

Overview

In this chapter the children will learn about Jesus' life and the ways he taught us to live as his followers.

Doctrinal Content

For Adult Reading and Reflection
Catechism of the Catholic Church

The children will learn:	Paragraph
• God the Son became one of us.	460
• Jesus grew up in Nazareth.	533
• Jesus begins his work.	517
• Jesus shows us how to live as his followers.	561

Key Words

Blessed Trinity
Incarnation
prophet
repent
public ministry
disciples
Apostle

Catechist Background

What meaning does Jesus' becoming one of us have for you?

In his coming to us, God's Son took on our human nature for the sake of our salvation. Jesus is fully divine and fully human. The mystery of God's own Son becoming man is the Incarnation.

Jesus' early life on earth is a hidden one. The Gospels relate a few episodes such as the finding of Jesus in the Temple. It is apparent from the New Testament writings that Jesus' years growing up in Nazareth were a time of preparation.

John the Baptist called people to baptism as a sign of repentance. Even though Jesus had no reason to repent, he used this public ritual as an inauguration of his mission. At his baptism the Holy Spirit was present. The voice from the heavens affirmed Jesus' identity: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased" (Luke 3:22).

When Jesus began his public ministry, he declared that the Kingdom of God is open to everyone who believes in him as the one sent by the

Go to www.webelieveweb.com, Catechist/Teacher, We Believe Correlations for this chapter's correlation to:

- Six Tasks of Catechesis
- Catholic Social Teaching
- *Catechetical Formation in Chaste Living.*

Father. In his words and deeds, "Jesus identifies himself with the poor of every kind and makes active love toward them the condition for entering his kingdom" (CCC 544).

Those who followed Jesus were called to carry out the same mission. Their relationship was so intimate that Jesus could say to his disciples, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing" (John 15:5).

The night before he died, Jesus prayed for his closest disciples, whom he now called his friends. Jesus prayed that they would become one in mutual love and support as he and the Father were one in love and support.

How do you share in Jesus' mission?

Lesson Planning Guide

Lesson Steps

Presentation

Materials

1 WE GATHER

page 19



Luke 1:26–35



- Gather at the prayer table.
- Listen to the Scripture reading.

- Discuss the special people in the children's lives.

For the prayer space: nativity scene or picture



"We Believe, We Believe in God,"
Carey Landry, #1, Grade 3 CD
(option)

2 WE BELIEVE

page 20

God the Son became one of us.



- Read and discuss the Blessed Trinity and the Incarnation.
- Discuss how God the Father showed his love for us.

- crayons or markers

pages 20–21

Jesus grew up in Nazareth.

Luke 2:41–51



- Read and talk about Jesus' childhood.
- Draw or write about something Jesus might have enjoyed doing as a child.

- Bible

pages 22–23

Jesus begins his work.

Matthew 3:2, 17

Jesus shows us how to live as his followers.



- Read about John the Baptist.
- Complete the activity about prophets.
- Read and discuss the title "Lord" in *As Catholics*.
- Read the text about Jesus' disciples.

- picture or representation of a dove

3 WE RESPOND

page 23



Design a Web page about ways to follow Jesus.

- copies of Reproducible Master 1, guide page 19C

pages 24–25
Project Disciple

- Complete the **Project Disciple** activities.
- Explain the *Take Home* activity.
- Discuss/send home **Sharing Faith with My Family** reproducible master for this chapter.

- colored pencils or crayons
- cardboard or stiff paper, scissors
- copies of **Sharing Faith with My Family** reproducible master, Chapter 1 (back of book)

page 26
Chapter 1 Test

- Complete **Chapter 1 Test**.
- Work on *Alternative Assessment* activity.

- optional: copies of Scripture reproducible master, *What's the Word?*, Chapter 1 (back of book)