

# Jesus the Healer

## Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 123, the Family + Faith page.

Read the **Consider This** feature. What thoughts or reactions do you have to the opening question?

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Identify Blessed Mother Teresa as an example of how we are to share God's love by caring for the sick
- Recognize that Jesus' healings showed God the Father's power and love
- Understand faith as the gift of believing and trusting in God so much that we do what he asks us to do

**Parents, Consider This:** Like Jesus, disciples who follow in his footsteps can become signs of God's loving compassion. But in order to do this, Christians must learn to see Jesus in those who suffer. In our society, young children may be sheltered from suffering. But by cultivating empathy in our children, they can start to follow in Jesus' example at any age. As a family, read Bible stories that show Jesus' care and concern for others. Share with your family that Jesus was showing us how we are to be with others.

Read these other sections on the Family + Faith Page.

- *Your Child Learned.* This highlights some of the content of Sacred Scripture and Tradition in the lesson.
- *Children At This Age.* This will help you to understand how your child processes and learns at this developmental level.



**Let's Sing:** These songs connect the session topics and can be downloaded from [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).

- Heal Us, Lord
- Loving Others

## INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

Turn to Page 115, Jesus the Healer

After gathering the supplies that you will need, find a quiet place to be with your child. This is a sacred time—a time when you will be present to each other and to the Lord. You may want to light a candle as you begin.



**Let Us Pray** Invite your child to make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the Psalm verse from the book. Help your child to respond.

**Explain** that when we are sick, we want to feel better. We want to be healed.

**Say:** When people are sick and need to be healed, we look for doctors and medicines to help them get better. We also ask God for his help. Let's listen to a reading from the Gospel of Matthew to learn more.



**Guide** your child through the Preparing for God's Word Ritual you learned in the Introduction Session or play Track 1 of the *Songs of Scripture* CD.

- Proclaim God's Word in the Parchment Paper box on the page.
- Maintain several moments of silence.
- Ask: What did you hear God say to you today?

**Invite** your child to respond and also share what you heard.

Now, look at the *What Do You Wonder?* box.

**Say:** Jesus helps people when they are sick. He cares for and makes himself very close to those who are suffering. We are comforted when we have faith that Jesus is with us when we are sick.

**Invite** your child to respond to the questions. Prompt what else they might wonder about their faith in Jesus and Jesus healing people.

## DISCOVER: Learning God's Truth

**Turn to Page 116,**  
Share God's Love

**Show** your child the picture of Blessed Mother Teresa.

**Read** aloud the first two paragraphs.

**Tell** your child that the story of Mother Teresa takes place in Calcutta, India, where many poor people live in the streets.

**Read** the story of Blessed Mother Teresa on this page and the next page.

**Turn to Page 117,**  
God's Goodness

**Have** your child circle the loving actions of Mother Teresa. (she smiled, held people's hands, prayed with them and for them)

**Read** aloud the paragraph under "God's Goodness."

## Activity

**Have** your child complete the Share Your Faith activity.

**Parents, Consider This:** Blessed Mother Teresa became a sign of God's presence for the people of Calcutta because she saw the face of Jesus in the faces of the poor. We can be a sign of God for others, too. Help your child see the opportunity for loving service in the needs of the world.

**Turn to Page 118,**  
Jesus Heals

**Read** aloud the opening question and the paragraph.



**Proclaim** the Scripture story.

**Pause** between the second and third paragraph and ask what he or she thinks Jesus will do next.



**Do** the gold-star activity.

**Read** the definition of **faith** in the Catholic Faith Words box.

**Read** the paragraph.

**Explain** to your child how Jesus' acts of healing brought about bigger results than simply restoring people to bodily health. When Jesus, as the Son of God, healed people, they felt God's power and love.

**This** is a wonderful opportunity to refer to page 305 in the Our Catholic Tradition section and read together how the Church brings God's healing to people through the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

## Activity

**Have** your child complete the Connect Your Faith activity.

**Parents, Consider This:** *The healing of Jairus' daughter is especially significant when we consider that Jairus was an important man in the community. He was the ruler of the synagogue near Capernaum. Even though he was a leader in the community he had to come to Jesus with faith and trust in God's power to heal. We have to do the same today. In your family prayers, remember to pray for the sick and the suffering. Teach and encourage your child to put their concerns in the hands of God.*

## LIVE: Living Our Faith

**Turn to Page 120,**  
Our Catholic Life

**Read** aloud the paragraph.

**Ask:** How can you help people feel better?



**Do** the gold-star activity.

**Turn to Page 121,**  
People of Faith

**Read** the paragraph about Saint Louise de Marillac.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Ask: How do you share God's love with others? (*care for the sick, donate food, etc.*)

## Activity

**Have** your child complete the Live Your Faith activity.

**Parents, Consider This:** *Your child might not know the meaning of the word empathy, but they can use their imaginations to put themselves in another's place. Reinforce an understanding of empathy by asking your child to ask themselves, "How would you feel if this were happening to you?" Remind your child of the Golden Rule: Treat others as you want to be treated.*

**Turn to Page 123,**  
Family + Faith Page and  
conclude with the Let's Pray  
prayer on this page.

**Parents, Consider This:** *It's important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray the Hail Mary (see Page 317), during your night prayer this week.*



To access and send an eAssessment to your child, go to the Student and Family section of [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).