

BreakThru

From Catechism to *Christ*

INTRO TO THE BIBLE

LEARNING EVENT MAKE-UP

OPENING PRAYER

Take a few minutes to close your eyes and focus on taking slow, deep breaths, in and out... in and out... in and out... Consider lighting a candle as well to help you focus in on this time. After a few minutes of meditation, offer some prayer petitions. Have the parent pray the petitions below and have the student (and anyone else present during your prayer time) respond with "Thank you for this gift" after each petition.

- Parent:** Lord God, you speak to us through the Holy Scriptures.
Student: Thank you for this gift.
Parent: You inspired everything in the Bible.
Student: Thank you for this gift.
Parent: Scripture gives us hope and encouragement in our journey of faith.
Student: Thank you for this gift.
Parent: Scripture shows us examples of how to follow you.
Student: Thank you for this gift.
Parent: Give us the desire to learn more about you through the scriptures.
Student: Thank you for this gift.
All: Amen.

MY FAITH STORY

Take a few minutes to write in the space below in response to this **Big Question: What's the Bible got to do with me?**



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Ask your parent to share part of their faith story and to show you their personal Bible. Interview them about their relationship with God and the Bible using the questions below:

How or where did you get your Bible? Did someone give it to you?

What have you used it for?

Do you keep any papers tucked inside of it?

Have you marked certain passages?

OPEN THE BIBLE

Spend some time looking through and becoming familiar with the parts of the Bible. Take out your Bible and discuss and investigate the following with your parent:

What is the Old Testament? How many books does it contain?

What is the New Testament? How many books does it contain?

What are the names of the four Gospels in order?

Use a copy of the Here We Stand Study Bible (copies are available at the church to borrow if this is not the Bible you are using for confirmation) and read through p. 1553 "A Short Guide to Personal Bible Reading."

Using this guide, find **John 1:1-14**.

Is it in the Old Testament or New Testament?

What other books can you look for to tell if you're getting close to John?

Will you look at the front of the book of John or the end of the book?

Read **John 1:1-14** out loud together. Turn back to the guide on p. 1553 and review the "Marking Your Bible" section at the bottom of the page. Read the passage again, and mark your Bible using the symbols from the guide.

Look at the "Going Deeper" questions on p. 1553. Read them together and choose one that you will have in mind as you read John 1:1-14 again. Write the question you have chosen in the space below.

After you have read the passage again, write your responses and thoughts to the question above in the space below.

THE GOSPELS

The Gospels tell many of the same stories of Jesus' life. Take some time to flip through the books of Matthew and Mark, paying special attention to the passage headings. Respond to these questions:

What kinds of stories do these Gospels tell about Jesus?

What passage headings did you see?

What headings were the same or similar in both Gospels?

What stories did you see in Matthew that aren't in Mark?

Why is it both good and potentially confusing to have multiple accounts of the same story in the Bible?

PAUL'S LETTERS

Turn to the book of Romans together. Use your Bible to figure out who wrote this letter and to whom it was written.

Why would this letter be something we'd consider scripture?

What other letters can you find in the New Testament? How do they compare to Romans?

How were these letters intended to be used?

THE OLD TESTAMENT

Look at the list of Old Testament books in the table of contents of your Bible.

What books do you recognize from readings in church?

What books are new to you?

SOMETHING NEW

Choose a book of the Bible that is unfamiliar to you and flip through it, looking at the passage headings. After a few moments, answer the questions below.

Which book did you look at?

What did you notice about the book?

Was it written in prose, verse, or both?

Was it in first or third person?

Did it seem to contain stories, speeches, poems, or something else?