Joseph Says Yes to God

Engage: Page 39

▶ Ask your child to give a thumbs-up to positive words (Sure, Yes, Absolutely) and a thumbs-down to negative words (No way, Never, No). Say: When someone asks you to do something kind, it’s important to say yes.
▶ Read aloud the session title and the poem. Invite your child to follow along and join in on the line I say yes!
▶ Together talk about times you have said yes to God. Pray aloud the prayer together. Then pray Amen.

Explore: Pages 40–41

▶ Discuss ways that your family members have taught one another how to do things. Say: One way members of a family take care of one another is by teaching.
▶ Read aloud the title and the sentences on page 40. Have your child point to the word Joseph. Help your child find it in the Glossary and discuss the definition. Ask: What did Joseph do for Jesus? (He loved, cared for, taught, and protected Jesus.) Read aloud the directions and have your child color the picture and trace the word Joseph. Then read aloud the completed sentence.
▶ Read aloud the Reading God’s Word feature. Say: An angel of the Lord came to Joseph in a dream and told him to name the baby Jesus. The name Jesus means “the Lord saves.”
▶ Display family pictures and talk about your family members. Then read aloud the title and the sentences on page 41. Point to the term Holy Family. Help your child find it in the Glossary and discuss the definition. Ask: How might the Holy Family be like our family? (They work and play together. They love one another.) Read aloud the directions and have your child complete the activity.
▶ Read aloud the A Holy Place feature. Share pictures of ancient and modern-day Nazareth. Say: People visit Nazareth today because it is Jesus’ hometown.
Art Exploration: Explore Art Print 7 Blackline Master

▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Joseph holding baby Jesus.
▶ Ask: What do you see in this picture? Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the people and what they think about it.
▶ Display the Art Print Blackline Master for Session 7. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question. Say: Families show love with words, hugs, and actions.
▶ Read aloud the section An Angel Comes to Joseph. Say: Joseph trusted God. He obeyed God. Joseph loved and cared for Mary and Jesus his whole life.
▶ Read aloud the section Special Messages from God. Have your child complete the activity and tell what happens in the correct order.
▶ Invite your child to use his or her imagination and role-play a conversation between the angel and Joseph, with your child in the role as Joseph. Then ask: Pretend you are Joseph. How do you feel? What do you do when you wake up? How do you say yes to God? Invite your child to thank God for Joseph, Jesus’ father on earth.

Reflect: Pages 42–43

▶ Together look at the picture on page 42. Ask: What is the family doing? (They are praying before they eat.) Say: Sometimes we pray alone, and sometimes we pray with others. Ask: When might we pray alone? (at bedtime prayer) When might we pray with others? (at Mass or before meals or after meals)
▶ Read aloud the title and the introductory sentences on page 42. Say: We thank God for the gift of food. Have your child sit comfortably as you lead the Grace Before Meals prayer. Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross together.
▶ Read aloud the title and the sentences on page 43. Ask: How do you think Jesus showed love for his family? (He worked with Joseph; he obeyed his mother, Mary.) How do you show love for your family? (Answers will vary.)
▶ Read aloud the directions and discuss whether each sentence is a way to say yes to God. Give your child time to circle the correct responses.
▶ Plan different ways that your child can be helpful and loving to family members.

Respond: Page 44

▶ Read aloud the Faith Summary. Have your child trace the terms Joseph and Holy Family. Say: We have talked about Joseph and his obedience to God.
▶ Invite your child to pray silently as you pray aloud. Say: Thank you, Jesus, for helping me show love to my 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.