

Created By God

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 55,
 the Family + Faith page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 111

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Identify the Bible as God's Word written by humans
- Appreciate that God made everything and all of creation is good
- Understand that God made humans to be his friends, to know him and love him

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

Parents, Consider This: *This first chapter begins at the beginning, explaining that all human beings are created in the image of God. We possess dignity because we are mirrors that reflect God's splendor and his goodness. It's easy to see, then, how you are your child's best teacher of faith. You see him/her with the eyes of God. You truly know how unique and good he/she is. When you teach your child this truth of our faith he/she will be able to recognize the preciousness of their own life as well as the value of the lives of others.*

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 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.

- God Is a Part of My Life
- Wonderfully Made Parade

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

Turn to Page 47,
 Created By God
Vivos en Cristo, Page 95

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 God created the world and everything in it, including people.

Say: Each one of us is different and special because God made us that way. Now, let's hear how wonderful God is to us.



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: God made each of us. Each one of us is created by God to be who we are. God lives in us and asks us to do things that only we can do. Tell your child the things you think are special about her/him.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 48,
God’s Creation
Vivos en Cristo, Page 97

Read aloud the first paragraph.

Show your child a Bible and explain that it is a holy book. It is God’s book. Review the word Bible on the page and have your child find it on the cover or front page of the Bible itself.

Read the second paragraph.



Proclaim “The Garden of Eden.”

- Invite your child to find the names of the first humans in the text.
- *Ask:* What else did God create?



Work on the gold-star activity. Provide time for your child to draw themselves into the picture of creation.

Parents, Consider This: *Do you recall the wonder and awe you experienced when you first held your child? For those first months everything he/she did was a marvel; smiling, burping, turning over. You must have regularly reflected upon the intricacies of this creature. In these past several years you have had the opportunity to help your child know that he/she is God’s beloved creation. You are not the only one who calls this child son or daughter. The Creator of the stars, the sun, and the moon has created your child to forever be in relationship with him.*

Turn to Page 49,
God Gives Life
Vivos en Cristo, Page 99

Share the information in the paragraph.

Ask: “Who made you?”

Tell your child that you are going to write the word “Creator” on an index card and explain that this is a name for God. Have your child point to the word in the book and call out the letters to you as you print on the index card.

Explain that we recognize our belief in God the Creator when we pray the Apostle's Creed at Mass. Turn to page 299 in the Our Catholic Tradition reference section in the back of the Student Book. Using the index card, ask your child to find the word "Creator" in the Apostle's Creed.

Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Share Your Faith activity. Help your child spell out the word "creation." When she/he is finished tell them what your favorite thing that God created is and why.

Turn to Page 50,
God Loves You
Vivos en Cristo, Page 101

Read aloud "God Loves You."

Explain that humans cannot see God, but they know what he is like from the things that he has made and from the Bible. Explain that God is greater and more wonderful than anything people can imagine about him.

Point out the picture of creation. Encourage your child to name what she/he sees.

Ask: Who is the fastest, the tallest, the loudest, the most funny, etc.?

★ Work on the gold-star activity. Invite your child to circle two of her/his favorite things that God made in the picture.

Turn to Page 51,
God's World
Vivos en Cristo, Page 103

Ask the children to stand to celebrate God's wonderful world.

Read "God's World." Work together with your child to invent gestures to go with each line of the poem. Read aloud the poem a second time while your child does the gestures. You may need to remind him/her of what they need to do as you go.

Activity

Work on the Connect Your Faith activity with your child. Have them trace the letters to write the word.

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 52,
Our Catholic Life
Vivos en Cristo, Page 105

Read aloud the first paragraph.

Say: Name some of God’s gifts that you can see. (Answers may include people, animals, trees, rain, lakes, mountains, and so on.)

Ask: How do we use some of the things God created? (Answers may include we use trees to build homes, we use people to care for us, we use plants and animals for food.)



Read the directions to the gold-star activity aloud. Work with your child to complete the activity.

Turn to Page 53,
People of Faith
Vivos en Cristo, Page 107

Activity

Discuss the first part of the Live Your Faith activity. Ask your child to color the picture. When finished, invite your child to tell you about her/his picture.

Parents, Consider This: Young children sometimes define a “gift” as something extravagant or costly, given on special occasions. Make the effort to help your child see that his/her everyday life is full of simple gifts—the wonders of nature, the joys of time shared with friends, the love shown by family members. This week get out some old sunglasses and for a minute or so each day invite your child to put on the “gift finders” and have them name a few simple gifts from the day. Then you do the same. After you’ve both had time to find some gifts, be sure to tell your child, “We are so thankful for these gifts.”

Read the paragraph about Fra Angelico.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Look at a picture of Jesus or Mary in your house or talk about where you have seen one.

Turn to Page 55,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let’s Pray
prayer on this page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 111

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 317) 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.