

The Way

Preparation for the Session

This session has parts that will take place at different times. You will gather with your child for Part 1: Invite. Your child will then work independently on Part 2: Discover, and you will read that section of the chapter on your own as well. Finally, you will come together again later in the week for Part 3 to review and complete the In Summary & Live section.

Parents, Consider This: *From the moment your child was conceived, you began dreaming about a special life for her/him. Now that your child is an adolescent, she/he has likely begun dreaming about her/his own life—what will make her/him happy, what she/he will be as an adult. This chapter reminds us that God has been dreaming about your child and who he created her/him to be before either one of you. God knit your daughter/son in your womb with a plan and a purpose. Your greatest responsibility and privilege as a parent is to help your child walk this sacred journey of discovery.*

Children at This Age: *Most likely, your child has begun to notice how he/she is developing at different paces and in different ways from his/her peers. Looking at pictures of you and other aunts and uncles at a similar age will help your son/daughter to trust the natural process of growth that is part of God's plan. The simpler ambitions of childhood are being reevaluated as your son/daughter learns about his/her own gifts and interests. "What do you want to be when you grow up?" is suddenly a more complex question than it once was. Encourage your child to look at the future through another lens: "What do you think God imagined for you?" Your child was created by God to be a gift to others. Help him/her discover how he/she can be a gift from God to the world.*

In this chapter, your child will cover the following objectives:

- Explore the understanding of the fullness of human potential
- Explain that the Son of God became man to show us how to live and to share his divinity with us
- Explain that Jesus is the Substantial Image of the Father because he is a visible image of the true nature of God
- Explore the ways that Jesus' actions demonstrate God's love for us
- Examine the behaviors and dispositions of discipleship that are rooted in the life of Christ
- Identify fullness of life as becoming the people God created us to be

PART 1: Invite

Turn to Page 131,
The Way

Make sure you have a Bible, writing tools for both of you, and some paper.

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 Together make the Sign of the Cross. Have your child take the role of leader and read aloud the prayer. Both of you respond with the part marked “All.”

Say: We know God more perfectly through Jesus Christ, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. While Jesus offers us the perfect image of God (so shows us what God is like), he also offers us a way to live fully as human beings (shows us what God imagined and made human beings capable of).



Guide your child through the Preparing for God’s Word ritual you learned in the Introduction Session.

- Proclaim the Scripture 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.

Say: God gave us Jesus, his Son, the most wondrous gift. Jesus restores our relationship with the Father and shows us how to live in right relationship with God and our neighbor.

Now, look at the *Have you ever thought...* box.

Invite your child to respond to the questions found in the box in the Student Book, also listed here:

- How is Jesus true God and true man? (Jesus, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, chose to become human. He is the Son of God who took on human flesh to redeem us from sin and show us the way to the Father. He has two natures: fully human but also fully Divine.)
- What does Jesus being fully human mean for how we live? (Because Jesus was fully human, he understands the things we go through in life. He is the perfect example of how we should live and what we should strive to be.)

Ask what else your son/daughter might wonder about God’s Word and what it means to us today.

Turn to Page 132,
Getting Started

Read aloud the opening paragraph.

Have your child read the directions and complete the chart on page 132. When she/he is finished, invite her/him to share what she/he wrote or drew.

Tell your son/daughter that this exercise was set up to get a feel for what he/she thought or already knew. The chapter content will help him/her learn more about Jesus.

Turn to Page 133

Preview the Catholic Faith Words at the top of the page. Ask your child what she/he thinks the words mean. The definitions can be found in the glossary at the end of the Student Book.

Have your child silently read the directions for this page, as you do. While he/she is working in his/her book, you should complete the activity on a separate piece of paper. When you both are finished, discuss your thoughts with one another.

PART 2: Discover

Direct your child to independently complete pages 134–139. Have him/her highlight the main sentence in each paragraph while reading through the text. This includes completing all on-page activities. Ask your child to write any questions he/she might have about a Catholic Faith Word in the margins of the text. You can review these when you gather again to complete the session.

Be sure to read these pages as well. Doing so will give you insight into chapter topics and will help you engage your child in later discussions.

PART 3: In Summary & Live

Turn to Page 139,
In Summary

When you return, review the “In Summary/Catholics Believe” section. Read each bullet and ask your child to rephrase it in his/her own words.

Turn to Page 140

Direct your daughter/son to read aloud Our Catholic Life.

Invite her/him to point out a sign of discipleship she/he sees in you. Tell her/him what signs of discipleship you see in her/him.

Have your child silently read the story of Maximillian Kolbe in the People of Faith box.

Parents, Consider This: Saint Maximilian Kolbe saved the life of a man with a family by offering to take his place when the Nazi's decided to starve some of the prisoners to death. His devotion to being a disciple of Christ is seen in this action as well as in his earlier work to defend the Church and her members. Sometimes sacrifice is the consequence of truly knowing Jesus. It is not enough to simply know about Jesus. We can truly get to know him better through an intentional choice to pray, to receive the Sacraments, and to be formed by God's Word.

Ask your child what he/she thinks motivated Maximilian to offer up his life for another prisoner.

Point out the Examine activity. Work on it together.

Discuss with your child one thing you each can do in the next month to deepen your relationship with Jesus. Make a commitment to check in with each other often to see if you are being faithful to your promise.

Conclude the session by praying the Act of Love on Page 387.



To access and send an eAssessment to your child, go to the Student & Family section of aliveinchrist.osv.com.