Following Jesus

Engage: Page 39
▶ Ask your child think of a person who is very important to him or her. Have your child write the person’s name on a sheet of paper. Say: Think of words that tell why you trust this person. The words should start with the letters of the person’s name. Have your child share his or her “trustworthy” word picture.
▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child’s responses. Point out the picture. Ask: What are these children doing? (helping one another cross the stream) Why do you trust Jesus? (He loved others and always did what was right.)
▶ Ask your child to think of other people he or she trusts, along with Jesus. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 40–41
▶ Ask your child to name some favorite personal objects. Ask: How would you feel if you had to give these objects away?
▶ Read aloud page 40. Ask: What was more important for the young man—keeping his money or following Jesus? (keeping his money) What do you think the young man will do next? Discuss your child’s response.
▶ Have your child read aloud the heading and the first two paragraphs on page 41. Ask: What does it mean to sin? (to make a choice that hurts our friendship with God and with other people) Who gives us the grace to turn back to God? (the Holy Spirit) Say: Conversion means “change.” It is a change of heart that directs us away from sin and toward God. Have your child read aloud the third paragraph and complete the activity.
▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. Say: When we offer the Sign of Peace, we recognize those around us as brothers and sisters of Jesus.

Art Exploration: Page 233
▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of someone praying.
▶ Ask: What do you see in this picture? Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the background and how he or she knows the person is praying.
▶ Say: Following the Ten Commandments helps us stay close to God. There are also many places and times that we can feel close to God.
Have your child turn to page 233. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.

- Read aloud Showing Our Love. **Say:** When we are close to God, we show our faith by our actions. **Ask:** What are some ways that faith is shown through actions? (follow the Ten Commandments, pray often, keep an open heart, be ready to help)

- Read aloud Paying Attention and have your child read aloud each situation. Have him or her consider the situations and circle the answer.

- Read aloud the Reading God’s Word feature. **Say:** Take a moment to think of the people and things you treasure most. If you share your treasure with others, your love will spread.

- Invite your child to think about when and where he or she likes to pray. Ask him or her to draw or paint a picture of this place. Encourage your child to express why he or she chose that spot.

**Reflect: Pages 42–43**

- Together look at page 42. **Ask:** What sounds do you think you might hear if you were in the place shown in the picture? Remind your child that silence is welcome during prayer so that God can speak to your child’s heart.

- Softly and slowly read aloud the reflection. Pause at the end to allow your child to answer the questions silently. Close the reflection time by praying Amen.

- Have your child read aloud Obey the Ten Commandments on page 43. **Say:** By following Jesus’ example, you are taking the next step in being a good Christian.

- Read aloud What I Want and What I Need and have your child complete the activity. Encourage him or her to give reasons for the choices.

- Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Ask:** What can our family do to feed people who are hungry?

**Respond: Page 44**

- Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Word I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can cheerfully do things for others.

- 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.