

Prophetic Promise

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 149,
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 cover the following objectives:

- Identify a prophet as a messenger from God who speaks the truth and calls people to justice
- Understand that there are consequences if we choose not to listen to God's message
- Discover the titles we apply to Jesus in the prophecies of Isaiah and Zechariah
- Describe the Messiah as God's anointed or chosen one who would lead his People; Jesus is the Messiah
- Explain the need for prophets today

Parents, Consider This: *Prophets were an important voice in Israel at a very difficult time. At one point, the People were tempted to abandon the covenant. Later, their leaders were in exile. When the People experienced such hardships, they found it difficult to keep their focus on the one true God. God called forth prophets to admonish the Israelites to return to him. But the prophetic messages were not just for the Hebrew people. We still need to listen to the voice of the prophets in Scripture and their message to us. As you explore the message of the prophets, think about what advice is applicable to your family today.*

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.

- Sacred Silence
- I Will Choose Christ

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

Turn to Page 141,
Prophetic 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.

Say: Over and over, the prophets—God's spokesmen—called the people to keep the covenant and to ready themselves for the coming of the Promised One. Let's listen to what Isaiah told us.



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?

Invite your child to respond and also share what you heard.

Now, look at the *What Do You Wonder?* box.

Say: Emmanuel, Messiah, Christ—these are the names we give Jesus, God’s Son. If we are to be his prophets, we must welcome him. We must strive to acknowledge to others his presence among us.

Invite your child to respond to the questions. Prompt what else they might wonder about the prophets.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 142,
God’s Messengers

Read aloud the introductory paragraphs. Review the definitions of the highlighted words, **prophet** and **exile**, in the Catholic Faith Words box.

Share with your child that Elijah followed Moses as a mediator between God and Israel. Because Malachi predicted Elijah’s return, some thought that Jesus was Elijah. He was important and a highly regarded prophet. His messages called for complete conversion, or change of heart.

★ **Have** your child read the letter on parchment paper and underline in the book why King Ahab should be considered the true “disturber of Israel.”

Turn to Page 143,
Repentance and Restoration

Have your child silently read the text.

Review the “Who Are We?” chart. Read it aloud for your child and have him or her circle the names of the prophets when you say them.

Ask your child to explain what happened because the People did not listen to the prophets in the south. (They experienced great hardships, just as the prophets had warned.)

Activity

Do the Share Your Faith activity. If you have time, look up more than one of the Scripture passages. Discuss what your child discovers.

Parents, Consider This: Because your child has grown in an ability to understand various eras in Scripture, he or she might think of the prophets as people who foresaw the future. This is part of what prophets did, but prophecy means more than this. It is sharing God's Word with others. It is the call of our Baptism to share in Christ's message. Encourage your family to live this baptismal promise. Consider how one of the messages of the prophets you are reading about speaks to your family.

Turn to Page 144,
Message of a Messiah

Read aloud the text.

Review the definition of the word **Messiah** in the Catholic Faith Words box. Ask your child to tell you what Messiah means in his or her own words. Read the definition of the word **Incarnation**. Tell your child you will read more about this on the next page.



Have your child read aloud the Scripture.

Point out the artwork depicting the birth of Jesus, which fulfilled the prophecies.



Do the gold-star activity.

Turn to Page 145,
Jesus the Christ

Read aloud the first three paragraphs.

Have your child read the sections on Saint Paul and Dorothy Day. Then have them tell you what qualities Saint Paul and Dorothy Day have in common.

Activity

Have your child complete the Connect Your Faith activity.

Parents, Consider This: Discuss as a family what prophetic messages people need to hear today? Who are people in your community or extended family who have a prophetic message?

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 146,
Our Catholic Life

Have your child read the paragraphs.

Ask your child to tell you what messages the prophets delivered that that people did not want to hear. (Stop hurting others. Help the poor. Repent for your sins. Follow God's laws.)

Point out that God’s laws applies to everyone.

Review the chart, “Steps to Standing Strong.”

Ask: Do you personally know anyone who stands strong in his or her faith?

Turn to Page 147,
People of Faith

Read the paragraph about Blessed Jacinta Marto.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Talk about how you obey God’s laws.

Turn to Page 149,
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 322), 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.