaritan on pages 124 and 125. **Ask:** *Why were the people listening to Jesus' story surprised?* (Samaritans and Jews didn't talk to one another.) **Say:** *The Samaritan helped the Jewish man even though Jews and Samaritans were enemies. We can act like the Good Samaritan and help others in need.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Ready for the Sacraments feature. **Ask:** *What do you think it means to be human?* **Say:** *Receiving the Eucharist is an important way we grow to be more like Jesus.*

### **Art Exploration: Page 255**

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online an image that shows the words of the Beatitudes.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the colors used.
- ▶ **Say:** *Jesus gives us a plan for true happiness in the Beatitudes.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 255. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.



- ▶ Have your child read aloud the first two paragraphs of Reaching Out to Others. Point out the vocabulary word. **Ask:** *What can you do when you hear unkind words or see unkind actions?* (walk away, change the channel or the video, ask the person to stop) Read aloud the beatitude together.
- ▶ Read aloud Blessed Are the Kind. Allow time for your child to write his or her answers and share them with you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. **Say:** *The words remind us that when Mass is over, we are to take what we've received out into the world. Listen for these words the next time you attend Mass and join in the response.*
- ▶ Have your child write the kindness beatitude on a sheet of paper using markers of different colors. Invite your child to draw a picture showing how he or she would live this beatitude by showing kindness to others.

### Reflect: Pages 126–127

- ▶ Together look at page 126. **Say:** *It looks like the girl in the picture is listening to Jesus. Jesus loves spending time with you.*
- ▶ Pray aloud Being a Good Samaritan, pausing for two to three seconds after each sentence. After the last paragraph, pause to allow your child time to reflect and listen to what Jesus says to him or her. Close by praying the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Acting as Jesus Would on page 127. **Say:** *We must do our best to show love and mercy toward others.* Read aloud Making a Difference and have your child complete the activity. Discuss the pictures. **Ask:** *How do you think the child who was selfish felt later? Why? How do you think the child who shared his toy airplane felt later? Why?*

### Respond: Page 128

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Word I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can be a good Samaritan every day.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the With My Family suggestions. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today.



## ***We Share God's Life***

### **Engage: Page 129**

- ▶ Ask your child to retell the story of the Good Samaritan from Session 21. **Ask:** *What kind of choice did the Samaritan make? (a good choice)*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. **Say:** *In this session we will learn that when we follow Jesus and listen to his words, we make good choices and share in God's life.*
- ▶ Look at events that are coming up in the next week and talk about good choices that your child can choose to make. Pray aloud the prayer together.

### **Explore: Pages 130–131**

- ▶ If possible, display pictures of some of the adults in your child's life. **Ask:** *How can these people help you make good choices?*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 130. **Say:** *A good moral choice is choosing to do the right thing because it's what God wants us to do.* **Ask:** *Who helps us make moral choices? (parents, grandparents, teachers, priests)*
- ▶ Read aloud Steps for Making Good Choices on page 131 and point out the vocabulary word. Present a situation that your child might face and lead him or her through each step. **Say:** *The next time you are faced with making a moral choice, ask the Holy Spirit for help as you answer these three questions.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Ready for the Sacraments feature. **Say:** *The Church is joined as one body through the Eucharist. We are all members of the Body of Christ.*

### **Art Exploration: Page 256**

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Moses receiving the Ten Commandments from God.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including what Moses is wearing and how the Ten Commandments are presented.
- ▶ **Say:** *We show love for God and others when we follow the commandments.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 256. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud Follow God's Laws. **Ask:** *Why do you think God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses? (so his people would know what they must do to love God and follow his laws) Why does God give everyone a choice to follow or not to follow his laws? (God gives us the gift of freedom to make choices.)*



- ▶ Read aloud Choose God. Have your child complete the activity and discuss the responses.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *Being like Jesus, we are choosing life with God.*
- ▶ Have your child make a friendship bracelet. Help him or her string a yellow, blue, green, and red bead on yarn and knot the ends. **Say:** *Yellow represents Jesus as the Way. Blue is for the Truth. Green is for the Life. Red is for the love of Jesus.* Invite your child to share the bracelet with someone.

### Reflect: Pages 132–133

- ▶ Together look at page 132. **Say:** *The girl in the picture knows that the Holy Spirit is always with us, giving us strength and guidance.*
- ▶ Read aloud the reflection, pausing after each question to give your child time to reflect. Close by praying the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud Choosing Like Jesus on page 133. **Say:** *It's good to talk with someone when we need help. That person can help us resolve our problem. Jesus always prayed before making decisions. Close your eyes. Picture in your mind a time when you had a choice to make. Ask:* *How did you act like Jesus?*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Moral Choices and complete the activity. Discuss his or her responses.

### Respond: Page 134

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways to ask the Holy Spirit to help him or her make good choices today.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the With My Family suggestions. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today.



## ***Following Jesus***

### **Engage: Page 135**

- ▶ Recall a random act of kindness that someone did for you or your child. **Ask:** *Why do you think that person was kind to us? (Jesus teaches us to love everyone.)*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's responses. **Say:** *Jesus is our role model when it comes to being kind to others. He can help us treat others as he would. In this session we will learn about the love and kindness that Jesus taught us.*
- ▶ Together make a list of kind acts you can do for family members this week. Pray aloud the prayer together.

### **Explore: Pages 136–137**

- ▶ **Ask:** *What is your favorite subject in school? Why?* **Say:** *It's fun to study and learn new things. The more we study and practice, the better we become at what we do.*
- ▶ Read aloud The Great Commandment on page 136 and point out the vocabulary terms. Together find the Old Testament and the New Testament in a Bible. Draw attention to the term *Great Commandment*. Ask your child to look up the term in the Glossary and give some examples.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *To follow the Great Commandment is to love God, to love ourselves, and to love our neighbor as much as we love ourselves.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud The Beatitudes on page 137. **Say:** *Jesus taught people the Beatitudes. The Beatitudes are ways Jesus gave us to live as his followers.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Ready for the Sacraments feature. Discuss the importance of Jesus' love.

### **Art Exploration: Page 257**

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of friends playing and bringing joy to their neighborhood.
- ▶ **Say:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the setting and the actions of the children.
- ▶ **Say:** *We can be like Jesus by loving our neighbors.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 257. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.



- ▶ Read aloud Love Your Neighbor. **Ask:** *What are some ways we can love our neighbor as we love ourselves?* (show care, friendliness, encouragement, and understanding toward others)
- ▶ Read aloud Love in Action. Allow time for your child to write words he or she says and deeds he or she does to show love.
- ▶ Invite your child to make a special out-of-season valentine for someone. Tell your child to write a message of love or friendship. Have him or her send or hand-deliver the valentine to this person.

### Reflect: Pages 138–139

- ▶ Together look at page 138. **Ask:** *What kind of choice do you think the boy in the picture is thinking about?* **Say:** *We can always rely on Jesus to be present, to strengthen us, and to guide us in every decision we make.*
- ▶ **Say:** *Let's think about how we can practice the Beatitudes in our lives, especially when we have to make difficult choices.* Pray aloud the prayer, pausing for a couple of seconds after each sentence, giving your child time to reflect. Invite your child to join you in praying the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ **Say:** *Jesus taught that true happiness isn't found in getting what we want, but in being kind and fair to others and working for peace. This is the happiness that lasts.* Read aloud the heading and the first sentence on page 139.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Doing What Jesus Teaches and complete the activity. Invite your child to share which beatitude is followed in each example.
- ▶ Read aloud the Meet a Saint feature. **Say:** *Even though Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton had a busy life, she found time to reach out to others. She was a special person who put Jesus' teaching into practice.*

### Respond: Page 140

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways to make peace with someone he or she hurt.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the With My Family suggestions. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today.



## **Making Choices**

### **Engage: Page 141**

- ▶ **Ask:** *What things do we share at home? (food, bedroom, toothpaste, computer) How do you show respect for these things and the other people who use them? (clean up after I eat, keep my room neat)*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's responses. **Ask:** *What does it mean to show respect? (to be polite, to be kind, to be considerate, to be careful with others' belongings)* **Say:** *In this session we will learn how we show respect for others.*
- ▶ Discuss how your family members can show more respect toward one another. Pray aloud the prayer together.

### **Explore: Pages 142–143**

- ▶ **Ask:** *Who are some leaders you know or have heard of? (principal, teacher, scout leader, coach, president)* **Say:** *Jesus chose Peter to be the leader of the Church.*
- ▶ Read aloud A Community of Believers on page 142. **Say:** *Peter encouraged Christians to act as Jesus would. He wanted them to live in peace.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *This psalm teaches us about true happiness. We can work hard to show respect for everyone.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Living in Kindness on page 143. Point out the vocabulary word. **Say:** *God is kind and forgiving. When we sin, he always forgives us.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Ready for the Sacraments feature. **Ask:** *In what ways can we help those in need?* **Say:** *Remember that an important way to help others is to pray for them.*

### **Art Exploration: Page 258**

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of a parent teaching a child something, such as walking or riding a bike.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including how the mother is helping her child.
- ▶ **Say:** *God wants us to respect our families.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 258. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud Respect Others. **Ask:** *What can you do to make peace at home? (show respect, don't argue, use good manners)*



- ▶ Read aloud Keeping the Peace and have your child complete the activity. Have him or her read aloud the completed sentences.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. **Say:** *When we share the Sign of Peace at Mass, we are saying that we respect one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.*
- ▶ Have your child make a collage that represents your family. Tell your child to cut pictures and words from magazines and other media that remind him or her of each person's qualities. Have your child group together pictures and words that refer to each family member. Display the artwork in your home.

### Reflect: Pages 144–145

- ▶ Together look at page 144. **Say:** *The girl in the picture is resting in a quiet place.*  
**Say:** *Because prayer is talking and listening to God, it is important that we be very quiet.*
- ▶ Read aloud the paragraphs, pausing after each one to give your child time to reflect. Together pray the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Respecting Others on page 145. Discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud Showing Respect. Have your child complete the activity and discuss the answers with you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. **Say:** *Peace be with you.* Have your child offer the Sign of Peace to you. **Say:** *The next time you attend Mass, share the Sign of Peace with those around you.*

### Respond: Page 146

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways to show respect in his or her words and deeds.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the With My Family suggestions. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today.



## Celebrating Easter

### Engage: Page 147

- ▶ Sing a simple Alleluia together. **Ask:** *What other joyful symbols do we see around us at Easter? (colorful eggs, lilies, Easter baskets)*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text. **Say:** *In this session we will learn about Easter, the time of year when we rejoice that Jesus is risen!*
- ▶ Together find Easter on a calendar. Invite your child to count 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday. Pray aloud the prayer together.

### Explore: Page 148

- ▶ **Ask:** *What is the most joyful time you remember? What made this occasion so joyous? (being with family and friends, going to a special place, having fun)*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud We Reflect During Easter. **Say:** *The gift of eternal life gives us hope and faith to know that when we die, we will live with Jesus forever.*
- ▶ Read aloud Eternal Life in Heaven. Invite your child to complete the picture and share it with you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *It is hard when someone we love dies. We miss the person very much. Ask: How does it make you feel knowing that, because of Jesus, those we love are loved by God who wants them to live with him forever? Discuss your child's response.*

### Reflect: Page 149

- ▶ Discuss how the joy of Easter is a small taste of the joy of Heaven. **Say:** *When we go to Mass during the Easter season, we sing joyful songs to express our joy that Jesus is risen from the dead.*
- ▶ Read aloud Mass During Easter. Compare a Sunday Mass to Easter Sunday. Ask your child to tell what he or she sees and hears at each Mass.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the first paragraph of What We Experience. **Say:** *The color white reminds us of Jesus' new life. When we are baptized, we wear a white garment to symbolize our new life. Have your child read aloud the activity directions and complete the Resurrection symbol.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Ready for the Sacraments feature. **Ask:** *How does Jesus come close to us? (in the sacraments) Say: Remember that the sacraments are about love, belonging, forgiveness, and friendship—all special things that help us be the people Jesus wants us to be.*



### Art Exploration: Page 259

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture that shows a bouquet of lilies.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including what the lilies symbolize.
- ▶ **Say:** *White lilies in your home or church at Easter remind us of the risen Jesus.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 259. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the questions.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud We Celebrate Easter. **Ask:** *Why do you think spring is the perfect season to celebrate Easter?* (There is new life in nature just as Jesus rose to new life.)
- ▶ Read aloud Alleluia and allow time for your child to write a prayer.
- ▶ Invite your child to think about what happened on Easter morning. **Say:** *Imagine coming face-to-face with the risen Jesus. What do you say to Jesus? What does Jesus say to you? How does being with Jesus make you feel?* Invite your child to spend a few moments speaking heart-to-heart with the risen Jesus Christ. Close by singing together a simple Alleluia.

### Respond: Page 150

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways to spread joy to those he or she meets today.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the With My Family suggestions. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today.