

Leaders for God's People

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 129, the Family + Faith page.

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Identify some of the past leaders of God's People
- Understand anointing as the use of oil to mark someone as chosen for a special purpose: priest, prophet, or king
- Compare the kingship of David and Jesus
- Recognize that some of the Psalms, poems, and hymns first used in the worship of the Israelites are used in the Church's liturgy today
- Reflect on the gifts we each possess that can be used for the good of the Church

Turn to Page 121, Leaders for God's People

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

Parents, Consider This: In the course of their history, the Hebrew people produced many strong leaders who demonstrated how to live as God's Chosen People. The Hebrew people remembered how Abraham and Sarah showed their faith in God and the way Moses led them out of Egypt. They continued seeking good leaders who would remind them that God was with them through good and bad times. That lesson is as important to us today as it was for them. Help your child find those good leaders in your family and faith community to guide them into a deeper relationship and trust in God.

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.

- Give Thanks to the Lord
- I Sing the Mighty Power of God

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 verse from the book. Help your child to respond.

Say: God called many people to serve as leaders of his People. David, the singing shepherd, was the greatest of the Old Testament leaders. He firmly established the kingdom of Israel. See if you recognize this Psalm.



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, Son of David, would establish a new and eternal Kingdom. He, too, would lead God’s People as a shepherd.

Invite your child to respond to the questions. Prompt what else they might wonder about shepherds in the Bible.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 122,
A New Leader

Read aloud the text, alternating sections with your child.

Ask your child to describe the role of a present day judge. Explain that during the time of the Judges, Israel was ruled by God alone, through a type of government called a *theocracy*. Tell your child that the Greek word *theo* means “God” and that the word part *-cracy* means “rule by.” Your child may be familiar with the term democracy. The word *demos* means “people”; therefore *democracy* means “rule by the people.” This may help them understand this different time of history for our ancestors in faith.

Ask: Why do you think the Israelites wanted a human king? (They wanted to be like other nations.)

Turn to Page 123,
Israel’s First King

Continue reading alternating sections with your child. Point out the highlighted word **anoint** and review its definition in the Catholic Faith Words box (page 122).

Review what happened when Saul was disobedient to God’s will. (His army was defeated and he became unpopular.)

Ask: What do these results tell us about Saul as a leader? (Saul was successful as a leader as long as he followed God’s will.)

Discuss with your child why he or she thinks God allowed Israel to have a king. (Responses will vary, but may include the fact that God gave his people free will.)

Activity

Have your child complete the Share Your Faith activity.

Parents, Consider This: In Israel's history, God called many different men and women to lead his People. The material in this chapter is an excellent opportunity to remind your child that leaders in our Church or in our home must always seek out God's will and follow that as a guide in life. Share with your child how you strive to know God's will and follow it in your family.

Turn to Page 124,
A Line of Kings

Have your child read silently the opening question and paragraph. Tell your child that this story is about an ancestor of Jesus named David who became a leader.

Read aloud the text. Discuss how David set a good example for God's People by trying to follow and obey God. David can still be a good example for people today.



Proclaim the Scripture.

Turn to Page 125,
Jesus, Son of David

Have your child silently read the paragraphs under the "Jesus, Son of David" section. Review the definition of the highlighted word, **Christ**, in the Catholic Faith Words box.

Read aloud the text under the "Men of Prayer" section and review the definition of **psalms** in the Catholic Faith words box.

Activity

Have your child complete the Connect Your Faith activity.

Parents, Consider This: Every parent is the leader of faith in our own family. Without our example, discussion, teaching, and participating in faith practices, it is unlikely the members of our family will develop a deep faith. Like any leader, those who we lead will be most influenced by hearing what we say, as well as, watching what we do. The dedication and commitment to faith in our own life is founded on the relationship we have with God based on prayer and trust in God's constant care and abiding love.

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 126,
Our Catholic Life

Read aloud the text on this page.

Review “The Liturgical Year” chart. Discuss some aspects of the liturgical year you notice for different seasons and feasts. For example, the color of vestments for a particular season or feast.



Do the gold-star activity.

Turn to Page 127,
People of Faith

Read the paragraph about Saint Louis IX of France.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Talk about how a leader should act.

Turn to Page 129,
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 322), 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.