

Welcome in the Kingdom

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 197,
the Family + Faith page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 395

Read the **Consider This** feature. What thoughts or reactions do you have to the opening question?

Parents, Consider This: *Jesus' love has no boundaries. Responding with love, compassion, and hospitality to a family member going through a crisis, or a student who is fighting with a friend, or a person in the midst of a difficult time, is fulfilling Jesus' command to love. Busy schedules and stressful situations may sometimes make it difficult for you to step out of your own daily life. Yet, you are called by your Baptism to do just that.*

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.

- Loving Others
- Act Justly

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

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.

Explain that God's love and care show us how to love and care for everyone.

Say: Let's listen to what Jesus said about his love for children.

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Identify how Jesus included those often left out and showed that God welcomes everyone
- Discuss the faith of Zacchaeus' and his willingness to repent
- Recognize Jesus' great love for children and how he welcomes them and all others into his Kingdom
- Understand that the Kingdom of God is the world of love, peace, and justice that God has in Heaven and wants for us on Earth

Turn to Page 189,
Welcome in the Kingdom
Vivos en Cristo, Page 379



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: Jesus loves children and speaks to their hearts. He calls each of us to welcome others, to trust in his Father as children do, and to open our hearts to love.

Invite your child to respond to the questions. Ask what else they might wonder about welcoming others.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 190,
Welcomed By Jesus
Vivos en Cristo, Page 381

Tell your child to read the first paragraph aloud.



Proclaim the Scripture story. Note that the story rhymes, so it will require careful cadence to accentuate the rhyming.

Ask: How did Zacchaeus show Jesus he was serious about changing his life? (He said, “To the poor I will give half that I own.”)

Have your child repeat the story in his/her own words.

Turn to Page 191,
Zacchaeus the Tax Collector
Vivos en Cristo, Page 383



Complete the gold-star activity.

Ask your child to read the next paragraph. When he/she gets to the highlighted words **faith** and **peace**, move to the Catholic Faith Words Box and read their definitions.

Ask: So, when do you need faith? When do you feel at peace?

Activity

Have your child complete the Share Your Faith activity and make sure you tell them about someone who makes you feel welcome. Give specific details of what that person does to make you feel so welcome.

Turn to Page 192,
All Are Invited
Vivos en Cristo, Page 385

Read aloud the introductory paragraph. Stress that Jesus welcomes everyone.



Proclaim the Scripture.

Ask: How did Jesus treat the children? (**He welcomed them.**)

Direct your child to look at the picture and tell you what is happening there. Ask her/him what it feels like when someone pays attention to her/him. Tell your child how important it is to you that they know how much you love them and how welcome you want them to feel in your life and family.

Turn to Page 193,
In God's Kingdom
Vivos en Cristo, Page 387

Invite your child to read aloud the first paragraph.

Ask: How did Jesus make people feel welcome? (**People came to Jesus for healing and help and he did both. He didn't turn anyone away.**)

Have your child place his/her finger on the Catholic Faith Word, **Kingdom of God**. Read its definition.

Read the second paragraph. Ask your child to think about how, like Jesus, his/her parish community welcomes people.

Discuss how all people come together in Church to worship God.

Ask: How can your family be more welcoming to people in your parish?



Complete the gold-star activity.

Activity

Complete the Connect Your Faith activity. Provide some hints if your child needs them.

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 194,
Our Catholic Life
Vivos en Cristo, Page 389

Alternate reading the paragraphs.

Ask: When will God's Kingdom be complete? (**at the end of time**)



Complete the gold-star activity.

Turn to Page 195,
People of Faith
Vivos en Cristo, Page 391

Read the paragraph about Saint Brigid of Kildare.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- How do members of your family show kindness and mercy?

Activity

Have your child complete the Live Your Faith activity.

Turn to Page 197,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 395

Parents, Consider This: *It's important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray the Act of Faith, Hope, and Love (see Page 324), 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.