

Making Good Choices

Engage: Page 129

- ▶ Display a variety of small, healthful treats. **Say:** *You get to choose what treat you would like. Then **say:** We make choices every day. This choice was easy, but some are difficult.*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's responses. **Say:** *Making decisions is like deciding which path to take. In this session we will learn how God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit help us make good moral choices.*
- ▶ Ask your child to think about whom they might ask for advice when making a hard choice. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 130–131

- ▶ **Say:** *You made an easy choice when you picked your treat. **Ask:** Did your choice involve right or wrong? (No.)*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 130. **Ask:** *Who can help us examine our choices? (the Holy Spirit)* Discuss how Ana's response corresponds to each question.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *Saint Paul tells us that our words and actions reflect our willingness to follow Jesus.*
- ▶ Read aloud page 131. **Ask:** *What does it mean to follow the moral law? (do good and avoid evil)* **Say:** *God gave us these commandments to help us love others.*

Art Exploration: Page 248

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Jesus alone in the desert.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the gloomy colors and the body language of Jesus'.
- ▶ **Say:** *Some decisions are difficult to make. Knowing we are loved by God always makes us feel better. God shows his love through our friends and family.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 248. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Jesus Is Tempted. **Say:** *In making these choices, Jesus never doubted his Father's love.*
- ▶ Read aloud A Prayer of Petition and have your child write a prayer. Ask your child to share the prayer with you.



- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Ask:** *What did Jesus teach us?* (to follow God's will, to resist temptation)
- ▶ Ask your child to think of a time that he or she was tempted to make a bad choice, but instead did the right thing. Have your child paint a self-portrait showing the struggle to make the choice or the feeling of relief for making a good choice. Display the artwork in your home.

Reflect: Pages 132–133

- ▶ Together look at page 132. **Say:** *The girl in the picture is on a morning walk. Remember that each day is a new gift from God.*
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph softly and slowly. Invite your child to pray aloud the Morning Offering with you. Then read aloud the last paragraph slowly. Pause after each sentence to give your child time to reflect. Together pray *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud Follow the Commandments on page 133. **Say:** *When we face difficult choices, the commandments can help us with our decisions.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud And the Correct Commandment Is ... Remind your child to look back at page 131 or page 212 if he or she needs help remembering the numbers of the commandments. Check the answers together.

Respond: Page 134

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can make good moral choices by following the Ten Commandments.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the With My Family suggestions. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today.