

God's Promise

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 71,
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:

- Appreciate that God gives all people the ability to choose
- Recognize Original Sin as the first sin committed by Adam and Eve
- Begin to understand our need for a Savior
- Recognize Jesus as our Savior because he led people who were lost through sin back to God
- Identify Jesus as the Good Shepherd

Parents, Consider This: *In this lesson you will help your child understand God's forgiving love. It is important that he/she learns that while God's love is always merciful, human beings must accept the consequences that are the result of unloving choices. You model that in your family when you set boundaries and limits for your child and carry out the consequences with consistency and care.*

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.

- Jesus, Shepherd
- The King of Love, My Shepherd Is

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

Turn to Page 63,
God's Promise

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.

Tell your child that today he/she will hear Jesus tell about turning to his Father.



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.

Tell your child a way that you listen for God's voice. (You read the Bible. You ask for help through prayer. You receive Eucharist at Mass.)

Have your child read the questions in the box and respond. Prompt what else they might wonder about God's love even when we make bad choices.

DISCOVER: Learning God's Truth

Turn to Page 64,
Free to Choose

Explain that the first book of the Bible tells many stories that teach us God's truth. One of the stories is about a choice made by the first humans.



Proclaim the first four paragraphs of God's Word in the Parchment Paper box.

- Ask your child what God told the first humans not to do. (Do not eat from one of the trees.)

Turn to Page 65

Tell your child to read the final paragraph.

Ask your child what happened to Adam and Eve when they chose to disobey God? (They had to accept the consequences of their actions. They had to leave the Garden where there was no sadness, suffering, or dying.)

Explain that original means first. Since the first humans committed the first sin, that sin is called **Original Sin**. Point to the definition in the Catholic Faith Words box and read the definition together.

Activity

Read the directions for the Share Your Faith activity. Help your child brainstorm ideas of ways that they can obey God at home and at school.

Parents, Consider This: On the next page you will help your child discover that God's love is so great that even though we sinned he sent us his only Son, Jesus. Because of the life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus, we can now grow into union with God here on earth and experience the fullness of that union in heaven. Making the Sign of the Cross on your child's head as you tuck them into bed can help him/her remember this gift of our Savior, Jesus.

Turn to Page 66,
God Sends a Savior

Ask your child, what are some names for Jesus? (King, Light of the World, Mary's Son)

Read the two paragraphs on this page.

Ask your child to underline why Jesus, the Son of God, came into the world.

Have your child place his/her finger on the word Savior in the Catholic Faith Words box. Read the Catholic Faith Word definition. Discuss how Jesus helped people understand he was the Savior.

Turn to Page 67,
Jesus, the Good Shepherd

Explain that the chief work of shepherds is to find food and water for their flock and to keep them safe.

Tell your child to read the first paragraph.



Do the gold-star activity.



Proclaim God's Word in the Parchment Paper box.

Ask: What is happening in this picture? (Jesus, the Good Shepherd, is leading his flock, his People.)

Activity

Read the directions for and help your child complete the Connect Your Faith activity.

Parents, Consider This: The next page will help your child understand the relationship between actions and consequences. As you do the gold-star activity, prompt your child with real situations from your home life that compare to the examples given. Teaching your child that he/she is responsible for personal choices and the consequences that follow is the first step in the journey to moral integrity.

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 68,
Our Catholic Life

Read the first two paragraphs.



Do the gold-star activity, adding examples from your child's lived experience.

Turn to Page 69,
People of Faith

Read the paragraph about Saint Cristóbal.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Ask: How was Saint Cristóbal like Jesus? (Jesus was innocent and killed as well.)

Turn to Page 71,
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.