

Making Good Choices

Engage: Page 181

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read 1 Peter 3:8–11. Then say: *The Word of the Lord*. Invite your child to respond *Thanks be to God*.
- ▶ Say: *If you visit another country, it's good to have a guide—someone who can help you, not only with the language but with the customs and traditions of the people. Jesus is our guide for how to think, speak, and act in the Kingdom of God.* Read aloud the paragraphs. Ask: *How might offering a blessing to someone who wronged you change both of you?* (Doing so can bring about peace.)
- ▶ Say: *Let's pray for Jesus to help us give back blessings when we feel hurt.* Pray together. Conclude by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title. Say: *Making decisions is like deciding which path to take.* Ask your child to think about whom he or she might ask for advice when making a hard choice.

Explore: Pages 182–183

- ▶ Say: *If someone offers you a choice of treats and you have to choose one, are you making a choice between right and wrong?* (No.) Discuss with your child an example of a choice between right and wrong. Have your child read aloud page 182. Ask: *Who can help us decide which of our choices are right and wrong?* (the Holy Spirit)
- ▶ Invite your child to read What Is a Good Choice? and complete the activity. Discuss how Mona's response corresponds to each of the three questions above.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: *Saint Paul tells us that our words and actions should reflect our willingness to follow Jesus.*
- ▶ Read aloud page 183. Ask: *What does it mean to follow the moral law?* (do good and avoid evil) Say: *God gave us these commandments to help us love others.*

Art Exploration: Page 184

- ▶ Find in a book or online an image of a painting showing Jesus' temptation by the Devil. As you look at the picture together, discuss how the artist depicts Jesus' attitude toward the Devil.
- ▶ Say: *Some decisions are difficult to make. Knowing God's love for us makes decisions easier. God shows his love through our friends and family.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 184. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud Jesus Is Tempted. Say: *Jesus was always sure of the love of God, his Father.*

- ▶ Together read aloud A Prayer of Petition and have your child write one petition.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Ask: *What does Jesus teach us?* (to follow God's will, to resist temptation)

Reflect: Pages 185–186

- ▶ Together look at page 185. Say: *The girl in the picture is just starting her day in the morning. Remember that each day is a new gift from God.*
- ▶ Invite your child to pray the Morning Offering with you. Pray together slowly and softly. Then read aloud the paragraph that follows the prayer. Pause after each sentence to give your child time to reflect. Together pray *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud Follow the Commandments on page 186. Say: *When we face difficult choices, the Ten Commandments can help us.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Which Commandment? Remind your child to look back at page 183 if he or she needs help remembering the numbers of the commandments. Check your child's answers together.

Respond: Pages 187–188

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can make good moral choices by following the Ten Commandments. Then invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud With My Family on page 188. Invite your child to remember all the help God provides as we follow in Jesus' footsteps and make good choices.