



God's Plan for Salvation

Engage: Page 15

- ▶ With your child listen to or watch a news broadcast. **Ask:** *Are the people in these stories helping or hurting one another? Why might people choose to help one another?* Discuss your child's responses.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. **Ask:** *Do you think God wants us to help people who have been hurt? Why?* (because we are all brothers and sisters in God, because it is the example Jesus gave us)
- ▶ Ask your child to think about the people he or she watched on the news. **Ask:** *What can you do right now to help those who have been hurt?* (pray) Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 16–17

- ▶ Invite your child to share what he or she knows about Adam and Eve. Together look at the pictures on page 16. **Ask:** *What do you see?* (two people, a snake)
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud page 16. **Ask:** *What temptation did Adam and Eve face?* (whether to eat the fruit from the tree that God had told them not to eat) *What choice did they make?* (to eat the fruit) *What were the consequences of their decision?* (God told them to leave the garden. Their relationship with God was injured.)
- ▶ Read aloud page 17. **Ask:** *What is a promise?* (a commitment we make) **Say:** *Original Sin is the loss of holiness and justice that resulted from Adam and Eve's choice to turn away from God.* **Ask:** *What is the result of Original Sin?* (a world full of temptation where it can be difficult to follow God's plan for us) *How can we make up for our bad choices?* (celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, say "I'm sorry")
- ▶ **Say:** *God knows that sin is part of our world. However, God has sent a Savior to show us how to live and to save us from our sins.*
- ▶ Invite your child to make a picture book of the story of Adam and Eve for younger children in your neighborhood to enjoy.

Art Exploration: Page 231

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a statue of Jesus with his arms outstretched.
- ▶ **Say:** *Whom do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the position of Jesus' arms.



- ▶ **Say:** *Jesus is always ready to welcome us. He is always ready to accept us. He loves us.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 231. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the first two paragraphs. **Ask:** *Why is Salvation through Jesus the greatest gift God has given us? (It allows us to live with God forever in Heaven.) What choice does God want us to make when we are faced with temptation? (to follow his plan for us, resist temptation, and accept the gift of Salvation)*
- ▶ Read aloud Saved by Jesus. Explain that an acrostic is a poem with a word written vertically and words or phrases written horizontally that describe the vertical word. The horizontal words use one of the letters in the vertical word. With your child brainstorm a list of words or phrases for the first line. Then invite your child to finish it and share the final acrostic.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. **Say:** *When we pray the Penitential Act, we ask God to forgive us and to help us mend the relationships we have harmed through our sinful choices. We can use this prayer any time we want to express our sorrow to God.*
- ▶ Using modeling clay, ask your child to sculpt his or her own statue of Jesus. Encourage your child to portray one of Jesus' characteristics in the statue, such as his love, compassion, or forgiveness. Display the statue in a place of honor in your home.

Reflect: Pages 18–19

- ▶ Together look at page 18. **Say:** *The Act of Hope and the Act of Faith are like family keepsakes—these two prayers have been passed on from generation to generation.*
- ▶ Read aloud the sentence before the prayer. Invite your child to pray the prayer together with you. Read aloud the last paragraph. Allow time for your child to pray silently. Close the prayer by praying *Amen* and the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Read aloud the heading and first paragraph on page 19. Take turns reading aloud each situation with your child and discussing how to use free will to make good choices.

Respond: Page 20

- ▶ 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 demonstrate to others that he or she has trust in God.
- ▶ 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.