

CHAPTER 2 Scripture Is God's Saving Love

Centering

- ♦ Ask: **Why is the Bible such an important book?** (It is God's Word. God reveals himself in it. Through the Bible, we come to know about Jesus.)
- ♦ Say: **In this lesson, you will learn more about how we can come to know God in the Bible.**

Sharing PAGE 11

- ♦ Have your child read aloud the chapter title and the section What a Revelation! on page 11. Then have your child complete the activity.
- ♦ Ask: **How have you marked the paragraphs?** (Luis and Maria told facts; the other students told about a relationship.)
- ♦ Have your child complete the activity Describing God. Invite him or her to share what he or she wrote about God and then read aloud the concluding paragraph to the activity.
- ♦ Invite your child to reveal one fact about himself or herself, such as a major achievement he or she is proud of. Explain that we get to know one another by revealing to others something about ourselves.
- ♦ Say: **We can know that God exists just by looking at all God has created, especially human beings. Because God created us, we know that God is greater than we can understand. The only way we could really come to know God and his love for us is for God to tell us or show us. We call this revelation.**

Sharing PAGE 12–13

- ♦ Have your child complete the activity Self-Taught Bible Facts on pages 12 and 13. Say: **Today you will learn basic information about revelation. In this activity, important concepts are presented in frames. You will teach yourself by moving a cover sheet down the page one frame at a time. Study each frame. When you come to a question, answer it. Check yourself by moving your cover sheet to the next frame; the answer will be on the right side. When you have finished, you will know a lot about the Bible.**
- ♦ Remind your child to find the meanings of the boldface words in the Glossary.
- ♦ Clarify the word *inspired*. Ask: **What does *inspire* mean when we talk about the Bible?** (God guided the authors of the Bible.)

- ♦ Say: The word *inspiration* comes from words that mean “to breathe into.” God breathed into the minds of those who wrote the Bible which things were worth recording. Although the biblical writers wrote in their own words and their own way, it was God who determined what to include to show something about God’s loving care.
- ♦ Allow time for your child to answer the question near the bottom of page 13. Discuss her or his answers.
- ♦ Ask: **What are the two main divisions of the Bible?** (the Old Testament and the New Testament) **Why do Christians value the Old Testament?** (It is the word of God.) Say: **Both Jews and Christians consider the Old Testament sacred.**

Sharing PAGE 14

- ♦ Have your child read aloud the first paragraph of A Sacred Library on page 14. Ask: **Why might we call the Bible a sacred library?** (It is a collection of different books that contains God’s message.)
- ♦ Have your child look at page 15 to discover the four types of books in the Old Testament.
- ♦ Take turns reading aloud the descriptions of the four categories of Old Testament literature on page 14. Point out the boldface words and have your child find their meanings in the Glossary.
- ♦ Ask: **What is the first part of the Old Testament?** (the Law) **How did these books get the name *Pentateuch*?** (They are five books. *Pentateuch* means “five scrolls.”) **What is another name for them?** (Torah) **Which books tell about God’s messages to his people to be faithful to him and to act justly to one another?** (prophetic books) **Which books tell about events in the lives of the Hebrew people and show how God was with them?** (historical books) **What do the books of Wisdom literature tell about?** (how a wise person lives, how to act as God’s people, how to pray)

Sharing PAGE 15

- ♦ Have your child complete the activity Taking Inventory on page 15. Say: **The Catholic Bible includes several books that Protestant and Jewish people do not regard as inspired books of the Bible. These are Tobit, Judith, Wisdom, Sirach, Baruch, 1 and 2 Maccabees, and additions to Esther and Daniel.**
- ♦ Show flash cards of abbreviations for the Old Testament books and have your child identify their names.

Sharing PAGE 16

- ♦ Have your child read aloud Locating Scripture Passages on page 16. Ask: **How can you find books in the Bible?** (use the table of contents) Say: **Use the table of contents to locate John 17:3. Read it aloud.** Ask: **What is meant by eternal life?** (living forever) **What might prevent us from enjoying eternal life?** (separating ourselves from God by sin)
- ♦ Read aloud A Moment with Jesus. Allow time for your child to pray quietly.
- ♦ Have your child add the words *Pentateuch*, *Torah*, and *Law* to the vocabulary section of his or her journey log. Your child might also research these topics and write the information he or she learns in the log: the Dead Sea Scrolls, Hebrew letters, Hebrew words used in the Mass or in Scripture.
- ♦ Have your child read aloud A Lucky Throw.

Acting PAGES 17–18

- ♦ Say: **You will now have an opportunity to let God speak to you through Scripture. You will choose a verse from my list, find the verse in your Bible, and read it silently. You can then spend several quiet minutes thinking about what God means when he says these words to you.** Have your child choose one of the following Scripture references: Isaiah 41:10, Matthew 5:16, Matthew 5:48, Mark 3:35, Luke 9:23, John 14:1, John 15:14, Ephesians 4:32, Ephesians 6:11, Philippians 5:5, Colossians 3:2, 1 Thessalonians 5:12, 1 Peter 4:8, 1 John 3:18. Have your child write the book, chapter number, and verse number in their journey log. Invite your child to write a few lines to recall what God says to them in the passage.
- ♦ Lead your child through the Summary and the Review on pages 17 and 18.
- ♦ Encourage your child to share the Things to Do at Home section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 19–20**INSPIRE**

- ♦ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 19. Say: *Observe* also means “to practice.” We practice his Word in our daily lives.

PROCLAIM

- ♦ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **When we understand how the Bible guides our faith, we understand how to use the Bible in our daily lives.**
- ♦ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **Catholics believe that the authors who wrote the Bible were inspired by God and guided by the Holy Spirit.**
- ♦ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 20. Say: **Saint Luke shares the spirit of gladness with our community of faith.**
- ♦ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ♦ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ♦ Explore the Bible with your child. Have your child locate and read Exodus 3:1–6, 1 Kings 19:1–12, and Psalm 24:1–6. [Exodus 3:1–6: The Law; 1 Kings 19:1–12: the historical books; and Psalm 24:1–6: Wisdom Literature]
- ♦ Encourage your child to pray with Scripture every day. Say: **Ask the Holy Spirit to help you understand God’s Word.**