

We Pray the Sign of the Cross

Activity: The child makes a cross pendant that shows how to pray the Sign of the Cross.

Concept

When we pray the Rosary, we pray the Sign of the Cross.

What You Need

- ▶ **Learning Tool: "Sign of the Cross" song (Track 7)**
- ▶ photocopy of Side B of this Lesson Card
- ▶ art supplies
- ▶ hole punch
- ▶ ribbon

At Home

Invite the parents to use the cross pendant to practice praying the Sign of the Cross with their child. Suggest that they have their child wear the pendant as they pray the Sign of the Cross as a family.

Lesson Steps

1

Opening Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: ***Dear God our Father, thank you for your love, the love of your Son, Jesus, and the love of the Holy Spirit.*** Pray the Sign of the Cross.

2

Begin with Life Experience

Play a short game of Simon Says with the child, using gestures as part of your commands and modeling behavior as needed. For example, say **wave** (wave hand), **stop** (hold up palm), **spin around** (twirl your finger around), and **be still** (hold index figure to lips to indicate quiet). Invite the child to take a turn as Simon. Say: ***We can use our hands and bodies to show what we mean. When we pray, we also use our hands.***

3

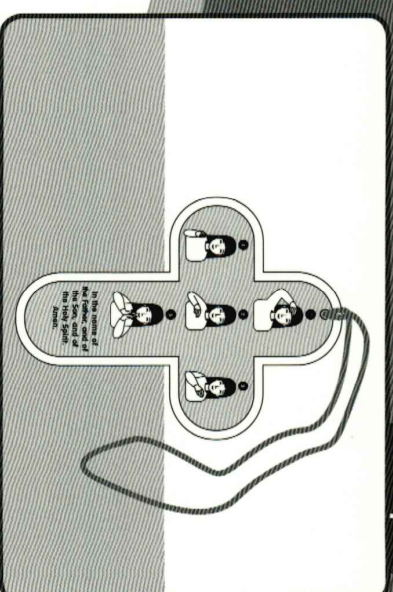
Connect

Say: ***When we pray the Sign of the Cross, we use hand movements.*** Play the "Sign of the Cross" song (Track 7), modeling the gestures as called out in the song. Say: ***The song helps us remember how to pray the Sign of the Cross. Let's make a cross to wear that will also help us remember how to pray the Sign of the Cross.*** Help the child color the pictures and decorate the cross. Then cut out the cross. Use a hole punch to make a hole at the top. Loop ribbon through the hole to make a pendant. Model for the child how to put on the pendant. Use the pendant to model praying the Sign of the Cross. Invite the child to follow your movements for each step of the prayer.

4

Closing Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: ***Thank you, God, for the Sign of the Cross. Thank you for giving us a way to show what we believe as we pray our thanks and praise to you.*** Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross.



Example