



## Jesus Calls Us to Pray

### Engage: Page 93

- ▶ Ask your child to pretend to sneeze. **Say:** *God bless you! When we ask for God's blessing, we are asking God to watch over us. We also ask God to watch over the people we love.*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title, the poem title, and the poem. **Say:** *At Mass, the priest gives us God's blessing.*
- ▶ Invite your child to finish this sentence with names of family members: *God bless \_\_\_\_\_.* Then pray aloud the prayer together. Conclude by praying *Amen.*

### Explore: Pages 94–95

- ▶ Discuss different reasons we pray: to thank God, to praise God, to ask God for help, to tell God we are sorry. Together brainstorm situations when you would pray each type of prayer. **Say:** *Sometimes we need to thank God, praise God, ask God for help, or tell God we are sorry. God listens to all our prayers.*
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the text on page 94. Then read aloud the directions. Help your child name people and things he or she has prayed about recently. Give an example for each type of prayer. **Say:** *For a prayer that asks for help, you might write: Dear God, please watch over \_\_\_\_\_ at camp and keep him safe.* Have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the A Friend of God feature. Together you might reread the Saint Ignatius of Loyola tear-out booklet.
- ▶ **Ask:** *Where is a good place to pray out loud? (at Mass, at bedtime)* Read aloud the title and the sentences on page 95. **Say:** *God is happy when you talk to him in prayer. You can pray by saying words, reading, singing songs, and being quiet. God is listening to you.*
- ▶ Read aloud the directions and have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *God listens to our prayers. Talking and listening to God helps us feel closer to him.*



### Art Exploration: Explore Art Print 16 Blackline Master

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of a child praying before bedtime.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the setting and the action of the child.
- ▶ **Say:** *When we pray, we are doing what Jesus asks of us. We are growing closer to God our Father.*
- ▶ Display the Art Print Blackline Master for Session 16. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud the section Our Father. **Say:** *When we talk to God, we honor him.* Then read aloud the section The Lord's Prayer. Invite your child to decorate the prayer card. Then pray the prayer together. **Say:** *We will use this prayer card to help us learn and pray the Lord's Prayer. Let's display this prayer card where everyone in our family can use it to pray the Lord's Prayer.*
- ▶ **Say:** *We can pray to God any time. We can pray when we are sad or when we are happy. We can pray when we are sleepy or when we are full of energy!* Give your child a sheet of paper, watercolors, and a paintbrush. **Say:** *Paint a picture of yourself when you are praying. Remember, your painting can show you praying at bedtime, at a meal, outdoors—whenever or wherever you like to pray.* When your child is finished, discuss his or her painting.

### Reflect: Pages 96–97

- ▶ Together look at page 96. **Ask:** *What do you think the children in the picture are thinking about?* (Answers will vary.) **Say:** *We are happy and grateful for all the wonderful things God has given us. We thank God for the beauty of his creation.*
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the introductory sentences. Point out the term *Lord's Prayer*. Help your child find it in the Glossary and discuss the definition. **Say:** *Today you will be learning the first part of the Lord's Prayer.* Pray aloud the first line of the Lord's Prayer and invite your child to repeat after you. Continue line by line. Then go back to the beginning and pray aloud all the lines together with your child.
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the sentences on page 97. **Say:** *The first part of the Lord's Prayer asks God to guide us and help us do what he wants us to do.*
- ▶ Read aloud the directions. **Ask:** *What do you think heaven looks like?* (Answers will vary.) Invite your child to complete the activity and describe what he or she drew.

### Respond: Page 98

- ▶ Read aloud the Faith Summary. Have your child trace the term *Lord's Prayer*. **Say:** *We have talked about the Lord's Prayer and about reasons and ways to pray.*
- ▶ Invite your child to pray silently as you pray aloud. **Say:** *Dear Father, please bless us and watch over us until we are together again.* Together pray the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Read aloud the words from the story in *With My Family* and have your child say the picture words. Use the Picture Glossary on pages 206–207 if needed. Invite your child to answer the question at the end of the story.