

Jesus' Call for Justice

Engage: Page 197

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture.
- ▶ Read aloud Deuteronomy 16:18–20. Then say: ***The Word of the Lord.*** Invite your child to respond *Thanks be to God.*
- ▶ Say: ***When an instrument is out of tune, the harmony is gone. Sometimes relationships between people experience disharmony and need to be restored. Restoring right relationships is called working for justice.***
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the paragraphs on page 197. Ask: ***Why is justice important?*** (We can only live as God intends through justice.)
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer together. Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross.

Explore: Pages 198–199

- ▶ Discuss groups and activities that your family members belong to. Say: ***Each group is an example of a community.*** Ask: ***Why do you think we live in communities or join groups?*** (to help one another, because we have the same interests)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 198. Ask: ***How does the Holy Spirit call us to treat one another?*** (with respect and tolerance) ***What kind of community members does Jesus expect us to be?*** (He expects us to be just, to act with respect and compassion, to help those who are poor or homeless or in need.)
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: ***This passage summarizes what you just read.***
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the first paragraph on page 199. Have him or her look up the boldface term in the Glossary then restate the definition in their own words.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the rest of the section. Call attention to the fundamental rights of every person listed in the third paragraph. Ask: ***What are some things we can do to help uphold these fundamental rights?*** (Possible answers: raise money for local homeless shelters, donate food and used clothing, write letters to our public officials supporting human rights)
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Say: ***As Catholics, we are called to do everything reasonably possible to avoid war because of its inherent evils and injustices. War violates Jesus' new commandment to "love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another."***

Art Exploration: Page 200

- ▶ Find in a book, magazine, or online a representation of Saint Patrick.
- ▶ Ask: **What do you see in this picture?** Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the symbols they see in the artwork. Ask: **How are all saints models for us?** (Possible answers: They teach us how to show our love for God. They personify Jesus' teachings.) Say: **Patrick did his best to bring Christianity to nonbelievers.**
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 200. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the title and the text. Ask: **How did Patrick's life start out differently than he would have planned?** (He was captured and enslaved by pirates. He was forced to work as a shepherd. He suffered from hunger, cold, and loneliness.) Discuss ways we can support people's rights to freedom and dignity today.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity directions and have your child write two prayers.
- ▶ Ask your child to imagine himself or herself living during Saint Patrick's time, standing on a hillside, listening to Bishop Patrick preach about God and against slavery. Have your child imagine what he or she would ask him. Close with a silent prayer to Saint Patrick, thanking him for his support of the dignity and freedom of all people.

Reflect: Pages 201–202

- ▶ Together look at page 201. Say: **The Magnificat is about Mary, the mother of Jesus. This prayer is about Mary expressing her own sense of justice and thanks.**
- ▶ Read aloud the introductory paragraph. Then take turns reading aloud the paragraphs of the prayer. Then allow time for your child to share his or her own prayers with God. Close by praying the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud Faith That Works on page 202. Ask: **How do you demonstrate your faith through your actions?** Discuss your child's responses.
- ▶ Read aloud the directions and the questions for What Do the Scriptures Say? Help your child find the Letter of James in their Bible. Have your child read aloud James 2:14–26. Allow time for your child to read the questions and write his or her responses.

Respond: Pages 203–204

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud Faith Summary on page 203. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus.
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud Justice Where You Live. Discuss the different communities they learned about in the session and where justice is lacking in those communities. Allow time for them to complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud With My Family on page 204. Together as a family, complete the page and do the activity. Pray the family prayer together. Say: **As Christians, we are called to work for the common good and to promote rights for all people.**