



God Calls Us to Love Our Family

Engage: Page 129

- ▶ Make a heart shape by touching your thumbs and pointer fingers together. **Say:** *I love my family.* Have your child repeat your words and action.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title, the song title, and the lyrics. Together repeat the lyrics and clap out a rhythm. **Say:** *This song thanks God the Father, Jesus his Son, and the Holy Spirit.* Make the heart shape and **say:** *Thank you, God, for my family.*
- ▶ Talk about things that you love about each member of your family. Then pray aloud the prayer together. Conclude by praying *Amen.*

Explore: Pages 130–131

- ▶ **Ask:** *What groups do we belong to?* Make a list including the human race, your country, your community, and your parish. **Say:** *Let's find out about another group we belong to.*
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the sentences on page 130. **Say:** *You and I belong to our family, and we all belong to God's family!* Explain the idea of a family tree and have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *One way to honor your father and your mother is to listen to them.*
- ▶ **Say:** *We learned about the Ten Commandments. There is another rule called the Great Commandment. Jesus wants us to love both God and others.* Read aloud the title and the sentences on page 131. Point out the word *honor*. Help your child find it in the Glossary and discuss the definition. Then have him or her complete the activity. **Say:** *Showing love for your family is a way of honoring the Great Commandment.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Say:** *Saint Anne and Saint Joachim are Jesus' grandparents.*



Art Exploration: Explore Art Print 22 Blackline Master

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of a family on a picnic.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including what the family is doing.
- ▶ **Say:** *When we show love to God and our families, we are living how Jesus wants us to live.*
- ▶ Display the Art Print Blackline Master for Session 22. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud the section Follow Jesus' Example. **Ask:** *What does it mean to obey our parents? (We do what they ask us to do.)* **Say:** *Our parents care for us, teach us, and help us follow Jesus.* Read aloud the section I Love My Family and have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Ask:** *What are the names of Jesus' parents? (Mary and Joseph)*
- ▶ **Say:** *Earlier you drew a family portrait. Now paint yourself doing as God asks, helping and respecting a family member.* Give your child drawing paper, colored pencils or crayons, and watercolor paints. Invite him or her to paint a picture of himself or herself helping a family member. Offer suggestions of possible scenes.

Reflect: Pages 132–133

- ▶ Together look at page 132. **Ask:** *What is the family doing? (praying)* **Say:** *Families can pray together at times besides mealtime and bedtime. God is always there for us.*
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the introductory sentences. Then pray aloud the prayer with your child. When you are finished, give your child time for silent prayer. Pray *Amen* together.
- ▶ Display a "Home Sweet Home" sign. **Ask:** *What does this sign mean? (Home is sweet because the people and things we love most are there.)*
- ▶ Read aloud the title and sentences on page 133. **Say:** *Animals live in families too. They help each other grow and learn.* Read aloud the directions and have your child complete the dot-to-dot activity. **Say:** *As you connect the dots to make the nest, think about prayers you can pray for members of our family.*

Respond: Page 134

- ▶ Read aloud the Faith Summary. Have your child trace the word *honor*. **Say:** *We have talked about making good choices and honoring and loving our families.*
- ▶ Invite your child to pray silently while you pray aloud. **Say:** *Dear Jesus, thank you for helping me show and share love as part of God's family.* 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.