

God Sends Jesus

Scripture Focus: John 3:16–17

Lesson Goals

- to recall that God loves all of creation
- to recognize that God loved the world so much that he sent Jesus
- to define the Trinity as three Persons in one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Parent Preview

- Review the Scripture on page 1656 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 3:16–17).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

Get Ready! (10 minutes)

Pray the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.

Invite your child to name some of the things God created.

Tell your child that God loves us so much that he wants to help us be our very best. Explain that today you will explore together one way God showed his love by helping us.

Dive In! (20 minutes)

Read the Scripture on page 1656 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 3:16–17).

Ask your child these questions:

- Who is God's only Son? (*Jesus*)
- Why did God send us Jesus? (*so those who believe in him may have eternal life*)
- Did God send Jesus to be our judge or our savior? (*savior*)

Read the Understand It! and Live It! presented on page 1 of the chapter 6 activity booklet. Invite your child to retell the Scripture passage in his or her own words.

Invite your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.

Discover! (20 minutes)

Read with your child the article "One God—Three Persons" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

Invite your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.
Answers: top—Father, left—Son, right—Holy Spirit

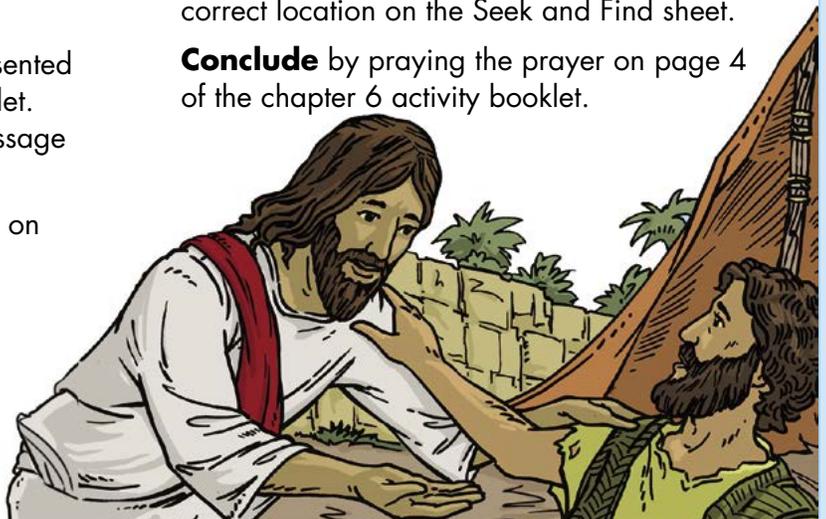
Go! (10 minutes)

Invite your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

Choose one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 6 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

Ask your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 6 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

Conclude by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.



Chapter 6

One God—Three Persons

Have you ever seen a shamrock, or a three-leafed clover? Saint Patrick of Ireland used the shamrock to help people understand God. One shamrock is made up of three leaves. Just so, God is one God—but he is made up of three Persons. A triangle is another way we can understand God. A triangle has three sides, and God is made up of three Persons.

We call these three Persons the **Trinity**. The three Persons are the Father, the Son (Jesus), and the Holy Spirit. These three Persons are all equal, just like the leaves of a shamrock—or the sides of a triangle—are all equal.

Key Words

Heaven Life forever with God.

mystery Something difficult or impossible to fully understand or explain.

savior Someone who helps to save or rescue others.

Trinity One God in Three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- “Three Persons in One God” + activity, pages 8–9

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

In today’s Scripture reading, we learn that God the Father sent us a **savior**: Jesus, his Son, the second Person of the Trinity. The Father sent us his Son because he loves us and wants us to live with him in **Heaven**. Jesus helps us grow closer to God.

You might find the Trinity confusing. That’s okay! So do grown-ups. The Trinity is a **mystery** of faith. That means we can never fully understand or explain it. You will understand the nature of God better and better as you grow older. Believing in something we don’t understand means we must have faith.

Review

1. Who are the three Persons of the Trinity?
2. Are all three Persons of the Trinity equal?
3. Sometimes we don’t fully understand certain things about our faith, such as the Trinity. What do we call this?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

Answers: 1. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. 2. Yes. 3. A mystery of faith.

