

Christ Our Savior

Preparation for the Session

This session has parts that will take place at different times. You will gather with your child for Part 1: Invite. Your child will then work independently on Part 2: Discover, and you will read that section of the chapter on your own as well. Finally, you will come together again later in the week for Part 3 to review and complete the In Summary & Live section.

In this chapter, your child will cover the following objectives:

- Examine how sin and suffering came into the world
- Explore God's faithfulness in sending leaders and prophets to guide his People back to him
- Identify Jesus' saving action as the only means by which we are saved from Original Sin and personal sin
- Compare and contrast Jesus, the new Adam, with the first Adam
- Identify the Paschal Mystery as Christ's work of Redemption
- Describe how the Church continues Jesus' saving actions

Parents, Consider This: *In a world that seems to primarily seek pleasure, it's important that your child knows that doing good sometimes involves sacrifice and suffering. When we choose to put someone else's needs above our own, we are acting in the name of love. God is with us and understands suffering because he became a human being who suffered incredibly in the name of love. Walk your child through the Stations of the Cross; help him/her relate Jesus' suffering back to his/her everyday life. Be sure to point out that Jesus' Resurrection teaches us that with God, there is an Easter Sunday for every Good Friday; even in the greatest darkness, God can bring light.*

Children at This Age: *As your child develops physically, intellectually, and emotionally, she/he may act out or do things that are foolish or destructive without really knowing or being able to explain the behavior. Children this age often navigate between the fear of standing out and the need to be noticed. As is true even for younger children, sometimes negative attention is perceived as better than no attention. Appreciating Jesus as our Savior requires that your child get in touch with her/his own need for salvation. She/he may need help in recognizing the things that cause her/his words and actions to "miss the mark," that lead to sin, and that influence her/him to be less than God imagined.*

PART 1: Invite

Turn to Page 155,
Christ Our Savior

Make sure you have a Bible, writing tools for both of you, and some paper.

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 Together make the Sign of the Cross. Have your child take the role of leader and read aloud the prayer. Both of you respond with the part marked “All.”

Explain that the opening prayer reminds us of our need for mercy and forgiveness.

Say: Let’s listen to God’s Word and see how Jesus’ sacrifice of love reconciled the world to God the Father.



Guide your child through the Preparing for God’s Word ritual you learned in the Introduction Session.

- Proclaim the Scripture 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.

Say: Saint Paul speaks a lot about reconciliation in the Letter to the Colossians. He addresses a central theme of Jesus’ mission and ministry: our redemption. Because God so loved the world, he sent his only Son and saved us from sin and death. This chapter will help us understand what it means to say that Jesus is our Savior.

Now, look at the *Have you ever thought...* box.

Invite your child to respond to the questions found in the box in the Student Book, also listed here:

- Why are we in need of reconciliation? (*because of the rupture in relationship with God caused by Original Sin*)
- What weakens our friendship with God? (*Our own sinfulness and our lack of attention to our relationship with God weaken our relationship with him.*)

Ask what else your son/daughter might wonder about God’s Word and what it means to us today.

Turn to Page 156,
Getting Started

Read the first paragraph. Direct your child to complete the chart. When he/she is finished, invite him/her to share some of the explanations for the different titles or symbols for Jesus. Offer a few of your own answers.

Preview the Catholic Faith Words at the top of the page. Ask your child what she/he thinks the words mean. The definitions can be found in the glossary at the end of the Student Book.

Turn to Page 157

Read the introduction to the Identify activity.

Point out the three words: *forgive*, *save*, and *reconcile*. Have your child complete the second part of the activity in the book, while you complete it on a separate piece of paper. When you both are finished, share with each other the experience you wrote about. Now go back to the first part of the activity and work together to write a definition that describes what it means to be redeemed by Jesus.

PART 2: Discover

Direct your child to independently complete pages 158–163. Have him/her highlight the main sentence in each paragraph while reading through the text. This includes completing all on-page activities. Ask your child to write any questions he/she might have about a Catholic Faith Word in the margins of the text. You can review these when you gather again to complete the session.

Be sure to read these pages as well. Doing so will give you insight into chapter topics and will help you engage your child in later discussions.

PART 3: In Summary & Live

Turn to Page 163,
In Summary

When you return, review the “In Summary/Catholics Believe” section. Read each bullet and ask your child to rephrase it in his/her own words.

Turn to Page 164

Direct your daughter/son to silently read the Our Catholic Life text.

Parents, Consider This: *Have you ever been so frustrated that you said something like this to your child: “Sorry doesn’t cut it!” One of the most subtle and important distinctions you teach your child is the difference between trusting in your forgiveness and at the same time not taking advantage of your love. The same is true in our relationship with God. We trust in his mercy and love. But God’s mercy and love is the response to our contrite hearts. Along with our sorrow, there must be some evidence of our effort to turn from our sin and change our hearts. One of the main places your daughter/son learns about contrition and forgiveness is through her/his relationship with you. She/he also needs you to teach that sin matters. Recognizing it and truly being sorry is the first step necessary in being reconciled to God and one another.*

Discuss the difference between repeatedly doing the same wrong thing and expecting forgiveness and truly trying to change your ways.

Read aloud the People of Faith text. Share with your child Saint Madeleine’s best-known words of advice: “Let us attach ourselves to God alone, and turn our eyes and our hopes to Him.” Ask your child to explain what he/she thinks this means.

Invite your daughter/son to read the instructions in the Recall and Write box. Both of you should complete the exercise on your own. Share your experiences with one another.

Conclude the session by praying the Act of Love on Page 387.



To access and send an eAssessment to your child, go to the Student & Family section of aliveinchrist.osv.com.