

Created to Be Together

Engage: Page 9

- ▶ Discuss helpers in your community, such as police officers or crossing guards.
Ask: *Who are helpers in our Church community?* (altar servers, catechists, lectors)
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. **Say:** *In this session we will learn how to give praise to God and how to share God's love with others and help people in need.*
- ▶ Ask your child to think about the people who help others at church. **Ask:** *How can you serve your Church community?* (help with a service activity, such as a food drive) Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 10–11

- ▶ With your child talk about your own experiences praying. **Ask:** *When do you like to pray? Is it quiet? Do you tell God about your day?*
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud page 10. **Ask:** *Who are the three Persons of the Holy Trinity?* (God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit) Point to the symbol that represents the Trinity. **Say:** *The hand represents God, the cross represents Jesus, and the dove represents the Holy Spirit. Let's think of the Trinity as we pray the Sign of the Cross together.* Pray the prayer together.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. **Say:** *Praying together the Sign of the Cross unites our Church community.*
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud page 11. **Ask:** *What does the Glory Be to the Father help us remember about God?* (He created us; he is with us now and always will be.) *What do the Sign of the Cross and the Glory Be to the Father have in common?* (They praise God as the Trinity.)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *John wrote several letters to his friends about the importance of spreading God's love. We can read his letters in the Bible. Together find the verse in your Bible.*

Art Exploration: Page 228

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Saint Elizabeth spinning wool.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including Saint Elizabeth's appearance, clothing, and actions.

- ▶ **Say:** *Although Elizabeth appears young, she had the power and the courage to change her world because she believed she was an instrument of God's love.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 228. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph of Sharing God's Love. **Say:** *Elizabeth's family was wealthy.* **Ask:** *How did she help others?* (started a hospital, cared for people who were sick or poor)
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the adaptation from John. **Ask:** *How do we bring God's love to life?* (by loving one another)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Showing Your Love and then complete the activity. Remind your child to begin with small actions and words to spread God's love.
- ▶ Ask your child to consider the painting of Saint Elizabeth and to recall his or her idea about showing love to a friend. Invite your child to use watercolor paints to make a self-portrait featuring his or her idea for sharing God's love. Display the picture in your home.

Reflect: Pages 12–13

- ▶ Together look at page 12. **Ask:** *Where is the girl in the picture?* (in a forest) Remind your child to take several deep breaths before he or she prays. Read aloud the heading and the first paragraph. **Say:** *Now we'll pray our special prayer of praise to the Trinity.*
- ▶ **Say:** *I'll read parts of the prayer and then I'll pause so you can imagine what I describe.* After praying *Amen*, read aloud the last paragraph. Invite your child to spend a few minutes in silence to thank God. Pray aloud *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud the heading and the first paragraph on page 13. **Say:** *We have heard many Bible stories about Jesus.* **Ask:** *How does Jesus act in these stories?* (kind, loving, understanding) Read aloud What Would Jesus Say? Have your child complete the activity and discuss the answers. Ask your child if he or she has heard these sentences at school, on the playground, or in your home.
- ▶ Read aloud Kindness Counts. Give your child crayons or markers to complete the drawing activity. Discuss your child's picture.

Respond: Page 14

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can respond to people who are sick or poor as Jesus did.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the With My Family suggestions. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today.