

# CALL to FAITH

## FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

GRADE  
**2**

Unit 5  
Chapter 13

### Materials Needed to Complete Session

Chapter Thirteen *Call to Faith* Parent Handout

Pencils

Crayons

Banner or piece of art with the Christian fish symbol

Carpet pieces (or 11x17 pieces of oak tag)

Newspapers or newsprint

Thick paintbrushes and sponge brushes

Acrylic paint or markers

Fish stencils or stamps of fish

Chalk

Aprons or paint smocks

For the opening prayer:

- Bible (John 15:4-5)
- Small table covered with a table cloth
- Crucifix

### Time Frame (60 minutes)

Welcome and Call to Prayer

10 mins.

Conversation One

10 mins.

Conversation Two

25 mins.

Conversation Three

10 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 say that you hope they will enjoy some special time to talk and learn together about our Catholic responsibility to welcome and care for all people.

### Prayer

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

Gather participants in the prayer space.

Invite participants to respond with, **“Thank you for teaching us”** after each petition.

# FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

## GRADE 2

Unit 5  
Chapter 13

**Dear Jesus, there is so much to learn!**

Thank you for teaching us.

**You teach us to love one another.**

Thank you for teaching us.

**You teach us to welcome others.**

Thank you for teaching us.

**You teach us to help others.**

Thank you for teaching us.

**Help us to live the way God wants us to live.**

All: **Amen.**

### **Conversation One**

**10 mins.**

1. Direct participants back to their seats.
2. Ask them to open their *Call to Faith* book to page 145 (page 185 in School Edition) 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.**

### **Conversation Two**

**25 mins.**

1. Invite participants to turn their book to page 146 and 147 (pages 186 and 187 in School Edition) and to turn their handout to page 2.
2. Ask them to **complete steps 3-5.** Make sure each participant has access to the supplies they need to create the Fish Welcome Mat.

*Note: You may also use a piece of construction paper instead of carpet, and markers instead of paint.*

### **Conversation Three**

**10 mins.**

1. Tell participants to now turn to page 149 (page 189 in School Edition).
2. Invite them to now **complete steps 6 and 7.**

### **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 *Prayer of Welcome* from page 150 (page 192 in School Edition).

# CALL to FAITH

## PARENT HANDOUT

GRADE  
**2**

Unit 5

Chapter 13

Begins on page 145  
(page 185 in School  
Edition)

### **Conversation One**

Thank you for coming to spend time in conversation with your son/daughter! Sharing in conversations about faith with your child at any age is important. Your child needs to see you model your faith as they continue along their faith journey.

Today, we'll be talking about the moral life. When we choose how to act and think we should try to imitate the life of Christ. Jesus shared meals with sinners. Some Pharisees saw this and wondered why. Jesus said, "Those who are well do not need a physician, but those who are sick....I desire mercy, not sacrifice..." (Matthew 9:12-13). Jesus showed merciful love toward those who were young, oppressed, and in need. His love knew no boundaries. Responding with love, compassion, and hospitality to a family member going through a crisis, or a student who is fighting with a friend, is fulfilling Jesus' command of love. Busy schedules and stressful situations can often make it difficult, yet we are called by our Baptism to do just that.

1. Read together *Let's Begin* on page 145 (page 185 in School Edition). Talk with your child about the places you both feel most welcome. Do you feel welcome at school? Work? At friends' homes? With family? At church? Share with your child someone in your life who always makes you feel welcome.
2. Create a list of how we show people they are welcome. (For example, it may be a handshake or hug, or offering them a nice chair to sit in, or knowing their name.)


# PARENT HANDOUT

GRADE  
**2**

Unit 5  
Chapter 13

## **Conversation Two**

3. Read together *A Surprise Guest* on pages 146 and 147 (pages 186 and 187 in School Edition).
4. Imagine with your child that Jesus visited your home. What would you both say? How would you act?
5. Share this with your child:

*As followers of Jesus, it is important for us to be welcoming people. The fish sign  has been a symbol for Christians since the early days of the Church. It still is today. The early Christians placed this sign on their doors and shops and meeting places to let people know who they were. A fish became a sign that Christians were coming together, or gathering to share in the Good News of Christ.*

*Today we will make Fish Sign Welcome Mats that we can bring home as a reminder that we need to welcome others in our home.*

Take out a carpet piece and the fish stencils. Use chalk to help children write the word “Welcome” on the carpet. Then draw a simple fish symbol.

When the design is finished, have them use the paints. Help them push the paint into the mat. Set the mats aside for drying.

# CALL to FAITH

## PARENT HANDOUT

GRADE  
**2**

Unit 5  
Chapter 13

### **Conversation Three**

6. Read with your child *In God's Kingdom* on page 149 (page 189 in School Edition).
7. Work with your child to think of welcoming responses to the following situations:

A new family is visiting your parish. Most of the pews are full. What can you do to welcome them? (*Possible response: Ask your family if they can all move down to make extra room.*)

It is coffee and donut time after Mass. Everyone is eating and talking in groups. A family with three children walks into the room. They are standing by themselves and don't seem to know anyone. You are talking to friends and eating a chocolate donut. What can you do to welcome the new family? (*Possible response: go over and say hello; show them where the donuts are; ask a family member to invite them to your table.*)

# PARENT HANDOUT

GRADE  
**2**

Unit 5  
Chapter 13

## ***For Home***

1. Take out your family Bible and read together Matthew 18:1-5. Then, talk about God's special welcome of children into his Kingdom.
2. Turn to page 152 (page 194 in School Edition) and work together to complete the Acts of Kindness Activity.
3. Read together *People of Faith* on page 152 (page 194 in School Edition) and close by praying the *Family Prayer*.