

God's Word

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 81,
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 help your child to:

- Recognize that God tells us about himself through the Bible
- Relate the words *Bible* and *Scripture*
- Identify the Bible as God's Word written down by humans, inspired by the Holy Spirit
- Learn that Jesus tells stories that help us know and love God the Father
- Distinguish between the Old Testament and the New Testament
- Begin to develop an understanding of the need for the Word of God in our lives

Parents, Consider This: *We learn early on how important communication skills are. Communication is central to building relationships. During this session you will help your child to learn that God communicates with us through his Word in the Bible. Helping your child to appreciate God's Word in Scripture as a gift of love from God will help her/him place Sacred Scripture at the heart of their faith.*

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.

- Your Words Are Spirit and Life
- We Hear God's Word

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

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 God's Word is what we hear and read in the Bible.

Say: Let's listen to hear how people followed Jesus.

Turn to Page 73,
The Word of God



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?

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

Say: Jesus spoke to the people that were around him and told them how to live. Jesus speaks to us; we only need to listen and to follow.

Show your child a Bible that is in your home, or plan to shop for one. Ask your child if God speaks to us in his Word, how should we treat this book? Where should we put it in our home to remind us that God is the center of our family?

DISCOVER: Learning God's Truth

Turn to Page 74,
Learning About God

Read aloud "Learning About God."

Direct your child to look at the picture of Noah and the ark.



Proclaim the Scripture story.

- Ask your child to recall a promise that they have made to you. Did they keep the promise? Share a promise that you made with her/him. Discuss God's promise to Noah.
- Ask what was the sign of God's promise? (A rainbow)



Have your child do the gold-star activity.

Parents, Consider This: Research tells us that your child will understand how God loves him/her by the way you do. In other words, children often put their parents face on the face of God. Your child will watch the way that you forgive, the way that you show compassion, how you keep your promises, and connect that to God. No wonder the Church calls you the first teacher of faith.

Turn to Page 75,
The Bible

Read the first paragraph to your child. Have them find the word **Bible** in the Catholic Faith Words box. Ask him/her to read the definition and then spell the word, Bible.

Read the second paragraph. Return to the Catholic Faith Words box and review the definition for **Old Testament**.

Turn to Page 76,
Jesus' Message

Explain to your child that Jesus knew the stories from the Old Testament and that he helped people know and love God **the** Father through his words and actions.



Proclaim the Scripture story in the Parchment Paper box.



Follow the directions in the gold-star activity.

Turn to Page 77,
Read About Jesus

Have your child put a finger on the words **New Testament** and read the paragraph. Find the definition in the Catholic Faith Words box and have your child read it.

Using your Bible, show your child where the Old Testament ends and the New Testament begins. (*The New Testament begins with the Gospel of Matthew.*) You may want to have your child make a bookmark to keep in that space.

Discuss the times your child may hear Bible stories.

Read aloud "Listen to God's Word."

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 78,
Our Catholic Life

Read the first paragraph.



Do the gold-star activity.

Parents, Consider This: *While Jesus taught people to know and love his Father through his words and actions, we teach others to know and love Jesus through our words and actions. We call this evangelization.*

Turn to Page 79,
People of Faith

Read the paragraph about Saint Luke.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Tell your favorite story about Jesus.

Turn to Page 81,
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 321) 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.