

God Speaks to Us

FOCUS: In this chapter, you will be helping your child to understand that Baptism is the beginning of a new way of life of service to others.

The Spirit of the Lord given to us at Baptism enlightens us and helps us see things as they really are. Saint John Chrysostom describes the new vision of those whose minds have been illumined by Christ:

Whenever grace comes and drives out the darkness from our mind, we learn the exact nature of things; what frightened us before now becomes contemptible in our eyes. We no longer are afraid of death . . . nor are we afraid of poverty or disease or any such misfortune, because we know that we are on our way to a better life, which is impervious to death and destruction and is free from all such inequality.

Twelfth Baptismal Instruction

With the light of Christ, we are set out on the path of love. We begin to see that Baptism is but the beginning of a new way of life, and we devote ourselves to deepening the bonds that unite us with God and with others.

Scripture in This Chapter

Mark 7:31–37 Cure of the Deaf Man

1 Peter 2:9 A People of His Own

Catechism of the Catholic Church

102–105, 1503–1504

In this chapter, help your child to

- ✦ explain that Baptism imparts grace to hear God’s word and spread it to others.
- ✦ describe how to use Scripture verses for prayer.
- ✦ demonstrate a knowledge of Baptism and the Church.
- ✦ propose actions that flow from Christian responsibility.
- ✦ plan to use his or her gifts to help others.

Words Your Child Should Know

- ✦ New Testament
- ✦ Old Testament
- ✦ saint