

We Care for the Earth

Scripture Focus: Psalm 104:5–15

Lesson Goals

- to name the Book of Psalms as a group of songs and poems to God
- to state that some of the psalms are prayers of praise to God
- to identify that we are entrusted with caring for the world because it was created for us by God

Parent Preview

- Review the Scripture on pages 921–922 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Psalm 104:5–15).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 4 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

Get Ready!

Pray the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 4 activity booklet.

Brainstorm with your child some of the wonderful things you see in the world that you are thankful for.

Tell your child that together you will learn about how our appreciation of creation honors God, who created all things.

Dive In!

Read the Scripture on pages 921–922 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Psalm 104:5–15).

Ask your child these questions:

- Who is this psalm written to? (*God*)
- What does the psalm say to God? (*The psalm recognizes that God created everything and cares for everything.*)
- What parts are clues that this is a psalm of praise? (*The psalm's title is "In Praise of the Creator." The psalm admires all the wonderful things God has done in creation.*)

Read the Understand It! and Live It! sections on page 1 of the chapter 4 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 4 activity booklet. *Answers will vary.*

Discover!

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

Invite your child to join you in playing the game on page 3 of the chapter 4 activity booklet.

Go!

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

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

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





Chapter 4

One of a Kind, Created by God

In a very old and much-loved hymn, we sing, “Praise God from whom all blessings flow!” What does this mean? We are saying that everything, every blessing, comes from God—and we praise him for it! When we praise God, we honor him above all else, just for being God.

Today’s reading from the Book of Psalms is another song of praise to God. The Book of Psalms in the Old Testament contains 150 psalms: songs, poems, and prayers written to God about many different situations. Psalm 104 is one of the psalms of praise to God.

Whenever God created something, he said it was good. We know that God cares for all of his creation,

just as we care about the things we make. When we praise God for everything he has created, we are keeping wonder and awe in our minds and hearts.

God created the world just for us, and he **entrusted** us with caring for it. This is our **responsibility**. When we litter, throw away food, mistreat our clothes, and waste other resources, we are not caring for God’s creation! When we recycle, eat leftover food, and give to charity clothes we’ve outgrown, we are caring for all creation.

God believes in our ability to use our resources wisely and responsibly. What can you do this week to care for his creation?

Key Words

entrusted Gave someone a duty to care for something.

responsibility A duty that someone has given to us.

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:

- “The Prayer of Praise” + activity, pages 60–61

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

Review

1. How we can keep the wonder and awe of God’s creation in our minds and hearts?
2. What are we doing when we praise God?
3. Whose responsibility is it to care for God’s creation?
4. How does God want us to care for creation?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

1. We can offer prayers of praise to God. 2. We are honoring God just for being God. 3. It is our responsibility. 4. God wants us to use our resources wisely, not to waste or mistreat his creation.



Handout

Praising God for Creation

How can we show thanks to God for our world? Find the answer by looking at the lowercase letters under the blank lines at the bottom of the page and writing their corresponding capital letters from the code above in the blanks. Then transfer the circled letter in your final answer to the spaces marked with the number 4 on the back of your folder.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
m	e	k	u	j	t	b
H	I	J	K	L	M	N
o	a	q	i	x	f	z
O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
d	s	c	w	n	v	g
V	W	X	Y	Z		
l	h	p	l	r		

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	
k	m	w	j	t	d	w	
_____	_____	_____	_____	○	_____	_____	
k	w	j	m	v	a	d	z

