

Grade 2 - Chapter 3

Discover

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Discover

Catechist Tips: Following Jesus

In his 1967 encyclical, *Populorum Progressio* (On the Development of Peoples), Pope Paul VI instructs all to follow Jesus and act kindly to others, especially those in need.

- In 1 John 3:17, Jesus says: “If someone who has worldly means sees a brother in need and refuses him compassion, how can the love of God remain in him?”

Catechist Tips: Judge Not

The crowds that followed Jesus were made up of people from all walks of life, and Jesus welcomed them all. Many of Jesus’ teachings emphasize acceptance, leaving the task of judging others to God. Explain to the children that it is according to Jesus’ teachings and God’s will that we love one another, accepting all humans as part of God’s family.

Catechist Tips: Family

Gather children in a story circle and read aloud *Hands: Growing Up to Be an Artist*, by Lois Ehlert, Harcourt, 2004. When you have finished reading, Ask: **What is special about your family? Whom in your family would you like to be like?**

Catechist Tips: Jesus Is Our Teacher

Talk with the children about the different people they learn from: *parents, catechists, teachers, older children, other adults*. In the Scripture story on page 76, Jesus is teaching adults and children. Read the Scripture story and review it with the children, reminding them that people from all across the land came to be taught by Jesus. Ask them to look at the picture on page 73 of the people listening to Jesus teach, and imagine what they are thinking. **Why are they listening to Jesus?** (*Jesus is the greatest teacher of all. He lived over two thousand years ago and he is still teaching us.*) Give each child a piece of paper and crayons or markers. Ask the children to draw a large circle in the center where they can draw Jesus. Have them draw four small circles around the edge of the circle. Ask them to draw or write the names of other people who also teach them. (See Matthew 4:23-25.)

Additional Activity: Share Stories about Jesus

Ask children to think of a favorite Bible story they know about Jesus.

- Ask each child to share their story.
- Invite the children to draw a picture of their Bible story about Jesus.
- Put the drawings in 3-ring binder to make a book. Place it in the classroom where children can look at it. Be sure to share it with the parents.

Glossary Activity: Bookmarks

The **Bible** is God's Word written down by humans. The **Old Testament** is the first part of the Bible. It tells about God and his People before Jesus was born. The **New Testament** is the second part of the Bible. It tells of the life and teachings of Jesus, his followers, and the early Church. Use the following activity to provide each child with the opportunity to make a bookmark for their Bible.

Bookmarks

Supplies:

- construction paper or cardstock
- single-hole punch
- pencils
- markers
- glue sticks
- beads (8 per learner)
- yarn (10" [25 cm.] per learner)
- safety scissors

Preparation:

- Cut colored paper or cardstock into strips of 8 ½" x 2" (22 cm x 5 cm) (one per learner).
- Using light-colored paper, cut strips of 7 ½" x 1 ½" (19 cm x 4 cm) (one per learner).

Introduce the activity by saying, **We know that the great story of God's love for us is told in the Bible. We are going to share this message with others by making a special bookmark, based on the words: God so loved the world, he sent his own Son. The words on it will serve as a constant reminder of God's love—and your love, as well. You may want to keep this bookmark for yourself or give it as a gift to someone.**

Steps:

1. Tell children to put the smaller, light-colored strip of paper on the table so they are looking at it vertically.
2. Have children create a bookmark design in pencil. Have a few examples on chart paper or on the board: "God so (*draw a heart*) the (*draw a picture of the world*) that he gave his only Son..." Or "God's (*mouth*) are good." Or "God's (*picture of a book*) is good."

Then tell the children:

3. Trace over the letters in marker. Color the drawings in marker, as well.
4. Glue the decorated strip of paper onto the larger strip of paper, making a bookmark.
5. Punch a hole in the top of the bookmark with a hole punch.
6. Thread a piece of yarn through the hole, and tie close to the hole, leaving two long ends.
7. Slide 4 beads on each piece of yarn, and tie the two ends together.

Parish Video Connection: The Great Flood

After reading *God's Word* on page 74, show the children this video. Then continue to follow the Catechist Edition instruction, discussing what a promise is and what God promised Noah.

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/yCLRcA9mIQE>