

Jesus Loves Families

Engage: Page 135

- ▶ Review family rules with your child. **Ask:** *Why do we ask you to obey these rules?*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's responses. **Say:** *It's not always easy to obey your parents. Remember that we have rules for you because we love you. In this session we will learn how those rules help us grow into healthy, happy people.*
- ▶ Ask your child to think about how he or she feels when he or she disobeys you. Ask them to think about how it makes you feel. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 136–137

- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you think Jesus was like when he was your age? What kinds of chores and rules do you think his parents had for him to follow?*
- ▶ Read aloud page 136. **Ask:** *Why did Mary and Joseph become so worried about Jesus? (They didn't know where he was.)* **Say:** *Even though it is difficult sometimes, obeying our parents keeps us safe and happy.*
- ▶ Read aloud page 137 and point out the vocabulary words. **Say:** *You were a special gift to me.* **Ask:** *What special commandment is about your parents? (Obey your parents.)* **Say:** *We honor people when we give them the respect they deserve. By obeying your parents, you are honoring us.*

Art Exploration: Page 235

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of a family spending time together outside.
- ▶ **Say:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the setting and the actions of the parents.
- ▶ **Say:** *When we obey our parents and listen to them, we show God that we are obeying him and listening to him.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 235. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud the heading and the first two paragraphs. **Ask:** *Why is God happy when we obey our parents? (We are following one of the commandments that God gave us.)*
- ▶ Read aloud the activity directions. Allow time for your child to draw a picture and share it with you.



- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Say:** *Jesus obeyed his parents. You can be like Jesus when you follow this commandment.*
- ▶ Find a family photo that you don't mind cutting up. Tell your child to cut each family member's face out of the photo. Have your child glue the photo faces to a sheet of paper and draw around them to add bodies and make a family portrait. Invite your child to show your family holding hands or eating dinner together. Display the family portrait in your home.

Reflect: Pages 138–139

- ▶ Together look at page 138. **Say:** *The girl in the picture is ending her day with the Evening Prayer. Let's try to spend time alone with God in both the morning and the evening.*
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph. Then pray the prayer, pausing after each sentence. Read aloud the last paragraph. **Say:** *Now you may take a few moments to talk to Jesus in your heart. If you'd like, you can ask him to bless the members of our family. Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross together.*
- ▶ Read aloud Show You Care on page 139. **Say:** *It makes me happy when you honor, love, obey, and help me. These four words are hidden in the word search. Look for each word. When you find it, circle it.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *All that we've learned today about obeying our parents is in the Bible.*

Respond: Page 140

- ▶ 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 to love, honor, obey, and help his or her parents.
- ▶ 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.