

The Gospel Message

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 163,
the Family + Faith page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 327

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Examine the ways in which Jesus shared the Good News of salvation; through his teaching, healing, miracles, and sacrifice
- Recognize that the Gospels are called the Good News of Jesus because they proclaim his life and teaching
- Discuss the importance of oral tradition and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in the development of the Gospels
- Recall the names and biblical images that describe the Church

Turn to Page 155,
The Gospel Message
Vivos en Cristo, Page 311

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

Parents, Consider This: *Have you ever had some good news you were bursting to tell? Maybe it was the day you confirmed that you were about to become a parent! Good news is hard to keep quiet. Jesus proclaimed Good News—the Good News of God the Father’s great love for us. After Jesus’ Resurrection, his disciples could not contain themselves with the great news they had witnessed. They preached the Good News in neighboring towns and countries. That Good News was eventually written down in what would come to be known as the “Gospel” or “Good News.”*

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 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.

- Hear Our Prayer
- Where There Is Love

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 verse from the book. Help your child to respond.

Say: In God’s Word today, Jesus makes an important announcement. Listen with your heart to hear what he is saying.



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.

Jesus’ message is Good News, and he himself is the Good News. It’s our delight to discover both and to share that Good News with others.

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

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 156,
Jesus is the Good News
Vivos en Cristo, Page 313

Read aloud all three paragraphs.

Point out that Jesus was probably around your child’s age in the Scripture story of Jesus in the Temple.

Ask: How could Jesus know so early in his life who he was and what his role would be?

Ask: What does the word *Redeemer* mean?

Read aloud the definition of **Redeemer** from the Catholic Faith Words box. Then read aloud the definition of the word **Sabbath**.

Ask your child if he/she has heard the term used before. **(In the Ten Commandments: Remember the Sabbath day—keep it holy.)**

Turn to Page 157,
Jesus is the Good News
(cont’d)
Vivos en Cristo, Page 315



Read the Scripture story. Ask your child to read Jesus’ part. You be the narrator.

Discuss why anointing was significant in Jesus’ day. **(Anointing designated a person as chosen by God.)**



Complete the gold-star activity.

Turn to Page 158,
The Gospels
Vivos en Cristo, Page 317

Discuss the question at the top of the page.

Read aloud the first two paragraphs. As you read the text about each of the gospels on pages 158–159, have your child develop a list of facts for each Gospel on four separate index cards.

Encourage your child, during the week, to research the symbolism in the images for the Gospel writers shown on this spread (lion, ox, eagle and angel). Ask her/him to share what they have learned.

Turn to Page 159,
The Church and the Gospels
Vivos en Cristo, Page 319

Direct your child to the Catholic Faith Words box on the previous page and review the definition for **Church**.

Ask: What does the phrase, “we trace our origins back to the Apostles,” mean? (What we believe about Jesus was handed down to us from the Apostles who walked with him.)

Take turns reading the paragraphs on page 159.

Activity

Have your child look up the Bible passages listed in the Connect Your Faith activity. Then have them write a description of the image of the Church in each passage.

Parents, Consider This: *Because we so often think of the Church as an institution, it is sometimes difficult to claim Saint Paul's words that we are the Body of Christ. Another way of imagining that is to understand, “where I go, the Church goes.” Pope Francis says it this way: “... Jesus did not say: ‘One of you go,’ but ‘All of you go’: we are sent together. ... be aware of the companionship of the whole Church and also the communion of the saints on this mission. When we face challenges together, then we are strong, we discover resources we did not know we had. Jesus did not call the Apostles to live in isolation, he called them to form a group, a community” (Close of World Youth Day, 2013).*

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 160,
Our Catholic Life
Vivos en Cristo, Page 321

Read aloud the opening paragraph.

Read aloud each description of love and have your child add “love” at the beginning of each phrase you read.

★ **Ask** your child to circle the descriptions that best describe him/her, and underline the areas in which they feel they need to grow.

On a separate sheet of paper, write down the descriptions of love you believe your child exhibits. Share with them how the quality of her/his love affects the whole family. You may also want to discuss how not loving well also has an effect on the family.

Turn to Page 161,
People of Faith
Vivos en Cristo, Page 323

Turn to Page 163,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 327

Read the paragraph about Saint John Neumann.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- How does your family respond to the call to serve others?

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