

Made to Care

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 75,
the Family + Faith page.

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

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Define image of God as the likeness of God that is in all humans because we are all created by him
- Recognize that humans are the most special part of creation. God gave us the ability to think and make choices
- Understand that God gave Adam and Eve the responsibility to be care-takers of his creation
- Appreciate that each of us is responsible for treating all of creation with care and respect

Parents, Consider This: *Only after God had given care of the Earth over to the man and woman in the Book of Genesis was he able to rest “from all the work he had done in creation” (Genesis 2:3). God gives humans the responsibility and stewardship of his creation. Called to share in God’s power, humans have the ability and responsibility to care for other creatures. Forming your children to understand that we are stewards of creation is important. We show love for God by loving the earth. Lead by example. Pick up the paper that litters sidewalks and streets. Take a long walk or hike on a Sunday afternoon. Praise God for flowers, trees, and plants.*

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.

- All Things Bright and Beautiful
- Thank You

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

Turn to Page 67,
Made to Care

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 to your child that God’s gifts are all around them.

Say: God has created so many wonderful gifts for us to enjoy. Now, let’s hear who God put in charge to take care of his 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?

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

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

Say: God asks us to take care of everyone and everything that was created.

Ask: What else she/he might wonder about God’s creation and how we can take care of everything God made.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 68,
In God’s Image

Read aloud the paragraph.

Hold up an index card with the phrase **image of God** written on it. With the help of the Catholic Faith Words box, explain the meaning of the phrase, “People are made to be like God.”

Look at the picture on the page. Ask your child to tell you what the people might be doing. Do these people know each other?

Read aloud the story which continues on page 69.

Turn to Page 69,
Gifts in Creation

Ask: What did Josh make? What can people do that cookies cannot do? What is your favorite thing that we do together?

Read the first paragraph aloud.

Ask: Why are people the most special part of creation?

Read the second paragraph aloud.

Invite your child to name some of the gifts from God in the world that she/he learned about from the last lesson.

Ask: How are you a part of God’s creation? (Answers may include God created me, or I can care for creation.)

Discuss how people should share their gifts from God.



Read the directions for the gold-star activity. Direct the children to underline two gifts that are inside each person.

Activity

Ask your child to explain how a person is different than a tree. Explain how a person is different than a bird. Now, ask your child to draw themselves choosing to be a sign of God's love. (sharing a toy, taking care of a pet, etc.)

Parents, Consider This: *The next several pages will reinforce God's command that we take care of all that he has given us. That command includes the personal care of our bodies, minds, and spirit. Taking your child to the doctor, caring for scrapes and bruises, providing health foods and "nagging" him/her to brush teeth, are some of the ways you help your child learn to honor his/her body as a gift from God. The gift of health and well-being is of such incredible value. We praise God when we take care of that invaluable gift.*

Turn to Page 70,
God's Command

Read aloud the introduction.

Explain that in the following Scripture story, God tells humans how to show him love and thanks for creation.



Proclaim "Take Care of What I've Given You."



Read the directions for the gold-star activity. Direct your child to circle in the text what God asked Adam and Eve to do. Talk with her/him about practical ways they can be a partner with God. Make a list of three things that you will do and three things that she/he will do to be good stewards. (Walk the dog without complaining. Use less paper towels, or both sides of a piece of paper.) Perhaps she/he could play detective for a week and discover the ways your family might be wasting water, food, or other resources.

Point out the stained glass window. Ask your child to share some of the gifts of creation that they see in the window. Open the discussion to include things that are gifts from God that she/he has seen in nature.

Turn to Page 71,
Show Love

Read aloud "Show Love."

Ask: How can you show your love for God? (I can care for living things.) How can you thank God for all that he has given you? (I can be a caretaker.)

Hold up an index card of the word **caretaker**. Invite your child to name some habits a good caretaker should have.

Activity

Have your child trace the letters to complete the sentence. Read the statement together and ask your child, "Who said those words?"

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 72,
Our Catholic Life

Read aloud the first paragraph.

Ask: How do you help take care of yourself? (bathing, eating healthy foods, getting plenty of rest, exercising)

Point out the lists of ways to care for the body and mind. Have your child follow along as you read the lists aloud.

Direct attention to the pictures and ask how the children depicted are taking care of themselves.

Say: Place a check mark next to the things you like to do best.

Ask: What other things can you do to take care of yourself? (read books, dance, play sports, play a musical instrument)

Turn to Page 73,
People of Faith

Read the paragraph about Saint Albert the Great.

Share your reactions to the information.

Talk about some ways your family can see creation as God's gift.

Activity

Discuss the Live Your Faith activity. Each of you choose one way you will take better care of yourself this week.

Turn to Page 75,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.

Parents, Consider This: *It's important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray the Hail Mary (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.