

Jesus Loves Families

Engage: Page 189

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Open the Bible and read aloud Ephesians 6:1–4. Then say: ***The Word of the Lord.*** Invite your child to respond *Thanks be to God.*
- ▶ Read aloud the paragraphs on page 189. Ask: ***What are some things that I ask you to do?*** (clean my room, play nicely with siblings) Talk with your child about how you do or did respond to requests from your parents. Say: ***We show respect for our parents when we do what they ask. When we show respect to our parents, we also are showing love and respect to God.***
- ▶ Ask your child to think about how he or she feels when he or she disobeys you. Ask your child to think about how it makes you feel. Say: ***Let's ask Jesus to help us show our parents respect.*** Pray aloud the prayer. Then pause to allow children time to reflect. Conclude the prayer by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen.*

Explore: Page 190

- ▶ Ask: ***What do you think Jesus was like when he was your age? What kinds of chores and rules do you think his parents had for him to follow?*** (Accept all responses.) Say: ***Jesus was a child like you. He had rules to obey and chores to do. Just as you obey me, so Jesus obeyed Mary and Joseph.***
- ▶ Have your child look at the picture on page 190 and imagine being with Jesus, Mary, and Joseph while you read aloud the title and story. Ask: ***On their way home, why were Mary and Joseph so worried about Jesus?*** (They didn't know where he was. They thought he was lost.) Say: ***When they finally found Jesus, they were very happy. Mary and Joseph wanted Jesus to be safe.*** Ask: ***Why did Jesus go home with them?*** (He was obedient. They probably asked him to.) Say: ***I ask you to do things to keep you safe too.***

Explore: Page 191

- ▶ Ask: ***What favorite gift have you received?*** (Answers will vary.) ***How do you feel when you get a gift?*** (happy, excited, joyful) Say: ***We are going to talk about an important gift that I received from God.***
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the first two paragraphs. Ask: ***What very important gift did God give me?*** (your child) Say: ***I felt happy, excited, and joyful when God sent you to me.***

- ▶ Read aloud the third paragraph. Point out the boldface words *honor* and *obey* and have your child repeat them after you. Ask: **What does the word honor mean?** (to respect) **How do we obey our parents?** (by doing what they ask us to do) **What commandment is about our parents?** (Honor and obey your parents.) Say: **When we obey our parents and others who care for us, we are being like Jesus. We are honoring our parents, or giving them respect.**
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title, directions, and reasons. Have your child complete the activity. Then discuss his or her answers.

Art Print: Page 192

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online a picture of a family spending time together at a park. Ask: **What do you see in this picture?** Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the setting and the actions of the parents. Say: **When we obey our parents and listen to them, we show God that we are obeying him and listening to him.**
- ▶ Then read aloud the title and first paragraph on page 192. Ask: **How do I help you be happy and stay healthy?** (Accept reasonable responses.)
- ▶ Read aloud the second paragraph. Ask: **Why is God happy when we obey our parents?** (We are following one of God's commandments.)
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Have your child draw his or her picture.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Ask: **What is a commandment?** (one of God's rules) Say: **God the Father is happier when you follow the commandments. You will be happier too because you will be following his Son, Jesus.**
- ▶ Find a family photo that you don't mind cutting up. Tell your child to cut each family member's face out of the photo. Have your child create a family portrait by gluing the photo faces onto a sheet of construction paper and drawing a body for each face. Invite your child to be creative in their portrait poses, such as showing the family dancing, jumping, holding hands, or eating dinner together. Display the family portrait in your home.

Reflect: Page 193

- ▶ Ask your child to describe the picture on page 193. Then read aloud the title and the two paragraphs. Say: **The end of the day is an especially good time to pray. Before we go to sleep, we can take time to look back on our day and think about the things that happened to us. We can take time to ask God to bless all the people and things we love.**
- ▶ Have your child prepare for prayer by folding his or her hands and closing his or her eyes. Read aloud the first paragraph of the prayer. Pause briefly to give your child time to talk to God in his or her heart, asking God to bless the members of your family. Then have your child open his or her eyes.

- ▶ Say: **Follow along in your book as I pray aloud the Evening Prayer. While I pray, think about the words you hear.** Pray aloud the Evening Prayer. Then invite your child to pray aloud the Evening Prayer with you. Conclude the prayer by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen*.

Reflect: Page 194

- ▶ Ask your child: **Can we show our love with our words?** (Yes.) **With our actions?** (Yes.)
- ▶ Read aloud the title and paragraph. Ask: **How can we show our parents and other people who care for us and whom we love that we care about them too?** (give them hugs, say “I love you,” be kind, say “thank you”)
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Say: **You can make me happy when you honor, love, obey, and help me. These four words—honor, love, obey, and help—are hidden in the word search. Look for each word. When you find it, circle it.**
- ▶ Direct your child’s attention to the Reading God’s Word feature at the bottom of the page. Say: **I’m going to read Scripture from the Bible. Listen carefully and follow along with me.** Read aloud the Scripture verse. Then say: **All that we’ve learned today about obeying our parents is in the Bible.**

Respond: Pages 195–196

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 195. Review the Words I Learned. Then read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can show that he or she loves and honors you. Say: **Being nice to others shows love and honor. When I ask you to do something and you are nice about it, you show that you love and respect me.**
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Allow time for your child to complete the activity. Then invite your child to share his or her sentences and picture with you.
- ▶ Say: **Today we learned how important it is to honor and obey our parents. Let’s thank Jesus for helping us show them love and respect.** Pray aloud the prayer as your child prays silently. Then say: **Let’s talk silently with Jesus.** Pause briefly. Close by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph of With My Family on page 196. Then read aloud and discuss the Scripture verses as suggested in the next paragraph.
- ▶ Discuss Faith on the Go. Then choose when to complete the activity together.
- ▶ Conclude by praying together the Family Prayer.