

The Way to Jesus

Engage: Page 197

- ▶ Read aloud the session title. Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read aloud Luke 6:20–26. Then say: ***The Gospel of the Lord.*** Invite your child to respond, *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*
- ▶ Invite your child to think of a time when he or she was very sad or very happy. Ask: ***Did you keep feeling that way forever?*** (No.) Point out that God’s love, by contrast, lasts forever. Invite your child to read aloud the paragraphs on page 197. Say: ***Knowing that most things on earth will one day pass away can be a comfort. This knowledge helps us worry less about our own happiness and stay focused on loving God and our neighbors.***
- ▶ Say: ***Let’s ask God for help in trusting him for our needs.*** Pray aloud the prayer, then conclude by praying *Amen.*

Explore: Pages 198–199

- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the first three paragraphs on page 198. Explain that the phrase “God will then be all in all” is adapted from 1 Corinthians 15:28, and it means that there will be no more resistance to God’s will. Ask: ***What is God’s intention for us?*** (to have us share eternal life with him) Read aloud the final paragraph on page 198. Say: ***God is both perfectly just and perfectly loving. Because of this, we know that all his judgments are right and good.*** Emphasize that God’s will is for everyone to be saved. Discuss how human beings may choose to accept or reject his offer of love.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud We Pray for Those in Purgatory on page 199. Point out that Purgatory is the final step before complete union with God for people who are still imperfect because of sin.
- ▶ Explain that the celebration of the Eucharist and the practice of indulgences help us and those in Purgatory complete the journey to God.

Art Print: Page 200

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online an image that depicts Jesus at the Last Judgment.
- ▶ Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including Jesus’ appearance and expression. Discuss how the picture makes your child feel.
- ▶ Invite your child to turn to page 200. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.

- ▶ Have your child read aloud the first paragraph of Jesus Judges All. Then read aloud the Scripture passage. Ask: **How does Jesus want us to live?** (He wants us to serve the needs of others) Say: **Everyone should have food, clothes, and a place to sleep, but some people don't. God wants us to take care of one another, especially in these most basic ways.** Explain that the seven merciful acts mentioned by Jesus are called the corporal works of mercy.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity directions and give your child time to complete the activity. Discuss his or her response.
- ▶ Work with your child to cut out construction-paper strips. On each strip, write the name of someone you know who needs one of the corporal works of mercy. Help your child make a linked chain using these paper strips. Hang the chain from the ceiling or string it up against a wall in your child's room. Encourage your child to think about how he or she can show mercy to others every time he or she looks at the chain.

Reflect: Pages 201–202

- ▶ Invite your child to turn to page 201. Read aloud the first two paragraphs. Say: **As I mention each corporal work of mercy, think of how you can put each one into practice.** Invite your child to close his or her eyes and listen closely to the prayer. Pray aloud the prayer, then pause for a time of reflection.
- ▶ Say: **Let's quietly pray now for the people whom we would like to remember and serve in these ways.** After a minute of quiet prayer, conclude by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud Knowing How to Treat Your Neighbor on page 202. Allow a moment for your child to reflect, then read aloud the activity directions. Give your child time to complete the activity, then discuss his or her responses. Offer ideas of your own if necessary.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: **In this passage from the New Testament, Jesus tells us that we will be judged according to how we act.**

Respond: Pages 203–204

- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 203. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Invite your child to think of someone to whom they can offer friendship and kindness. Allow time for reflection.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity directions and give your child time to complete the activity. Discuss his or her answers.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child prays along silently. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ As a family, read and discuss With My Family on page 204, then complete the activity. Pray aloud the prayer together. Say: **Let's stay on the lookout for ways to be good neighbors and help others every day.**