

# Model of Wisdom

## 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:** *Some of our greatest fears for our children stem from concerns about their potential for making poor choices. With the countless voices in the world competing for their attention, that's understandable. Some of the "voices" or influences we recognize, but others are so subtle we may not even be aware of them. There is hope! Research tells us that the voice your child listens to above all others is yours. In this chapter, you and your child will focus on God as the source of all wisdom; allow this language to begin or deepen your conversations about good choices.*

**Children at This Age:** *At this age, your child may be beginning to question principles and beliefs she/he has long held as given truth. This provides you with a wonderful opportunity to help your son/daughter review and re-think childhood understandings. Increasingly, he/she will see the differences between the values of the Gospel and some of the values reflected in popular culture. At times, he/she may engage in a serious internal struggle between a desire to endorse the negative or sinful values of some of his/her peers and a desire to do what is right. Help your child see that the message Jesus taught about such things as wealth, power, fame, status, and physical pleasure still applies today.*

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

- Illustrate ways that Jesus challenged the commonly accepted understandings of his time
- Explain why Jesus used parables to teach
- Relate Jesus' use of parables with his proclamation of the coming of God's Kingdom
- Explore some of the major teachings of the Sermon on the Mount
- Describe the attitudes and actions in the world that contradict the teachings of Christ
- Explain how the Beatitudes offer us the path to a life of happiness and peace
- Relate how being obsessed with material things keeps us from living the real values of God's Kingdom

## PART 1: Invite

**Turn to Page 143,**  
Model of Wisdom

**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.”

**Explain** that this prayer helps us reflect on what wisdom is, particularly God’s wisdom.

**Say:** Let’s listen to God’s Word and see how Jesus seeks wisdom and shows wisdom.



**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 is our ultimate source of wisdom and guidance.

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

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

- How does knowing God’s plan help us to be happy? (*God has a plan when he creates us, so when we live as he “designed” us, we are able to live to our fullest potential. This usually makes us happy, and allows us to become a gift to the world.*)

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

**Turn to Page 144,**  
Getting Started

**Read** aloud the paragraph.

**Direct** your child to complete the chart. Point out the example next to the letter I. Help your son/daughter with letters that seem to present more of a challenge.

**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.

**Turn to Page 145**

**Ask** your child to read the instructions at the top of the page. While he/she is working on the activity in the book, answer the questions on a separate piece of paper. When you are both finished, share your answers with each other.

## PART 2: Discover

**Direct** your child to independently complete pages 146–151. 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 151,**  
In Summary

**When you return,** review the “In Summary/Catholics Believe” section. Read each bullet and ask your child to write one thing about each point that she/he would share with a friend.

**Turn to Page 152**

**Read** aloud the Our Catholic Life text.

**Give** your child an index card. Have her/him write the steps to making a good decision as bullet points on the card. Ask your daughter/son to place the card in her/his room in a visible place.

**Ask:** When have you relied on God’s wisdom to help you make a decision?

**Have** your child silently read about Saint Gerard Majella.

**Parents, Consider This:** *Saint Gerard Majella carried in his pocket a note that read: “Here the will of God is done.” Believing that living God’s will is your purpose and then seeking God’s will in your life are important for a strong spiritual life. You cannot simply hope that your child learns and follows this belief. You must help him/her build a strong spiritual foundation by your constant witness. Encourage your child to create a banner on the computer with the words of Saint Gerard, and place it somewhere visible in your home so that all may read and remember these words of wisdom.*

**Read** together the Identify questions and discuss your answers.

**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](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).