

## BE MY DISCIPLES (FEBRUARY OUTLINE)

“Throughout the year you have the opportunity to enter into the mystery of faith with your children and walk with them as they learn what it means to know, love, and serve God.”

### CHAPTER 13

#### Grade 1 – We Pray

“Prayer is listening and talking to God; when we pray, we grow in our love for God; God is always listening to our prayer.”

#### Grade 3 – The Word of God

“A parable is a story used to teach people; Catholics have the obligation to take part in Mass on Sundays; the Liturgy of the Word is the first main part of the Mass.”

#### Grade 4 – Jesus Feeds Us

“During the Exodus, God fed the Israelites with manna; Jesus fed five thousand people with five loaves of bread and two fish; the Bible invites us to trust in God’s loving care.”

#### Grade 5 – Jesus Heals the Sinners

“Jesus calls his disciples to forgive and to ask for forgiveness; the sacrament of penance and reconciliation continues Jesus’ ministry of healing; in this sacrament we are forgiven the sins we commit after we are baptized.”

#### Grade 6/7 – Penance and Reconciliation

“The elements of the right of penance include repentance, confession, and absolution; in reconciliation we receive God’s forgiveness for sins committed after Baptism.”

#### Theme: Increase Our Faith

*“And the apostles said to the Lord, ‘increase our faith.’ The Lord replied, ‘If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, ‘be uprooted and planted in the sea’, and it would obey you.” (Luke 17:5-6)*

#### Background

The main focus of this chapter includes: how prayer is listening and talking with God, the Mass is the most important celebration of the Church; parables are stories Jesus used to teach people and help increase their faith. The bible invites us to believe and trust in God's caring love for us. Jesus calls his disciples to forgive and to ask for forgiveness. In the sacrament of penance and reconciliation, we receive God’s forgiveness for sins committed in baptism.

#### Main Focus

- Our participation in the sacramental life of the Church increases our faith.
- Our family is a family of faith.

#### Starting prayer

(Have children bow their heads and remember that God is present with them in this time and place. Bless yourself with the sign of the cross.)

*Gracious God,*

*We are grateful for your presence in our lives.*

*Faith in you has the power to change lives.*

*Help us be a family of faith. Amen.*

### **What does it mean to live in your faith?**

Ask your children this question. Listen to the examples that they give and add a few of your own.

### **How do you see faith increasing in your household?**

#### **In the Book**

Pg. 119 – Have children/child read to themselves (or out loud) and have them share what they just read. If more than one child is learning, have them compare what they will be learning in this chapter.

Pg. 120 – This page explores how the church sets an example for us of how to be good disciples. Read together or silently. Encourage them to share with you what they read or learned. (How did this person or group follow Jesus?)

Read “Disciple Power” and talk about how it relates to what they already read. See if they can give examples of how family members practice these virtues. Pick one to try to practice this week.

Pg. 121-123 – Read the Faith Focus question. Pages 121-123 will answer that question. When you finish reading those pages, discuss what they have learned. Have them answer the faith focus question in their own words. Ask the children how the sacraments and the word of god help our family to grow in faith.

Pg. 124 – This page will summarize the lesson, have an activity to tie it all together, and invites them to make a faith choice for the week. Have the children complete the activity on this page and share it with the others.

Pg. 125 – Have the children complete the Chapter review.

#### **Closing prayer**

*Leader: Whenever I lay down and slept, the Lord preserved me to rise again (Psalm 3:6)  
Even when I walk through a dark valley, I fear no harm for you are at my side (Psalm 23:4)  
In you, Lord, I take refuge... into your hands I commend my spirit; you will redeem me, Lord,  
Faithful God (Psalm 31:2,6)  
A clean heart create in me, God; Renew in me a steadfast spirit. (Psalm 51:12)*

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### CHAPTER 14

#### Grade 1 – We are Peacemakers

“Sin hurts our relationship with God and others; when we say we are sorry we show that we love God and others”

#### Grade 3 – The Bread of Life

“At the Eucharist, we celebrate what Jesus did at the last supper; in the Eucharist, bread and wine becomes the Body and Blood of Christ; the Eucharist in the blessed sacrament.”

#### Grade 4 – Jesus Forgives

“Jesus continues his work of healing and forgiveness through the Church; in the sacrament of penance and reconciliation we receive forgiveness for sins and the grace to say no to sin in the future.”

#### Grade 5 – Jesus Heals the Sick

“Through the anointing of the sick, those who are seriously ill, weakened because of old age, or dying are joined to the suffering of Christ and receive strength and courage.”

#### Grade 6/7 – Anointing of the Sick

“The Church continues Jesus’ ministry of healing in the sacraments of healing; the rite of anointing consists of the prayers of the faith, laying on of hands, and anointing with oils.”

#### Theme: Salt of the Earth

*“You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.” (Matthew 5:13)*

#### Background

The main focus of this chapter includes: how our sin hurts our relationship with God and that we ask for forgiveness from God and from others; the liturgy of the Word is the first main part of the Mass; at Mass we listen and respond to the word of God; the Eucharist is the body and blood of Jesus Christ; Jesus continues his work of healing and forgiveness through the Church; and people receive strength and healing through the sacrament of anointing of the sick.

#### Main Focus

- We are called to be salt for the earth.
- The sacraments strengthen us to be salt of the earth.

#### Starting prayer

(Have children bow their heads and remember that God is present with them in this time and place. Bless yourself with the sign of the cross.)

*God of all goodness,*

*Your son Jesus shows us how we can best love you and others.*

*He shows us how we can be salt of the earth by living as his disciples.*

*Teach us today what it means to be salt of the earth. Amen.*

### **What does it mean to be salt of the earth?**

Ask your kids what the purpose of salt is (to season and preserve food). Ask your children what they think it means to be called to be salt of the earth. Listen to their answers. Suggest that through Baptism we have been seasoned with new life in Christ. Our words and actions reflect that we are disciples of Jesus, that we are salt of the earth.

### **How are you the salt of the earth?**

#### **In the Book**

Pg. 127 – Have children/child read to themselves (or out loud) and have them share what they just read. If more than one child is learning, have them compare what they will be learning in this chapter.

Pg. 128 – This page explores how the Church sets an example for us of how to be good disciples. Read together or silently. Encourage them to share with you what they read or learned. (How did this person or group follow Jesus?)

Read “Disciple Power” and talk about how it relates to what they already read. See if they can give examples of how family members practice these virtues. Pick one to try to practice this week.

Pg. 129-131 – Read the Faith Focus question. Pages 129-131 will answer that question. When you finish reading those pages, discuss what they have learned. Have them answer the faith focus question in their own words. Ask the children how the members of their family are “salt of the earth” at home, school, and work.

Pg. 132 – This page will summarize the lesson, have an activity to tie it all together, and invites them to make a faith choice for the week. Have the children complete the activity on this page and share it with the others.

Pg. 133 – Have the children complete the Chapter review

#### **Closing prayer**

*Leader: As members of the Church and followers of Jesus, we are salt of the earth*

*When we offer forgiveness*

*When we reach out to heal*

*When we are peacemakers*

*When we are active members of our parish*

*When we love those in our family*

*Holy God, your son Jesus teaches us how to be salt of the earth. May your most Holy Spirit guide us to be disciples of your Son.*

**All: Amen**

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### CHAPTER 15

#### Grade 1 – We Go to Mass

“At mass, we worship God; we listen to readings from the Bible; we celebrate and share in the Eucharist.”

#### Grade 3 – The Sacrament of Matrimony

“Jesus performed a miracle at Cana to show God’s power at work in the world; at Baptism we receive the vocation to share in Jesus’ life and work; in Matrimony a baptized man and a baptized woman become a sign of God’s love in the world.”

#### Grade 4 – Jesus Heals the Sick

“The Bible has many stories that describe how people deal with their sickness and suffering; we are to reach out to Jesus in faith and trust when we are sick and suffering.”

#### Grade 5 – The Sacrament of Holy Orders

“All of the Baptized are called to continue the work of Christ; Holy Orders consecrate some men to serve the whole church; it is one of the Sacraments at the Service of Communion.”

#### Grade 6/7 – Holy Orders

“Every Christian is joined to Christ in Baptism and is called to live a life of generous service to God and others as Jesus did.”

#### Theme: Light of the World

*“You are the light of the world... your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.” (Matthew 5:14, 16)*

#### Background

The main focus of this chapter includes: at Mass we worship God, celebrate and share the Eucharist; The Eucharist is the body and blood of Christ; At Baptism we receive our vocation to share in Jesus’ life and work; In Matrimony a baptized man and a baptized woman become a sign of God’s love in the world; Holy orders consecrate some men to serve the church; Every Christian is joined to Christ at Baptism and called to live a life of generous service to God and others as Jesus did.

#### Main Focus

- We are called to be the light of the world.
- The sacraments nourish us to be lights of the world.

#### Starting prayer

(Have children bow their heads and remember that God is present with them in this time and place. Bless yourself with the sign of the cross.)

*God of all goodness,*

*Your son shows us how we can best love You and others;*

*He shows us how we can be the light of the world by living as His disciples.*

*Teach us today what it means to be your light. Amen.*

## **What does it mean to be “the light of the world”?**

Ask your children this question. Listen to the examples that they give and add a few of your own. Suggest that as Blessed Pope John Paul II said it is because “our personal encounter with Christ bathes life in new light, sets us on the right path, and sends us out to be his witnesses.”

## **How am I a light in the World?**

### **In the Book**

Pg. 135 – Have children/child read to themselves (or out loud) and have them share what they just read. If more than one child is learning, have them compare what they will be learning in this chapter.

Pg. 136 – This page explores how the church sets an example for us of how to be good disciples. Read together or silently. Encourage them to share with you what they read or learned. (How did this person or group follow Jesus?)

Read “Disciple Power” and talk about how it relates to what they already read. See if they can give examples of how family members practice these virtues. Pick one to try to practice this week.

Pg. 137-139 – Read the Faith Focus question. Pages 137-139 will answer that question. When you finish reading those pages, discuss what they have learned. Have them answer the faith focus question in their own words. Ask the children how the sacraments prepare us to be a light in the world.

Pg. 140 – This page will summarize the lesson, have an activity to tie it all together, and invites them to make a faith choice for the week. Have the children complete the activity on this page and share it with the others.

Pg. 141 – Have the children complete the Chapter review

## **Closing prayer**

**Leader:** *Let’s spend a moment praying for Christ’s light in our lives...*

*Lord help me to be a doer, not a talker.*

*Help me to say, “it can be done.” Not “it can’t be done”*

*Help me to improve, not merely disapprove.*

*Help me to get into the thick of things, not just sit on the sidelines*

*Help me to point out what’s right with the world, not always what’s wrong.*

*Help me to light candles, not blow them out.*

*Lord, fill my heart with hope that looks for the good in people, with hope that discovers what can be done, with hope that pushes ahead, with hope that opens doors, with hope that carries on.*

*Wondrous God, you brought light to the darkness through your son, Jesus Christ. Bless our family today. May we always share Christ’s light with others.*

**All:** *Amen.*

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### CHAPTER 16

#### Grade 1 – Jesus Shows God’s Love

“Jesus saw people were hungry and gave them enough to eat; Jesus showed people that God cares for them and he teaches us to care for people.”

#### Grade 3 – Called to Serve

“Bishops and Priests lead people in worshipping God; men and women called to imitate Jesus in special ways of the consecrated life.”

#### Grade 4 – Signs of God’s Love

“The Sacraments at the Service of Communion set aside members of the church to help others live holy lives.”

#### Grade 5 – The Sacraments of Matrimony

“Matrimony unites a baptized man and woman in a lifelong bond of faithful love; in their daily bond with openness of life; matrimony is a living sign of God’s love for the Church.”

#### Grade 6/7 – Matrimony

“Marriage is part of God's plan for love and life in which a man and a woman form a lifelong bond with openness to life; Matrimony is a living sign of God’s love for the church.”

**Theme:** Give Glory to God

*“So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the Glory of God.”  
(1 Corinthians 10:31)*

#### Background

This chapter will help the children learn and explore faith concepts that will bring them to a deeper understanding of our Christian responsibility to “Do everything for the glory of God.” They will learn that Jesus showed people that God cares for them; the procession at the conclusion of Mass reminds us that we are people sent on a mission; Bishops and Priests lead people in worshipping God and in learning and living in their faith; the Sacrament at the Service of Communion set aside members of the Church to help others live holy lives; married couples serve each other, their families, and others with love, and marriage is part of God's plan for love and life.

#### Main Focus

- We are called to do everything for the glory of God.
- The sacraments give us the grace we need to do everything for the Glory of God.

#### Starting prayer

(Have children bow their heads and remember that God is present with them in this time and place. Bless yourself with the sign of the cross.)

*God ever-present,*

*May our faith in Jesus and our love for you continue to help us reveal the Glory of God to others. May everything we do, both the big things and the little things, give glory to you. Amen.*

### **What does it mean to do everything for the Glory of God?**

Ask your children this question. Listen to the examples that they give and add a few of your own.

### **How does the ordinary routine of your family life reflect the glory of God?**

#### **In the Book**

Pg. 143 – Have children/child read to themselves (or out loud) and have them share what they just read. If more than one child is learning, have them compare what they will be learning in this chapter.

Pg. 144 – This page explores how the church sets an example for us of how to be good disciples. Read together or silently. Encourage them to share with you what they read or learned. (How did this person or group follow Jesus?)

Read “Disciple Power” and talk about how it relates to what they already read. See if they can give examples of how family members practice these virtues. Pick one to try to practice this week.

Pg. 145-147 – Read Faith Focus question. Pages 145 -147 will answer that question. When you finish reading those pages, discuss what they have learned. Have them answer the faith focus question in their own words. Ask the children how the Sacraments help our family members give glory to God.

Pg. 148 – This page will summarize the lesson, have an activity to tie it all together, and invites them to make a faith choice for the week. Have the children complete the activity on this page and share it with the others.

Pg. 149 – Have the children complete the Chapter review.

#### **Closing prayer**

**Leader:** *Lord Jesus,*

*You are the one who brings light to our darkness.*

*Guide us as we share your light with each other and with all those with whom we came in contact.*

*Let us be signs of your presence everywhere in the world*

*Let us, in everything we do, give glory to God.*

**All:** *So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.*

**Leader:** *Let us spend a moment in quiet, reflecting on how everything we do brings glory to God.*

*Wondrous God,*

*In the little things and in the big things, may we always bring glory to you.*

*May others see, through the witness of our lives, the glory of the lord.*

*We pray in the name of Jesus, your son and our lord.*

**All:** *Amen*