

## Parent Notes

### In this week's lesson your child learned

- Families are mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, and sometimes other relatives who live with us and love us.
- God gives us families to love us and take care of us.



## It Helps to Know

Scripture tells us that

- children should listen to their parents and follow their parents' rules, and parents should be sensitive to the feelings and needs of their children (Ephesians 6:1–4).

The *Catechism* teaches us that

- the family is a “domestic Church,” meaning the place where the smallest unit of the Christian community is formed and expressed (CCC, 2204).
- the family is a school of love and charity—the first place where we learn to show love to others (CCC, 2207, 2208).

### Keep It Simple

- Get out the family album (whether a book or on a computer) and play “Who’s that?” by pointing to different pictures and seeing if your child can identify the people (including himself/herself).

## How Three- and Four-Year-Olds Understand the Lesson, by Joseph White, Ph.D.

Children have an experience of family before they experience anything else. For this reason, it takes them a while to realize that each person's experience of family is a little different—from different family sizes and compositions, to different personalities and temperaments. Over time, their definitions of family will expand past their own experiences to understandings of family in a more general sense. It's important that as this happens, children know that family is a gift from God, and that God has a plan for the family.

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# My Family



## This Week's Scripture Story

teaches us about Jesus' family.

### The Holy Family

When Jesus was a little boy, he had a mother and a father. His mother was named Mary, and his father was named Joseph.

Jesus obeyed his father and mother. Jesus helped his mother. He worked with his father, too. Joseph was a carpenter. He made things out of wood.

Jesus prayed with his parents, too. He went to the temple in Jerusalem and honored God there.

*Based on Luke 2:40–42, 51–52*



**Sharing Faith at Home** Share the Scripture with your child by reading it aloud at bedtime and talking about its meaning. Discussion starter: How is your family like the Holy Family?

**Allelu!**  
Growing and Celebrating with Jesus  
Lesson 5, Ages 3-4



### Through the Week

Pray for various family members by name, asking God to bless them, thanking God for them, and asking for whatever needs they might have.



### Ask Me!

Ask your child these questions, and see if he or she can give you the answers. (If not, give a hint, and review the questions again later.)

1. Who are some of the people in a family? (mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers)
2. Who gives us our family? (God gives us our family.)
3. Who are the people in your family? (Answers will vary.)



# Setting the Family Table

## Who Is Obeying Their Parents?

**Circle** the children who are obeying their parents.  
**Talk** with your parents about the pictures.



### Mealtime Prayer

Dear Lord, you are our Father in Heaven, and you ask us to love our parents on Earth. Help us to always listen to you.  
Amen.

Pray this prayer as a family.



### Saint of the Week

**Isidore the Farmer**  
(1020–1130)

Feast Day: May 15

### Did you know?

Saint Isidore believed that worshipping God was more important than anything else. The angels rewarded him by helping to plow his fields!

**Saint Isidore, pray for us!**