

# Jesus, Word of God

## Preparation for the Session

This session has parts that will take place at different times. You will gather with your child for Part 1: Invite. Your child will then work independently on Part 2: Discover, and you will read that section of the chapter on your own as well. Finally, you will come together again later in the week for Part 3 to review and complete the In Summary & Live section.

In this chapter, your child will cover the following objectives:

- Recognize that Jesus was fully human and fully Divine at the same time
- Define the Incarnation as the truth that the Son of God took on a human nature
- Understand that through the Incarnation, God the Father speaks directly to us through his Son
- Describe the Holy Spirit's role in the Annunciation
- Identify Mary as the first and most faithful disciple and a model for us
- Recognize that Jesus' miracles revealed God's power, and they were often a response to his compassion, pity, and thirst for justice
- Identify passages in Scripture that reveal the two natures of Jesus

**Parents, Consider This:** *Your son/daughter is at an age when he or she probably has a low tolerance for hypocrisy in others. Your child may be troubled when she/he sees someone say one thing and do another. Young people are especially sensitive when they witness this type of behavior in leaders and in adults who are important in their lives. As you begin Chapter 5 of **Alive in Christ**, you and your child will be contemplating how God is God in both Word and deed. This culminates in the person of Jesus Christ, the fullness of God's Revelation. Jesus was a man who perfectly followed his convictions, and perfectly lived what he taught as well as what he preached in the Sermon on the Mount. We live in a time when our children especially need models of integrity. Within the discussions in this chapter, you can help your child know Jesus, the Son of God, and a Person of the highest integrity; there is no better example for us to trust and follow. Jesus whose name means "God saves" truly saves each of us.*

**Children at This Age:** *Younger adolescents often do not have an integrated sense of who they are. They might feel like they are one person to their families, another to their friends at school, and so on. In the process of maturing, they try to discover who they are for themselves. Self-definition is a key developmental need at this age. Your son/daughter is very conscious of what others think of him/her; he/she may be reluctant to share his/her true feelings with anyone, unless he/she feels complete trust in that person. Help your child see that living exclusively within one core group can lead to a narrow sense of what is important and limited ways of coping with tough times. Encourage her/him to branch out and connect with multiple groups.*

## PART 1: Invite

**Turn to Page 103,**  
Jesus, Word of God

**Make** sure you have a Bible, writing tools for both of you, and some paper.

**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** Together make the Sign of the Cross. Have your child take the role of leader and read aloud the prayer. Both of you respond with the part marked “All.”

**Explain** that the psalmist’s prayer causes us to pause and ask, “What’s in a name?” Jesus, the “eternal Word,” came among us and changed our relationship with God.

**Say:** Today’s Scripture tells us that God wants us to be a living sign of his Word to others. Let’s listen to what Saint Paul teaches about the name of Jesus.



**Guide** your child through the Preparing for God’s Word ritual you learned in the Introduction Session.

- Proclaim the Scripture 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.

**Say:** Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the living Word, and God’s greatest gift to us. We should do our best to be a sign to others of God’s never-ending love.

Now, look at the *Have you ever thought...* box.

**Invite** your child to respond to the questions found in the box in the Student Book, also listed here:

- What does it mean to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord? (It means we acknowledge or declare that Jesus Christ is truly the Son of God and Lord of our life.)
- How do you really come to have a relationship with Jesus? (While there is no one sole way to develop such a relationship, a heart that is open to prayer and serving others will often lead us into a deeper relationship with Jesus.)

**Ask** what else your son/daughter might wonder about God’s Word and what it means to us today.

**Turn to Page 104,**  
Getting Started

**Read** aloud the paragraph.

**Have** your child read aloud the directions for completing the Son of God chart on page 104. Work together to come up with at least one example of Jesus’ humanity and his divinity for each stage of his life.

**Turn to Page 105**

**Preview** the Catholic Faith Words at the top of the page. Ask your child what she/he thinks the words mean. The definitions can be found in the glossary at the end of the Student Book.

**Invite** your child to silently read the directions for this page, as you do. Ask him/her to complete the activity in the book. You can complete it on a separate piece of paper. When you both are finished, share with one another how you describe who Jesus is and what his name conveys to you. Discuss ways the meaning of the name of Jesus has grown or changed as you have matured.

## PART 2: Discover

**Direct** your child to independently complete pages 106–111. Have him/her highlight the main sentence in each paragraph while reading through the text. This includes completing all on-page activities. Ask your child to write any question he/she might have about a Catholic Faith Word in the margins of the text. You can review these when you gather again to complete the session.

Be sure to read these pages as well. Doing so will give you insight into chapter topics and will help you engage your child in later discussions.

## PART 3: In Summary & Live

**Turn to Page 111,**  
In Summary

*When you return,* review the “In Summary/Catholics Believe” section. Read each bullet and ask your child to rephrase it in his/her own words.

**Turn to Page 112**

**Direct** your daughter/son to silently read Our Catholic Life.

**Parents, Consider This:** *The Our Catholic Life text is about the many titles of Christ and how the followers of Jesus used these different names to show their understanding of who he was and what his presence meant to them. The Church has used different titles of Jesus throughout her history and in various prayers. Jesus responds to us with the same love and grace no matter which name we use to call on him. However, we often find one or another that we are more comfortable using in our own prayers. Consider addressing Jesus in a new way in your family prayer.*

**Ask** your child to share what name he/she calls Jesus by most often in his/her own prayers.

**Say:** Remember that prayer is a source of strength that we can use to help us live our faith in the everyday moments as well as in the difficult times. It also helps to remember all the models of faith who came before us and remained faithful even when their beliefs were not popular.

**Direct** your child to read aloud the brief story on Saints Maria, Rosa, and Mary Zhao who gave up their lives for the faith.

**Move** on to the Describe activity.

**Say:** We learned about the many names by which we address Jesus. Now, write down your name and three statements that are unique to you and show ways you are living a Christian life. We're both going to do this activity, and then we'll share our answers. After that, we'll try to help each other come up with one additional way we might live as a Christian.



**Conclude** the session by praying the Act of Hope on Page 387.

To access and send an eAssessment to your child, go to the Student & Family section of [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).