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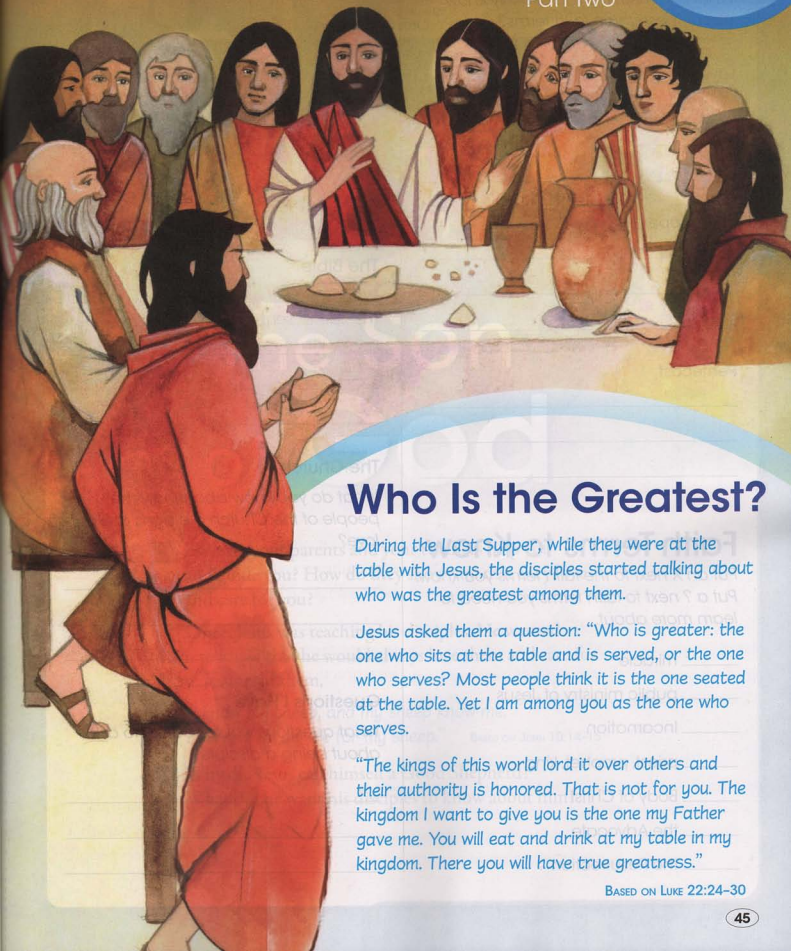
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Who Is the Greatest?

During the Last Supper, while they were at the table with Jesus, the disciples started talking about who was the greatest among them.

Jesus asked them a question: “Who is greater: the one who sits at the table and is served, or the one who serves? Most people think it is the one seated at the table. Yet I am among you as the one who serves.

“The kings of this world lord it over others and their authority is honored. That is not for you. The kingdom I want to give you is the one my Father gave me. You will eat and drink at my table in my kingdom. There you will have true greatness.”

BASED ON LUKE 22:24-30

What I Have Learned

What is something you already know about these three faith terms?

Love

Last Supper

Pentecost



The Bible

What do you know about the work God the Father sent Jesus to do?

The Church

What do you know about how the people of the Church are signs of God's love?

Faith Terms to Know

Put an X next to the faith terms you know.

Put a ? next to faith terms you need to learn more about.

- ☐ miracle
- ☐ public ministry of Jesus
- ☐ Incarnation
- ☐ priest, prophet, king
- ☐ Body of Christ
- ☐ the Advocate
- ☐ the Resurrection

Questions I Have

What questions would you like to ask about being a disciple?

Looking Ahead

In this chapter the Holy Spirit invites you to ►



EXPLORE how saint Anthony of Padua is a role model.



DISCOVER that God's promise to love us is fulfilled in Jesus.



DECIDE ways to be a sign of God's love.



The Son of God

- ❓ How do your parents and your teachers help you and guide you? How do they show you that they love and care for you?

Once, Jesus was teaching his disciples. He wanted them to know that he would always love them and care for them. Jesus told them,

"I know my sheep, and my sheep know me.

I will give up my life for my sheep."

BASED ON JOHN 10:14-15

- ❓ Why did Jesus call himself a Good Shepherd?
What did he want his disciples to know about him?



Disciple Power

Love

Love is the greatest of all the virtues. Jesus commanded his disciples, "Love one another, as I love you" (John 15:12). Jesus loves us so much that he died on the cross for us. Read what Saint Paul tells us about love in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.

THE CHURCH FOLLOWS JESUS

Saint Anthony of Padua

Some members of the Church set a good example for us. They show us how to live as disciples of Jesus. They are kind, helpful, and loving as Jesus, the Good Shepherd, was. The Church names these people "saints." Saint Anthony of Padua is one of the saints of the Church.

Anthony of Padua was born in Portugal in 1195. He had a great love for the child Jesus. He was a great preacher and missionary. A missionary travels to tell others about Jesus Christ.



Anthony heard about four Franciscan missionaries who were martyrs. Christian martyrs are people who give up their lives for Jesus. Anthony loved Jesus so much. He, too, was willing to give up his life for Jesus.

Anthony joined the Franciscans. Franciscans join together to follow Jesus as Saint Francis of Assisi did. They give up all their possessions. They pray together. They sometimes travel to faraway places to tell others about Jesus.

Anthony of Padua has been named a saint of the Church. Saints faithfully put into practice the values Jesus lived while he was on Earth. We remember and celebrate the life of Saint Anthony of Padua each year on his feast day on June 13.

? Which saint are you or your parish church named after? Find out more about that saint. How is this person a role model for you and for the people in your parish?

The Incarnation

The birth of the Savior promised by God is one of the greatest revelations of his love for people. The angel Gabriel announced to the Blessed Virgin Mary,

*"[Mary,] the holy Spirit will come upon you. . . .
[Your child] will be called holy, the Son of God."*

LUKE 1:35

Mary's son, Jesus, is the only Son of God.

An angel also told Joseph, the husband of Mary, that the Virgin Mary would give birth to a son. The angel said,

*"You are to name him Jesus, because he will
save his people from their sins."*

MATTHEW 1:21

Jesus is a Hebrew name that means "God saves."

The only Son of God the Father took on flesh. This means that the Son of God became truly human without giving up being God and lived among us. We call this mystery of faith the **Incarnation**. The word *incarnation* means "putting on flesh." Jesus is true God and true man.

Jesus, the only Son of God, is the Savior of the world. Because Mary is the mother of Jesus, who is truly God, Mary is truly the Mother of God.

FAITH FOCUS

What did Jesus do to reveal God to us?

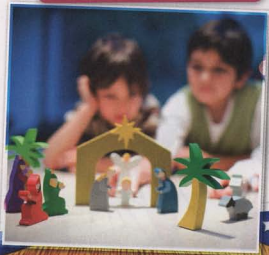
FAITH VOCABULARY

Incarnation

The Incarnation is the mystery of the Son of God, the Second Divine Person of the Trinity, becoming truly human while not giving up being God.

public ministry of Jesus

This is the saving work that God the Father sent his Son, Jesus, to do, beginning with the baptism of Jesus and his announcement of that work in the synagogue in Nazareth.



Activity The Church celebrates the birth of Jesus on Christmas. Write a sentence below telling why Christmas is a sign of God's love. Share your message with your family and friends.





Faith-Filled People

Patron Saints

Saint Anthony of Padua and other saints are also patron saints. Patron saints are role models for groups of people, such as lawyers, students, parishes, and nations. Their lives show us ways to continue the work that Jesus began on Earth.

Jesus Begins His Ministry

Jesus grew up in the town of Nazareth in Galilee. A short time after his baptism in the Jordan River, it became time for Jesus to begin the work that the Father sent him to do. We call this work the **public ministry of Jesus**.

Jesus went to the synagogue in Nazareth. He took a scroll containing the writings of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled it, stood up, and read aloud:

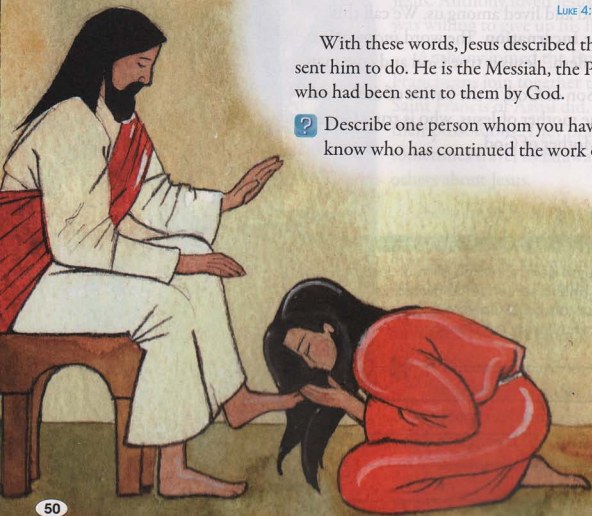
*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.*

*He has sent me to proclaim liberty
to captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to proclaim a year acceptable
to the Lord.*

LUKE 4:18-19

With these words, Jesus described the work the Father sent him to do. He is the Messiah, the Promised One, who had been sent to them by God.

? Describe one person whom you have read about or know who has continued the work of Jesus.



Signs of God's Love

Jesus' whole life on Earth revealed his Father's love for all people. Miracles were some of the most amazing things Jesus did. The word *miracle* means "wonder, something amazing and marvelous." The miracles of Jesus were amazing signs of God's love at work in the world.

The Gospels tell us about many miracles that Jesus performed during his public ministry. Read about the miracle of Jesus giving sight to two blind men in Matthew 9:27–31. See how Jesus changed their lives. Through this miracle, Jesus invited the two blind men and the other people who were there to believe and trust in God. The two blind men believed. They began to see not only with their eyes but also with "eyes of faith."

Jesus calls us to be people of faith. He calls us to see with eyes of faith and to live our faith. We are to be signs of God's love for others to see.

Catholics Believe



Signs of God's Love

The people of the Church are called to be signs of God's love. People in your parish do this in many ways. Priests and deacons, laypeople and religious, married and single people all work together to put into practice the values that Jesus lived while on Earth.

Activity Use the Faith Planner to write the things that you do during the day to be a sign of God's love.

Faith Planner

	Saturday	Sunday	Weekdays
Morning			
Noon			
Evening			

I FOLLOW JESUS

Followers of Jesus Christ do amazing things. They love, forgive, and show kindness to people as Jesus did. Saint Paul wanted to help the first Christians be like Jesus. He wanted them to imitate Jesus in what they did and said.

BE IMITATORS OF CHRIST

Imagine that you are sitting in a crowded room. You are listening to Saint Paul. Paul says,

"So be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us . . . Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord."

EPHESIANS 5:1, 8-10

Remember what you wrote in your Faith Planner. Write down three things that you can do to be an imitator of Christ.

MY FAITH CHOICE

This week, I will be an imitator of Christ. I will be a sign of God's love in the world. I will



Talk with Jesus in prayer. Pray, "Jesus, help me come to know and follow you better. Amen."

Chapter Review

Circle the four faith words hidden in the puzzle. Share the meaning of each word with a partner.

P	T	B	I	M	T	U	A	M	I	M	K	I	T
K	U	N	A	Z	A	R	E	T	H	I	M	J	U
C	J	B	J	J	W	K	B	R	B	R	R	G	Y
T	K	U	L	I	I	D	G	A	D	A	S	F	E
J	A	H	R	I	N	J	D	T	R	C	T	D	I
D	W	J	N	O	C	I	Y	U	N	L	I	S	J
S	I	Q	O	K	A	M	T	W	Y	E	Q	R	L
Y	L	O	P	G	R	W	I	P	W	S	W	P	M
U	O	S	X	T	N	T	O	N	O	T	I	W	K
I	P	A	J	R	A	Y	D	F	I	Q	P	F	G
P	V	I	F	E	T	U	S	J	L	S	A	Q	T
Q	C	J	J	M	I	I	A	G	B	I	T	O	U
F	X	T	H	F	O	Q	V	K	C	R	D	R	R
G	A	Z	I	V	N	T	Z	R	Z	C	J	W	Y

We Believe

We profess our faith in Jesus Christ when we pray the creeds of the Church. We pray the Nicene Creed each Sunday at Mass. Pray this part of the Nicene Creed.

- Group 1:** I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,
- Group 2:** born of the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light,
- Group 1:** true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
- Group 2:** through him all things were made.
- Group 1:** For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven
- Group 2:** And by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

TO HELP YOU REMEMBER

1. Jesus is the only Son of God who became one of us and did not give up being God.
2. When Jesus began his public ministry, he announced that he is the Promised One of God.
3. Everything Jesus said and did was a sign of God's love for people.

With My Family

This Week...

In **chapter 5**, The Son of God, your child learned

- ▶ God fulfilled his promise to send the Messiah, the Savior and Redeemer of the world.
- ▶ The angel Gabriel announced to the Blessed Virgin Mary that she would give birth to the Son of God and name him Jesus.
- ▶ The Son of God became man without giving up being God. This mystery of faith is called the Incarnation. Jesus is true God and true man.
- ▶ The miracles of Jesus were unique signs of God's saving presence in the world, inviting people to faith in God.
- ▶ Jesus' whole life was a sign of God's saving love for all people. Love is the greatest of all the virtues.

For more about related teachings of the Church, see the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 422-507 and 512-560, and the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*, pages 79-87.

■ Sharing God's Word

Read together Luke 4:18-19, Jesus announcing the work that his Father had sent him to do, or read the adaptation of the story on page 50. Discuss how you see your parish continuing the work of Jesus.

We Live as Disciples

The Christian home and family is a school of discipleship. Choose one of the following activities to do as a family, or design a similar activity of your own:

- ▶ Read the story of Jesus' baptism in Matthew 3:13-17. Name some of the things that your family does or can do to tell others about Jesus.
- ▶ Name some of the people in your parish who are continuing the work of Jesus. Then choose one thing to do as a family this week to continue the work of Jesus.

- ▶ Make a "Top Ten" list of loving things that your family does for others. Post the list on your refrigerator as a reminder that your family practices the virtue of love and is a sign of God's love.

Our Spiritual Journey

Saint Paul teaches that love is the greatest of all the virtues. Love is the driving power of living our faith. In this chapter, your child professed his or her faith in God. Read and pray together the prayer on page 53. Then discuss how your love for God drives you to live your faith.



For more ideas on ways your family can live as disciples of Jesus, visit

www.BeMyDisciples.com