



SPARK

Week 1

The Holy Bible

FOCUS: "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living, so that the person who serves God may be fully qualified and equipped to do every kind of good deed." ~ 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Adult Pre-work (10 min)

- Watch Lesson 1 preparation video at saint-max.org/spark
- Read Understanding the Bible (Click Title to 1 page article)
- In your *Catholic Children's Bible*, read pp. 13-19

**After this time together your child will be able to do/know
(one or all depending on their age):**

- Connect making the Sign of the Cross to the cross that Jesus died on.
- Name that the Bible is God's own words & that it is true.
- Name the two parts of the Book: Old Testament & New Testament



PRAY Be sure to have your Bible with you!

Opening Prayer

+ (Sign of the Cross) Be with us Lord as we learn about You today. Give us open ears and hearts to hear your voice and receive your Word. Amen. +

For young beginners: Brother Francis sings The Sign of the Cross (45 sec)

Spark lessons will be a time of exploring together. Be patient and let them answer. We will practice phrasing our questions with "I wonder..." This encourages them to think & truly wonder. Hopefully, this method will invite you to wonder as well!

Ask your child:

I wonder why we make the Sign of the Cross before and/or after every prayer? **LET THEM THINK & ANSWER!** *(The cross is to remind us of Jesus on the cross and the great act of love he did for us by dying for our sins. The Sign of the Cross also reminds us of the Trinity: Father, Son & Holy Spirit.)*



SHARE



This time is envisioned with you and your child(ren) spending some time together getting to know each other. These conversations are meant to help you connect on a deeper level. The goal is that you will become comfortable sharing your story with your child and they will trust you with their thoughts, feelings and questions. These seemingly frivolous conversations are setting the groundwork for the deeper conversations to come as your child grows up. This can be done sitting side by side, walking together or at the kitchen table. The places are endless. You pick the best timing and location for your family.

Family Connection

- What is your favorite book & why?
- Be sure to share your favorite book/story with them! After this little exchange, explain that we are going to learn about the best selling book together this year....The Bible!



LEARN



Share these facts about the Bible with your child:

- The Bible was written a very, very long time ago. It is God's own words.
- His inspiration told the authors what to write. Therefore it is true.
- The Bible is a book about the friendship between God and man.
- The Bible is made of two big parts: Old Testament stories before Jesus was born and New Testament the stories after Jesus was born.
- In the Bible we read about the breathtaking adventures of God's friends. We will begin next week with Adam and Eve living with God in the perfect garden.

Capture your Bible story summary here to include on Jotform:

If you or your child wants to dig deeper: (Find more resources in Dig Deeper section below)

The Bible Guides Us (2:30min)

Catechism of the Catholic Church Connection

Each Lesson will have a Catechism connection in the Youcat for Kids. (Included in your packet). This is a children's version of the Catechism written in question and answer format. We will cover 90% of this book this year!! You will look up & read TOGETHER the question number(s) which can be found in a colored circle:

Questions 10-12, 63 (found on pages 21-24, 104)



LIVE YOUR FAITH



This week as a family create your Home Altar with the Home Altar kit sent home in your packet. Watch [How to prepare your Home Altar](#) (~ 4min for everyone including younger children)

Show us what you've learned &/or how you've grown in your faith! Each week you will need to visit [here](#) & fill out your online Assignment Form.

1. Find a surface or table...not too hidden but in a place where quiet prayer can happen.
2. Cover it with the appropriate cloth prayer square (representing the Liturgical time of year: Ordinary Time-Green; Advent-purple; Lent-purple; Christmas/Easter-white).
3. Arrange religious objects from your Prayer Kit along with your Bible on the table. Leave the Bible open, perhaps to the weekly Gospel story so those who pass by may even take a moment to pray or pick up the Bible to read. Consider using a Children's Bible.
4. Place a chair(s) or cushion(s) next to the table.
5. Ideas to add to your area: Statue of Mary in May, St. Joseph in March, the Holy Family in December, your favorite Saint's holy card in November.
6. PRAY TOGETHER!

PRAY

Thank you God for giving us Your Word in the Holy Bible. Help us to make time to read our Bible and listen to your good words this week. We especially pray for our parents this week that they may be blessed and encouraged as they share their faith with their children.

Amen + (Sign of the Cross)

Digging Deeper!



Resources for Children:

[God's Story: The Bible](#) (5 min)

[Salvation History](#) (10 min video) (Upper Elementary/Adults)

Resources for Adults:

[Why Catholics make the Sign of the Cross](#) Excellent short article on this powerful prayer

[Why do Catholics make the Sign of the Cross?](#) A short article & how this habit began

[Catechism of the Catholic Church Article 3, Sacred Scripture, paragraphs 101-141](#) (use the 'next' or 'previous' buttons to navigate through this section on Sacred Scripture.

Questions contact Joan Stoltz at jstoltz@saint-max.org or 777-4322, ext 119