

God's Gift

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 61,
the Family + Faith page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 123

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Identify human beings as made in God's own image
- Understand the special role humans have in all of God's creation
- Appreciate Jesus as God's greatest gift, the Son of God who became man
- Recognize that Jesus was always faithful to God the Father

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

Parents, Consider This: *You are about to help your child understand that he or she is a unique creation of God, a gift to the world. Think of the many ways your child has been a gift to your family. How often do you tell your child that you are grateful to God for the gift of his/her life? Doing so will help him/her grow in the value of all life as 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 chapter.
- *Children At This Age.* This helps you understand how your child processes and learns chapter concepts at this developmental level.



Let's Sing: These songs connect the session topics and can be downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

- For the Fruit of This Creation
- God Is A Part of My Life

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

Turn to Page 53,
God's Gifts
Vivos en Cristo, Page 107

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 everything that we see and hear, especially each of us.

Say: Now, let's hear what people have said about what God has done for 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: We learn from stories when people tell us what happened before we were born. We share the stories that we hear from other people as we listen to their story, too.

Share one of your favorite stories about a relative your child knows.

Ask: What did you learn about _____ through that story?

Have your child read the questions in the box and respond. Prompt what else they might wonder about God’s life and love and how he shares them with us.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 54,
Praise and Thanks
Vivos en Cristo, Page 109

Read aloud the first paragraph. Have your child find the word **psalms** and then move to the Catholic Faith Words box. Ask your child to read the definition there.

Read the rest of the page and discuss why David was grateful that people had been made in God’s image.



Do the gold-star activity.

Together **find** the other Catholic Faith Word on the page and read the definition.

Turn to Page 55,
In God’s Image
Vivos en Cristo, Page 111

Read the paragraph and tell your child you can guess what things in God’s creation he or she loves the most. Guess two or three things. (You may want to guess wrong once or twice.)



Proclaim God’s Word in the Parchment Paper box or play the song “How Awesome is your Name” from the *Songs of Scripture* CD, Track 11.

- Have your child recall a time when they took care of something in God’s creation.

Turn to Page 56,
The Son of God
Vivos en Cristo, Page 113

Ask your child to tell you what they already know about Jesus. Now ask, “Why is Jesus God’s greatest gift?” (He came to show us God’s love and to save us from sin. Because of Jesus we can live forever with God in Heaven.)

Read the first two paragraphs then discuss how Jesus is different from humans.

Explain that Jesus lived a very long time ago and that he was human just like us, except for one thing: Jesus never committed sin.

Have your child read the last paragraph.

- Reinforce that Jesus is the Son of God. He is God’s greatest gift to us, and he is both human and divine.
- Discuss the question at the end of the text. (Play with friends, do chores, take walks)

Direct your child to the Catholic Faith Words box and name the two highlighted words. Review the definitions and talk about where they may have heard these words before.

Have your child read aloud the two paragraphs.

Ask how Jesus is different from other humans. (He is God’s Son. He is God. He is divine.)

Turn to Page 57,
Alike but Different
Vivos en Cristo, Page 115

Activity

Read the directions for the Connect Your Faith activity. Use red, blue, green, and yellow crayons to complete the activity.

Parents, Consider This: *One of the unique things about our planet is that the harmony, which God intended for the created world, results from the diversity of beings and from their relationships. Now is a good time to help your child understand that diversity in our world is good and made possible by God. Just as all flowers are not the same, all people are different, but all are beautiful. Remind her/him that you expect respectful words and actions towards others because it is our grateful response to God’s creation.*

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 58,
Our Catholic Life
Vivos en Cristo, Page 117

Discuss the question, “How do people use what God has created?”

Summarize the introductory paragraph.

Remind your child that everything is made by God. Even though we may make something ourselves, we are using God’s creation as the source.

★ **Follow** the instructions in the gold-star activity to review and complete the chart.

Parents, Consider This: *During the week take every opportunity as you travel in the car or at the sports field to call attention to God's creation. You may be surprised that helping your child to see all the earth as God's gift may help you to see with new eyes.*

Turn to Page 59,
People of Faith
Vivos en Cristo, Page 119

Read the paragraph about Mary.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Talk about some ways your family can honor Mary.

Activity

Discuss the first part of the Live Your Faith activity.

- Ask your child to complete the first part of the activity.
- Have your child write the name of one person or thing that they take care of.

Turn to Page 61,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 123

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.