

Showing Sorrow

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 211,
the Family + Faith page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 423

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Define sin as the choice to disobey God on purpose and do what you know is wrong. It is not an accident or a mistake
- Describe the consequences of sin as hurting our friendship with God and others
- Understand that Jesus wants us to be sorry for our sins and turn to God our forgiving Father
- Realize that God wants us to be close to him and will always forgive us when we say we are sorry

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

Parents, Consider This: *What would you give to hear your child say the words, "I did it" or, "I should not have done that." So much of your energy goes into helping your child admit his/her faults—even his/her sin. Be assured that this energy is not wasted! The path to forgiveness begins with the capacity to admit that what you have done is wrong. And for Christians, the harm is not just the damage we have done to the relationship with another human being, but the damage that we do to the relationship we have with our God. We give glory to God by loving our neighbor. The sin we commit damages both relationships.*

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.

- Children of God
- I'm Sorry

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

Turn to Page 203,
Showing Sorrow
Vivos en Cristo, Page 407

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 Jesus teaches us to forgive and to ask for forgiveness.

Say: Jesus teaches us how important it is to forgive and to say “I’m sorry.” Listen to how many times Jesus says we need to forgive someone.



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 taught us that forgiveness is what we need to do all the time. We should not count how often we forgive others.

Invite your child to respond to the questions. Ask what else they might wonder about asking for forgiveness and forgiving others.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 204,
Obeying God
Vivos en Cristo, Page 409

Read aloud the first paragraph.

Hold up an index card with the Catholic Faith Word **sin** on it. Read the definition. Tell your child that every time you sin, you disobey God.

Read aloud the last two paragraphs.



Have your child complete the gold-star activity.

Ask: When can it feel hard to obey God? How can you make right choices?

Give an example of a time when your child did something wrong that was truly an accident. Ask him/her to give you an example of something he/she did that was an accident, as well.

Reassure your child that God forgives us when we are sorry and promise to do better.



Proclaim “The Forgiving Father.”

Ask your child to retell the story in their own words by asking him/her what happened in the beginning, middle, and end of the story.

Turn to Page 205,
Being Sorry
Vivos en Cristo, Page 411

Ask: Who asks for forgiveness in the story? (the younger brother) How does the father react? (he forgives his son, he throws a party for his son, he hugs his son)

Explain that when we sin, God wants us to ask for forgiveness like the younger son in the story. When we are sorry and ask for forgiveness, God will always forgive us, just like the father in the story.

Tell your child a story about something you did wrong as a child and the forgiveness that someone offered you. Forgiveness is a great sign of someone's love for you.

Turn to Page 206,
Ask for Forgiveness
Vivos en Cristo, Page 413

Read aloud the text.



Complete the gold-star activity.

Explain to your child that to forgive someone is to let go of our anger about what someone has done.

Ask: How does it feel when you say, "I'm sorry," and are forgiven?

Tell your child that saying "I'm sorry" and "I forgive you" go together like two pieces of a puzzle—they mend a friendship, whether the friendship is between two people or between a person and God.

Ask: How does God know if you are sorry for not obeying him?

Point out the picture. Ask your child to tell you what she/he sees in the picture. Discuss what might be happening in the picture.

Turn to Page 207,
Make Things Better
Vivos en Cristo, Page 415

Read aloud the first and second paragraphs.

Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Connect Your Faith activity. Direct your child to complete the task.

Parents, Consider This: *God's forgiveness is an overwhelming gift. It is a humbling experience to stand guilty and yet trust in a love so unconditional that it will offer you pardon and peace. Here is the problem: we can cross the line and start to think that we can do whatever we want because we will always be forgiven. In a human relationship, we would call that taking advantage of someone, or more accurately, abusive. When you authentically love someone, you want to respond lovingly. God's love is so perfect that he cannot love you more tomorrow than he does today. Our choices are always held in the light of that perfect love.*

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 208,
Our Catholic Life
Vivos en Cristo, Page 417

Read aloud the introductory paragraph.

Draw attention to the numbered steps and the pictures. Ask your child to read aloud the numbered steps.

Discuss the sentences after reading each one.

Ask: Why should you ask for the Holy Spirit's help when you do something wrong?

Turn to Page 209,
People of Faith
Vivos en Cristo, Page 419

Read the paragraph about Saint Dismas.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Share the ways you show you are sorry in your family.

Activity

Have your child complete the Live Your Faith activity.

Turn to Page 211,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 423

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 318), 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.