

Showing Sorrow

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 211, the Family + Faith page.

Read the **Consider This** feature. What thoughts or reactions do you have to the opening question?

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Define sin as the choice to disobey God on purpose and do what you know is wrong. It is not an accident or a mistake
- Describe the consequences of sin as hurting our friendship with God and others
- Understand that Jesus wants us to be sorry for our sins and turn to God our forgiving Father
- Realize that God wants us to be close to him and will always forgive us when we say we are sorry

Parents, Consider This: *What would you give to hear your child say the words, "I did it" or, "I should not have done that." So much of your energy goes into helping your child admit his/her faults—even his/her sin. Be assured that this energy is not wasted! The path to forgiveness begins with the capacity to admit that what you have done is wrong. And for Christians, the harm is not just the damage we have done to the relationship with another human being, but the damage that we do to the relationship we have with our God. We give glory to God by loving our neighbor. The sin we commit damages both relationships.*

Read these other sections on the Family + Faith Page.

- *Your Child Learned.* This highlights some of the content of Sacred Scripture and Tradition in the lesson.
- *Children At This Age.* This will help you to understand how your child processes and learns at this developmental level.



Let's Sing: These songs connect the session topics and can be downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

- Children of God
- I'm Sorry

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

Turn to Page 203, Showing Sorrow

After gathering the supplies that you will need, find a quiet place to be with your child. This is a sacred time—a time when you will be present to each other and to the Lord. You may want to light a candle as you begin.



Let Us Pray Invite your child to make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the Psalm verse from the book. Help your child to respond.

Explain that Jesus teaches us to forgive and to ask for forgiveness.

Say: Jesus teaches us how important it is to forgive and to say “I’m sorry.” Listen to how many times Jesus says we need to forgive someone.



Guide your child through the Preparing for God’s Word Ritual you learned in the Introduction Session or play Track 1 of the *Songs of Scripture* CD.

- Proclaim God’s Word in the Parchment Paper box on the page.
- Maintain several moments of silence.
- Ask: What did you hear God say to you today?

Invite your child to respond and also share what you heard.

Now, look at the *What Do You Wonder?* box.

Say: Jesus taught us that forgiveness is what we need to do all the time. We should not count how often we forgive others.

Invite your child to respond to the questions. Ask what else they might wonder about asking for forgiveness and forgiving others.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 204,
Obeying God

Read aloud the first paragraph.

Hold up an index card with the Catholic Faith Word **sin** on it. Read the definition. Tell your child that every time you sin, you disobey God.

Read aloud the last two paragraphs.



Have your child complete the gold-star activity.

Ask: When can it feel hard to obey God? How can you make right choices?

Give an example of a time when your child did something wrong that was truly an accident. Ask him/her to give you an example of something he/she did that was an accident, as well.

Reassure your child that God forgives us when we are sorry and promise to do better.

Turn to Page 205,
Being Sorry



Proclaim “The Forgiving Father.”

Ask your child to retell the story in their own words by asking him/her what happened in the beginning, middle, and end of the story.

Ask: Who asks for forgiveness in the story? (the younger brother) How does the father react? (he forgives his son, he throws a party for his son, he hugs his son)

Explain that when we sin, God wants us to ask for forgiveness like the younger son in the story. When we are sorry and ask for forgiveness, God will always forgive us, just like the father in the story.

Tell your child a story about something you did wrong as a child and the forgiveness that someone offered you. Forgiveness is a great sign of someone's love for you.

Turn to Page 206,
Ask for Forgiveness

Read aloud the text.



Complete the gold-star activity.

Explain to your child that to forgive someone is to let go of our anger about what someone has done.

Ask: How does it feel when you say, "I'm sorry," and are forgiven?

Tell your child that saying "I'm sorry" and "I forgive you" go together like two pieces of a puzzle—they mend a friendship, whether the friendship is between two people or between a person and God.

Ask: How does God know if you are sorry for not obeying him?

Point out the picture. Ask your child to tell you what she/he sees in the picture. Discuss what might be happening in the picture.

Turn to Page 207,
Make Things Better

Read aloud the first and second paragraphs.

Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Connect Your Faith activity. Direct your child to complete the task.

Parents, Consider This: *God's forgiveness is an overwhelming gift. It is a humbling experience to stand guilty and yet trust in a love so unconditional that it will offer you pardon and peace. Here is the problem: we can cross the line and start to think that we can do whatever we want because we will always be forgiven. In a human relationship, we would call that taking advantage of someone, or more accurately, abusive. When you authentically love someone, you want to respond lovingly. God's love is so perfect that he cannot love you more tomorrow than he does today. Our choices are always held in the light of that perfect love.*

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 208,
Our Catholic Life

Read aloud the introductory paragraph.

Draw attention to the numbered steps and the pictures. Ask your child to read aloud the numbered steps.

Discuss the sentences after reading each one.

Ask: Why should you ask for the Holy Spirit's help when you do something wrong?

Turn to Page 209,
People of Faith

Read the paragraph about Saint Dismas.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Share the ways you show you are sorry in your family.

Activity

Have your child complete the Live Your Faith activity.

Turn to Page 211,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.

Parents, Consider This: *It's important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray the Act of Faith, Hope, and Love (see Page 318), during your night prayer this week.*



To access and send an eAssessment to your child, go to the Student and Family section of aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Holy Signs

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 235, the Family + Faith page.

Read the **Consider This** feature. What thoughts or reactions do you have to the opening question?

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Identify the Seven Sacraments as special signs and celebrations that Jesus gave his Church
- Appreciate that the Sacraments celebrate that Jesus is still with us, sharing his life and love
- Recognize that every Sacrament has words and actions we do and things God does that we can't see that bring us life

Parents, Consider This: *The Seven Sacraments engage the senses. God uses words, actions, and material elements from the created world to celebrate the mystery of salvation and convey his grace. The celebration of the Sacraments gives glory to God and they are also for our sanctification. They make people holy. Yet, the Sacraments are not magic. We must have the proper inner attitude in order for the Sacraments to be fruitful. As a parent, you can cultivate that inner attitude in your child. Do your best to do this, but also remember in the end all is gift. All is grace.*

Read these other sections on the Family + Faith Page.

- *Your Child Learned.* This highlights some of the content of Sacred Scripture and Tradition in the chapter.
- *Children At This Age.* This will help you to understand how your child processes and learns at this developmental level.



Let's Sing: This song connects the session topics and can be downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

- The Seven Sacraments

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

Turn to Page 227, Holy Signs

After gathering the supplies that you will need, find a quiet place to be with your child. This is a sacred time—a time when you will be present to each other and to the Lord. You may want to light a candle as you begin.



Let Us Pray Invite your child to make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the Psalm verse from the book. Help your child to respond.

Say: Jesus wants us to be close to him. Listen to what he tells us.



Guide your child through the Preparing for God’s Word Ritual you learned in the Introduction Session or play Track 1 of the *Songs of Scripture* CD.

- Proclaim God’s Word in the Parchment Paper box on the page.
- Maintain several moments of silence.
- Ask: What did you hear God say to you today?

Invite your child to respond and also share what you heard.

Now, look at the *What Do You Wonder?* box.

Say: Jesus loves us so much he wants our hearts to be one with his. Jesus gives us signs that we are one with him.

Invite your child to respond to the questions. Prompt what they might wonder about being close to Jesus.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 228,
Signs of Love

Read aloud the introductory paragraph. Emphasize God’s love for children.



Proclaim “The Advocate” in the Parchment Paper box.



Do the gold-star activity.

Parents, Consider This: *Signs of God’s love are found throughout the Bible. Noah saw a rainbow in the sky after the great flood as a sign of God’s love. God sent Jesus to show his love. The Holy Spirit came to the Apostles to guide them. Tell these stories in your family. They remind us to look for signs of God’s love for us in our lives.*

Point out the picture. Ask what the picture shows. (a family bringing up the gifts at Mass)

Tell your child that Jesus is with us in a special way at Mass.

Turn to Page 229,
The Sacraments

Ask your child if he or she can name any of the Seven Sacraments. Prompt the response of Baptism and Eucharist. Tell your child you will be learning the names of the other Sacraments.

Read aloud the text on this page.

Review the definition of the highlighted word, **Seven Sacraments**, in the Catholic Faith Words box.

Look at pages 304–305 in the Our Catholic Tradition reference section to review the Seven Sacraments.

Activity

Do the Share Your Faith activity. Have your child share their responses with you.

Parents, Consider This: *In most dioceses, the Sacraments of Penance and Reconciliation and Eucharist are celebrated during a child's second grade year. Talk about the anticipation of these special milestones. Encourage your child by telling them that learning about the Sacraments is how we begin to prepare to celebrate them. Share that the word "Eucharist" means "thanksgiving."*

Turn to Page 230,
Signs and Celebrations

Explain that things you can see, hear, touch, smell, and taste are used to celebrate the Sacraments. Tell your child that these holy things are signs that tell us that God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—is there with you. Point out that the Church has Seven Sacraments. Emphasize that Jesus gave us the Sacraments so that we can always know his love and care.

Read the opening question and text aloud.

Turn to Page 231,
Signs and Celebrations
(cont'd)

Point out the three boxes. Explain that the Church has Seven Sacraments. The Seven Sacraments fall into one of three categories. As you move to each box say:

- The Sacraments of Initiation are Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. These three Sacraments celebrate membership in to the Catholic Church.
- The Sacraments of Healing are Reconciliation and Penance and Anointing of the Sick. They celebrate God's forgiveness and healing.
- The Sacraments at the Service of Communion celebrate people's commitment to serve God and the community.

Have your child circle the sacraments that they have seen.

Activity

Have your child complete the Connect Your faith activity.

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 232,
Our Catholic Life

Read aloud the opening question and paragraph.

Review the chart together. Read aloud the names of the Sacraments and invite your child to read the names of the signs and what they stand for.

★ **Do** the gold-star activity.

Turn to Page 233,
People of Faith

Read the paragraph about Mary.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Talk about what you know about Mary and the ways you can show devotion to her.

Activity

Have your child complete the Live Your Faith activity.

Parents, Consider This: *We usually celebrate the Sacraments in the building of the Church. Visit your church building during a time when services are not taking place. Walk around and point out things that relate to the Sacraments like the altar, the baptismal font, and the sanctuary light.*

Turn to Page 235,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.

Parents, Consider This: *It's important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray Holy, Holy, Holy Lord during your night prayer this week.*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.



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Jesus the Savior

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 225, the Family + Faith page.

Read the **Consider This** feature. What thoughts or reactions do you have to the opening question?

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Recognize Adam and Eve's choice to bring sin into the world
- Reflect on God's love for people, even when they sin
- Describe Jesus as our Savior, whom God sent to bring us back to him
- Explain that Jesus died for all people to save them, giving his life so that people could have new life with God

Parents, Consider This: *Do not be afraid. Don't let your hearts be troubled. Do not fear. God the Father continually assures his People that there is no reason to fear, because he is with them. Yet it is human nature to be afraid—of the unknown situation, of being alone, of what is to come. Think about this the next time someone in your family is fearful. At these times, we can ask for help. Remind your child to turn to God in prayer in times of fear. Those who believe in him have no reason to fear. Jesus is the Savior whose loving gift of himself saved people.*

Read these other sections on the Family + Faith Page.

- *Your Child Learned.* This highlights some of the content of Sacred Scripture and Tradition in the chapter.
- *Children At This Age.* This will help you to understand how your child processes and learns at this developmental level.



Let's Sing: These songs connect the session topics and can be downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

- Savior of the World
- Gospel Acclamation

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

Turn to Page 217, Jesus the Savior

After gathering the supplies that you will need, find a quiet place to be with your child. This is a sacred time—a time when you will be present to each other and to the Lord. You may want to light a candle as you begin.



Let Us Pray Invite your child to make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the Psalm verse from the book. Help your child to respond.

Say: Jesus came to teach and save us. He shows us the way. Let's listen now to a reading from the Gospel of Matthew.



Guide your child through the Preparing for God’s Word Ritual you learned in the Introduction Session or play Track 1 of the *Songs of Scripture* CD.

- Proclaim God’s Word in the Parchment Paper box on the page.
- Maintain several moments of silence.
- Ask: What did you hear God say to you today?

Invite your child to respond and also share what you heard.

Now, look at the *What Do You Wonder?* box.

Say: Because Jesus’ friends saw him after he was raised from the dead, we know he lives. Jesus is with us, too, even though we cannot see him like they did.

Invite your child to respond to the questions. Prompt what else they might wonder about talking with Jesus.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 218,
Adam and Eve

Read aloud the opening question and paragraph. Point out the highlighted word, **Original Sin**, and its definition in the Catholic Faith Words box.

Read aloud the paragraph under “God Loves.”

Ask: How did God react to Adam and Eve’s sin? (He continued to love them.)



Do the gold-star activity.

Ask: How do you show love for God?

Turn to Page 219,
God’s Promise

Write on a separate piece of paper: “First Adam and Eve sinned.”

Explain that God was unhappy that the first people had broken their friendship with him. Tell your child that God wanted the children and grandchildren of Adam and Eve to be his friends again.

Read aloud the paragraph. Then, on the same piece of paper, under the previous sentence, write: “Then God sent people a Savior.” Explain that this is what he did to rescue people. Direct your child to look at the picture and talk about what Jesus is doing.

Activity

Have your child complete the Share Your Faith activity.

Parents, Consider This: Use the word “Savior” in your family discussions about Jesus. In your family prayer, thank God for saving us. Jesus is the Savior because he saved people from sin which broke their friendship with God the Father. Jesus brought people back to him.

Turn to Page 220,
New Life with God

Ask: What did Jesus do to save everyone?

Read the introductory paragraph. Have your child circle the word Savior.



Proclaim the first paragraph of the Scripture story in the Parchment Paper box. Point to a crucifix in your home and remind your child that this is how Jesus died. Ask your child to listen to what happened after Jesus died. Point to the artwork on the page and proclaim the second paragraph of the Scripture story.

Ask: What would you have thought about the empty cave if you had been there with the women?



Do the gold-star activity.

Parents, Consider This: The word Resurrection means “the act of rising from the dead.” In the Gospel, an angel said to the women looking for Jesus after his death, “Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus who is crucified. He is not there, for he has been raised as he said” (Matthew 28:5-6). Jesus’ Resurrection shows that all who love God will have new life in Heaven with him. This should be a source of hope for even the darkest times we may face. Remind your family of this in times of loss. We are invited into this relationship of love—not fear—with God.

Turn to Page 221,
Jesus Saves

Read aloud the first and second paragraph. Have your child point to the word **Resurrection** and review its definition in the Catholic Faith Words box.

Activity

Have your child complete the Connect Your Faith activity.

Parents, Consider This: Talk about how your family celebrates Easter. Connect your family traditions with the liturgical traditions of celebrating this most holy feast of the Resurrection.

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 222,
Our Catholic Life

Read aloud the text.



Do the gold-star activity.

Turn to Page 223,
People of Faith

Read the paragraph about Saint Josephine Bakhita.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Talk about how you can let someone know more about Jesus.

Turn to Page 225,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.

Parents, Consider This: *It's important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray Holy, Holy, Holy Lord during your night prayer this week.*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

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