

CALL to FAITH

FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

GRADE
2

Unit 1
Chapter 1

Materials Needed to Complete Session

Chapter One *Call to Faith* Parent Handout

Pencils

Crayons, scissors, glue

Blank piece of 11 x 17 paper (one per child)

Using God's Gifts activity sheet (one per child)

All Creation is Good activity sheet (one per child)

For the opening prayer:

- Bible (Psalm 8)
- Small table covered with a table cloth
- Crucifix
- Music CD: John Burland, *God Loves Me*, "God Loves Me" (Track 1)

Time Frame (60 minutes)

Welcome and Call to Prayer

10 mins.

Conversation One

15 mins.

Conversation Two

15 mins.

Conversation Three

15 mins.

Closing

5 mins.

HOSPITALITY

Warmly welcome participants as they arrive and invite them to find a seat together at a table. Ask them not to do anything with the handouts on the table until you are ready to begin the gathering prayer.

WELCOME AND CALL TO PRAYER **10 mins.**

Welcome parents/guardians and the children. Thank them for being there and tell them that you hope they will enjoy some special time to talk about God's wonderful creation, and our need to thank God for all that he has given to us. Begin the gathering prayer.

Prayer

In place of the Prayer in the Student Edition, use the following prayer:

Gather children and parents in the prayer space.

Play the CD and teach participants the words to "God Loves Me." Add gestures, if you wish.

Ask participants to stand and make the Sign of the Cross with you.

Sing "God Loves Me."

Ask participants to be seated.

Read Psalm 8:2, 7-9 from a children's Bible.

FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

GRADE 2

Unit 1
Chapter 1

Ask participants to stand in a circle and hold hands. Direct them to think about one gift of creation they want to thank God for today. (Pause)

Let us pray:

God you are so good to us. You give us so many gifts. We want to thank you for: _____

(Begin with the person on your left and go around the circle as each person gives thanks for something.)

When all have finished, pray: *God, we thank you again. We are happy to be your children. Amen.*

Conversation One **15 mins.**

1. Direct participants back to their seats.
2. Ask them to open their book to page 41 and to place the parent handout beside it. Explain that the handout is self-directed and that you would like them to **complete steps 1 and 2**. Make sure each child has a copy of the *Using God's Gifts* activity sheet.

Conversation Two **15 mins.**

1. Invite participants to turn their book to page 42 and their handout to page 2.
2. Ask them to **complete steps 3-6**. Make sure each participant has the supplies to make their poster.

Conversation Three **15 mins.**

1. Tell participants to turn their book to pages 44 and 45 and their handout to page 3.
2. Invite them now to **complete steps 7-10**. Make sure everyone has the *All Creation is Good* activity sheet.

Closing **5 mins.**

1. Guide the parents to the **For Home** page (page 4 in handout). Thank parents and children for their participation and say that you look forward to seeing them on _____.
2. Conclude with the Blessing Prayer from page 46 (page 48 in School Edition).

COACHING PLAN

CALL to FAITH

PARENT HANDOUT

GRADE
2

Unit 1

Chapter 1

Begins on page 41
(page 41 in School
Edition)

Conversation One

Thank you for coming to spend time in conversation with your son/daughter! Talking about faith with your child at any age is important. Your child needs to see you model your faith as he/she continues along the journey of faith.

In this chapter, God's great gift of creation is explored. Gratitude for creation is a central theme of Christian prayer. In the first book of the Bible, we hear the story of creation. The author explains that humans are to have dominion over creation (Genesis 1:26). The word "dominion" means to have power over. Power in this sense does not mean that we can do anything we want, but rather we have been given the power to be caretakers of all creation, never forgetting that we are creatures ourselves. By giving us dominion over the animals and creatures of the earth, God shares the responsibility and care of the earth with his human partners. He calls each person to be a good steward of creation.

We also need to remember that the greatest gift God gave us is Jesus.

1. Turn to page 41 and have your child read *Let's Begin*. Then, discuss with your child the question that follows. Work with your child to create a few more verses for the poem. Think about things in nature that you are both thankful for.
2. Read together the *Using God's Gifts* activity sheet. Work with your child to name other things that we make from God's creations.

PARENT HANDOUT

GRADE
2

Unit 1
Chapter 1

Conversation Two

3. Turn to page 42 and read the information beneath *Thanks And Praise*. Discuss the following question: What makes people different from the rest of God's creatures? (Possible responses: People are made in God's image, they can think, love, and make choices.)
4. Turn to page 43 and read *In God's Image and Words of Faith*.
5. Now read the Scripture passage, *Praise for the Creator*. Discuss the following question: How are people responsible for animals? (Possible responses: We must feed and take care of our pets; make sure lakes and oceans are clean; protect places where animals live.)
6. What are some ways you and your child can take care of creation? Create a "Care of Creation" poster with your child that will highlight some of the ways you can be good stewards of God's creation (recycle; walk when possible; turn the water off when brushing your teeth; compost trash when possible).

CALL to FAITH

PARENT HANDOUT

GRADE
2

Unit 1
Chapter 1

Conversation Three

7. Turn to page 44 and discuss the question: Why is Jesus God's greatest gift? (*Possible responses: Jesus showed us the way to love because we humans had lost the way; Jesus gave his life for us; Jesus showed us how to serve the poor.*)
8. Read together page 44 and answer the question: What are some other things that Jesus might have done that you also do? (*Possible responses: play, read, do chores.*)
9. Read together *Alike But Different* and *Words of Faith* on page 45. Before you begin reading, remind your child that Jesus lived a very long time ago and that he was human just like us except for one thing: Jesus never committed a sin. Sin can also be defined as an unloving choice.
10. Help your child complete the *All Creation is Good* activity sheet.

PARENT HANDOUT

GRADE
2

Unit 1
Chapter 1

For Home

1. Read together Genesis 1-2:4.
2. Go for a nature walk with your child and take a small basket with you to collect things from nature (don't remove any live things!). Or, take a small note pad with you and draw and label pictures of what you see. Place the items or the note pad in a special prayer space in your home.
3. Read together *People of Faith* on page 48 (page 50 in School Edition). Close by praying the *Family Prayer*.

Using God's Gifts



Focus

How do people use what God has created?

God created everything from nothing. God shared with us the ability to make things, too. People take the gifts God created and make them into things to use and enjoy.

Making Use of God's Gifts	
Gift of Creation	Things We Make From It
 wood from trees	 houses, furniture, paper
 cotton	 clothing
 wheat	 bread, cake, cereal
 wool from sheep	 sweaters, coats, blankets
 cacao beans	 chocolate, cocoa

? What other things can you name that come from the gifts of God's creation?

Name _____ Date _____

All Creation Is Good

Color the pictures of God's creation. Then circle the picture that shows God's greatest gift.

