

The Creation Accounts

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 71,
the Family + Faith page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 143

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Recall that the two accounts of creation teach that God alone is the Creator and that humans are his creatures
- Consider what it means to be made in God's image
- Recognize that the first man and woman were created by God in a state of Original Holiness, or grace
- Develop a desire to seek God's truth and share in his life
- Define eternity as time without end and new life beyond death

Turn to Page 63,
The Creation Accounts
Vivos en Cristo, Page 127

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

Parents, Consider This: *The Book of Genesis begins with two accounts of creation. They give great assurance that no matter how the world evolved scientifically, the author of all creation is God. Giving praise to him is a way of living in your family that recognizes the gifts of creation and leads to a caring, responsible approach to his gift of creation. You need, however, to make it clear to your child that for Catholics, being eco-conscious is rooted in stewardship—living responsibly because all things are a gift from God.*

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.

- Bless the Lord
- For the Beauty of the Earth

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

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: Listen to this Scripture about the Lord and where he has placed humans in creation.



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?

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

Say: Everything you see in the natural world comes from God. Pay attention and you’ll see his glory in it all.

Invite your child to respond to the questions. Ask what else she/he might wonder about how human beings are unique in God’s creation.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 64,
In the Beginning
Vivos en Cristo, Page 129

Remind your child that Divine Revelation is how God makes himself known to us in Scripture and Tradition. We also come to know about God through his creation.

Ask: Which book of the Bible contains the creation accounts? (*Genesis*)

Have your child find and read the definition of the **Old Testament** in the Catholic Faith Words box.

Remind her/him that the Genesis passages present religious truths, as opposed to scientific or literal truth.



Read the Scripture from the Parchment Paper box.

Ask your child if she/he can remember what God created on which of the six days of creation. Have them write them on a piece of paper. Then review Genesis 1:14–25 and see how much of his/her list was correct.



Direct your child to complete the gold-star activity as they read the last three paragraphs on page 64.

Have your child continue to read the first paragraph on this page.

Turn to Page 65,
A Different Order
Vivos en Cristo, Page 131



Proclaim the Scripture in the Parchment Paper box.

- Ask: Are you surprised that there are two different accounts of creation? Why do you think there are two accounts? (*They come from two different groups of Jewish people. As Catholics, we do not ask which one actually happened, but rather, what is God telling us through both of these stories?*)
- Say: These accounts, though different, teach one important truth—that God is the Creator of all things.

Activity

Have your child complete the Share Your Faith Activity.

Parents, Consider This: *Our value and dignity do not come from our achievements, possessions, attractiveness, or status. They find their source in the truth that we are the work of God's hands. At this age your child has probably already begun to measure him/herself against others. Take every opportunity to help your child look at him/herself through God's eyes. If the Creator of the Universe created her/him—what a masterpiece she/he must be.*

Turn to Page 66,
Lessons of Creation
Vivos en Cristo, Page 133

Ask your child to silently read page 66.

Point out that God created people to be in relationship with each other.

Discuss how people should treat one another, knowing that humans are made in God's image. *(with respect and love)*

Turn to Page 67,
Truths about God
Vivos en Cristo, Page 135

Direct your child to the Catholic Faith Words box on the following page. Review the definitions to prepare for the reading.

Ask your child to read aloud the three paragraphs on this page.

★ **Complete** the gold-star activity. Discuss what your child underlines.

Parents, Consider This: *One of the most basic rights of the human person is to be treated with dignity and respect. At school and at home your child encounters many ways in which people are bullied and hurt. They themselves may have been victims of this abuse. Take the time to discuss the simple ways to respect others found in the answers to the gold-star activity. Why not ask your child to recreate this list on the computer and use it as a constant reminder in your family of the ways you act with respect toward others?*

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 68,
Our Catholic Life
Vivos en Cristo, Page 137

Ask your child to respond to the question under the heading and then read the first paragraph.

★ Keeping in mind the Consider This section above, use the gold-star activity to begin a conversation with your child about your expectations that he/she uses words and actions that are respectful.

Turn to Page 69,
People of Faith
Vivos en Cristo, Page 139

Read the paragraph about Saint Fiacre.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Talk about some ways your family can be a good steward of creation.

Activity

Discuss and complete the Live Your Faith activity.

Turn to Page 71,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 143

Parents, Consider This: *It's important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray the Our Father (see Page 321) 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.