

Chapter 3

Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

We Offer Our Gifts to the Church

Scripture Focus: Romans 12:6–8

Lesson Goals

- to state that God has given each one of us special gifts
- to identify that the gifts we are given are for serving others
- to recall that belonging to the Church means helping others and allowing others to help us

Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1788 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Romans 12:6–8).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

Get Ready! (10 minutes)

Pray the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.

Encourage your child to name some gifts (talents or abilities) that other people have shared with him or her.

Tell your child that today's lesson points out that we are all gifts, and we all have gifts to share with others.

Dive In! (20 minutes)

Read the Featured Story on page 1788 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Romans 12:6–8).

Ask your child these questions:

- What are we supposed to do with the gifts God has given us? (*Answers may vary: use them, share them, help others, and so on.*)
- What does it mean to share generously? (*We are supposed to share in great amounts.*)
- What does it mean to do something cheerfully? (*It means to do it with a good attitude.*)

Read the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1789 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

Invite your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.
Answers: 1. gifts, 2. speak, 3. generously, 4. kindness

Discover! (20 minutes)

Read the article on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word, and ask the review questions.

Invite your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.
Answers: Cross out the following pictures: child saying "I don't want this," child dropping garbage. Circle all the other pictures.

Go! (10 minutes)

Choose one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 3 activity booklet to complete this week.

Encourage your child to complete the puzzle handout on the third page of this home guide chapter. *Answer: serve*

Conclude by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.



Chapter 3

Make the World a Better Place

When you are kind to someone, read the Bible, pray for other people, feed the hungry, and go to Mass—you are doing God's work! You might think that only grown-ups can do God's work. But all of us in the Church—young and old, male and female—can make the world a better place by using our **gifts** in helpful ways.

God's grace is what gives us the ability to do his work here on Earth. He has given each of us unique abilities that help us serve him and serve others in different ways. We call these abilities "gifts" because everything that makes us who we are is a gift from God.

As you have been learning in previous lessons, Baptism makes each of us part of the Church. In Baptism, we become living stones that help build the Kingdom of God. Saint Paul reminds us in today's Scripture that God wants us to share his goodness and his gifts freely and generously. Belonging to the Church means we help others, and we allow others to help us.

To use our gifts to serve others, it is important that we know what our gifts are. What is one unique gift that God has given you? How can you use that gift to do God's work this week?

Key Word

gifts God-given abilities or talents that help us serve him and make the world a better place.

Review

1. Why is it important to know what our gifts are?
2. Why should we share our gifts?
3. Why do we call them gifts?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

We Know and Live Our Faith

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

- "The Church Is the Body of Christ," page 7
- "The Priesthood of Christ," page 23

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

1. We must know our gifts so we know how to use them. 2. Our gifts are from God. He means for us to share his goodness and his gifts to serve others. 3. We call them gifts because God gave them to us.



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Handout

We Are Given Gifts

Put the following words in alphabetical order. Then write the word that is revealed in the box on the lines below to discover what we are called to do with the gifts we have been given. Finally, transfer the circled letter in your final answer to the space marked with the number 3 on the back of your folder.

Love Actions Grace Others Care



Answer:

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