

God Forms a Family of Faith

- ♦ Say: Before we start the second unit of your book, let's take turns reading aloud page 48. You have learned that God promised to have mercy on human beings after the first sin. Today you will meet the person who began the fulfillment of this promise and what it means to trust God.

CHAPTER 6 Abraham Is Our Father in Faith

Centering PAGE 47

- ♦ Say: I would like you to take a trust walk with me. You will be blindfolded, but I promise I will lead you carefully and make sure no harm comes to you. You must believe what I say and trust that I will keep you safe. Blindfold your child and gently lead him or her around your home. Then remove the blindfold and discuss how your child felt. Emphasize how important it was for your child to believe and trust.
- ♦ Have your child read aloud the unit title and the Scripture quote on page 47.

Sharing PAGE 49

- ♦ Have your child read aloud the chapter title. Then have your child read silently the section God's Call and Abram's Response on page 49. Ask: **What did God ask Abram to do?** (leave his father's home and his country and travel to Canaan)
- ♦ Say: **Until this time, Abram didn't know much about God, who was just beginning to reveal himself. Moving was not easy because it meant traveling with a large family as well as flocks of animals, household goods, clothes, and weapons. Also, Abram was seventy-five years old.**
- ♦ Ask: **Why did Abram's move require faith?** (He didn't know the land to which God directed him or the people who lived there. The journey would be long and difficult.) **What would his spiritual journey lead him to?** (a deeper and clearer faith in the one true God)

Sharing PAGE 50

- ♦ Have your child complete Map Search on page 50. Ask: **What is the shaded area?** (the Fertile Crescent) **Why do you think it is called the Fertile Crescent?** (The soil is rich and crops grow well. It is a crescent shape like a quarter moon.)
- ♦ Say: **Judaism, Christianity, and Islam consider Abraham to be an important person. Islam was established by the prophet Muhammad, who founded the first Islamic community around A.D. 610 in Mecca, which is now Saudi Arabia. In addition to professing the faith of Abraham and adoring the one God, Muslims revere Jesus as a prophet and honor his mother, Mary.**
- ♦ Explain that Islam is a religion of peace and that people who claim to kill in the name of Islam distort the message of Islam for political reasons.

Sharing PAGE 51

- ♦ Have your child read aloud God's Covenant with Abram on page 51. Point out the boldface words and have your child find their meanings in the Glossary.
- ♦ Ask: **What were God's promises to Abram?** (a great reward, descendants as numerous as the stars, the land of Canaan, a son named Isaac) Say: **As the father and ruler of the Chosen People, Abraham has a special title.** Ask: **What is it?** (patriarch) Say: Isaac was the first of Abraham's descendants—those who descended from the family of Abraham.
- ♦ Have your child read aloud In God We Trust. Ask: **Which commandment calls us to believe in God and to place our trust in him alone?** (the First Commandment)

Sharing PAGE 52

- ♦ Have your child read silently Our Covenant with God on page 52. Ask: **How do we renew our covenant with God and grow in our relationship with him?** (by praying, celebrating the sacraments, and giving witness to our faith in Christlike words and actions)
- ♦ Have your child complete Keeping the Covenant. Say: **Think how you can witness your faith today. Write something you will do to live out your covenant with God. The answer is between you and God.**
- ♦ Read aloud A Moment with Jesus. Allow time for your child to pray quietly.

Sharing PAGE 53

- ♦ Say: **Tell me about a time when you were asked to trust someone or to trust God in a difficult situation, and everything turned out all right.** Share your own experience.
- ♦ Take turns reading aloud A Challenge to Abraham's Faith on page 53. Say: **The main lesson of this chapter is that God looks for the sacrifice of our wills rather than for human sacrifice.**
- ♦ Have your child read aloud A Story of Trust. Ask: **What are some examples of ways that we might sacrifice our wills?** (by saying no to things that would harm us and others; by saying yes to loving actions)

Sharing PAGE 54

- ♦ Decide which parts you and your child will read aloud in Abraham's Sacrifice on page 54. Read aloud the skit and ask: **How do we know that God was only testing Abraham's faith?** (An angel stopped Abraham before he killed his son.)
- ♦ Say: **At Mass, in the Eucharistic Prayer, we pray that God will accept our offerings as he accepted "the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith."** Ask: **Why was Abraham rewarded?** (because of his faith)

Acting PAGES 55–56

- ♦ Lead your child through the Summary and the Review on pages 55 and 56.
- ♦ Invite your child to pray the Lord's Prayer, emphasizing the words "thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven."
- ♦ 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 57–58**INSPIRE**

- ♦ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 57. Say: **In Baptism, God promises to give us eternal life if we have faith in him and live our faith.**

PROCLAIM

- ♦ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **God called Abram to make a journey to a distant, unknown land. His journey led Abram to a deeper and clearer life of faith.**
- ♦ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **God called Abram to make a journey to a distant, unknown land. His journey led Abram to a deeper and clearer life of faith.**
- ♦ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 58. Say: **Dominic's mission was to live a life of ministry, bringing salvation to people through the Word of God.**
- ♦ 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

- ♦ Explain that Abraham lived in the Middle East, a region of the world that still suffers from political and religious conflict. Invite your child to include the people in the Middle East in his or her nightly prayers.
- ♦ Invite your child to pray the Rosary like Saint Dominic. If time allows, pray a decade of the Rosary for peace in the world.