

Share the Good News

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 207,
the Family + Faith page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 415

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Recognize that the Gospel message is the Good News of God's Kingdom and his saving love
- Recall how in The Parable of the Vine and Branches, Jesus teaches us that we need to stay connected to him in order to have life
- Discover that the Holy Spirit strengthened the Apostles to share what Jesus had taught them
- Begin to develop a desire to share Jesus' message, and work together with God as he builds his Kingdom

Turn to Page 199,
Share the Good News
Vivos en Cristo, Page 399

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

Parents, Consider This: *One of the biggest concerns for parents of adolescent children is the problem of texting while driving. The statistics that reveal the number of accidents and deaths from distracted driving are staggering. All of these tragedies would have been avoided if the driver's focus had remained on the road. When we think about the countless distractions that cause us to take our mind off Christ and his teaching, we recognize that the danger is even more grave. Spiritual harm and even death can be the result of our loss of focus on the face of Christ. Staying connected to the Church through our parish is necessary for living a moral life. Through support, and sometimes challenge, we pay attention to the road ahead—the road that leads to total union with our 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.

- Gifts
- Share the Light

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.

Explain that each of us is called to share the wonderful stories of God.

Say: Let's listen and hear what Jesus said about those who believe in him.



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?

Invite your child to respond and also share what you heard.

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

Say: Jesus tells us to preach the Good News by our lives. We can do this in many ways, with both words and actions.

Invite your child to respond to the questions. Ask what else they might wonder about sharing the Good News.

DISCOVER: Learning God's Truth

Turn to Page 200,
Someone Special
Vivos en Cristo, Page 401

Tell your child to read aloud the first paragraph.

Read the following paragraph that continues on page 201. When you get to the highlighted word, **Gospel**, ask your child to go to the Catholic Faith Words Box and read the definition. Then have your child explain it in his/her own words.

Direct your child to the picture. Ask: What do you think the people in this photo are doing?

Turn to Page 201,
Live as Followers
Vivos en Cristo, Page 403



Proclaim God's Word.

Ask: What happens to a branch if it gets cut off from a vine? *(It dies.)*

Say: If we get separated from Jesus, we will never know the happiness and peace that God the Father wants for us.



Complete the gold-star activity.

Turn to Page 202,
Taking Jesus' Message
to Others
Vivos en Cristo, Page 405

Ask your child to read the paragraph.

Ask: Where did they get their strength and courage? *(from the Holy Spirit)*

Have your child place his/her finger on the Catholic Faith Word, **proclaim**. Ask him/her to follow along as you read the definition from the Catholic Faith Words box on page 203.

Activity

Write the definition for “proclaim” on a separate piece of paper. Work together to list ways to proclaim the Good News with your actions. Be sure to tell your child what you notice about his/her actions that spread God’s message of love and compassion.

Parents, Consider This: *Have you ever witnessed a random act of kindness? If so, you know the deep sense of joy that overwhelms you in that moment. Or, recall a moment when you saw your child do something that made you so very proud. How hard was it not to jump for joy? Joy is the heart of the proclamation of God’s Kingdom. Without joy, nothing we say or do will allow others to know the glory of our God. While the daily routine of family life is not always filled with joy, the love of God that formed us and makes us one is the joy we take into the world.*

Turn to Page 203,
Jesus’ Followers Today
Vivos en Cristo, Page 407

Read aloud the paragraph.

Ask: Who in your parish shares Jesus’ message? (*anyone who uses loving words and actions to tell about Jesus*)

Point out the highlighted word and read the definition for **parish**.

Ask your child to read aloud the captions for each of the photos. After each caption is read, ask “How is this an example of being a follower of Jesus?”

Discuss ways to follow Jesus by being a helper in the parish. Help your child name other ways of helping in the parish that are not pictured on these pages, for example, being a director of religious education, a reader, or an altar server.

Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Connect Your Faith activity. Have your child complete the activity.

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 204,
Our Catholic Life
Vivos en Cristo, Page 409

Ask: How is sharing your gifts a good way to share the Good News of Jesus? What special talents do you have? Affirm her/his answers. Add what gifts you have seen in her/him.

Ask: How can you use those to share the Good News?

★ **Read** aloud the directions for the gold-star activity. Write your child's answers on a sheet of paper under the headings of "Time," "Talent," and "Treasure." Remind him/her that everyone has time, talent, and treasure of some kind to share.

Turn to Page 205,
People of Faith
Vivos en Cristo, Page 411

Read the paragraph about Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Talk about something beautiful that your family can do for God.

Activity

Have your child complete the Live Your Faith activity.

Turn to Page 207,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 415

Parents, Consider This: *It's important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray the Act of Faith, Hope, and Love (see Page 324), 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.