

Divine Revelation

Lesson Focus | God slowly revealed himself to men through the long centuries of human history, beginning with Adam and Eve, then continuing through the Jewish people. His fullest revelation of himself came through the person of Jesus Christ and what he revealed to his apostles. Public revelation came to an end with the death of the last apostle, John. It consists of Sacred Scripture (the Bible) and Sacred Tradition (God's Word handed on by Jesus to his apostles and their successors). The Pope and the bishops are the guardians of both.

1 | begin

- Pray the Glory Be with your child.
- Have your family Bible on the table as you begin. Tell your child about a time when a passage or story from the Bible helped you, inspired you, or guided you.
- Read 2 Timothy 3:16–17 aloud.

2 | summarize

Summarize this week's lesson for your child:

Example: The Bible speaks to us in every situation because it is God's Word, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and part of God's public revelation. We can trust that Sacred Scripture is God's Word because Sacred Tradition shows it be so. Like faith and reason, the two work together.

3 | review

Review this week's lesson by asking your child the following questions:

1. Why is the Bible free from error regarding religious truth? (*Because although men wrote it, the Holy Spirit inspired everything they wrote, protecting the writings from error.*)
2. Who is the primary author of Scripture? (*The Holy Spirit.*)
3. What are the two sections of the Bible? (*The Old Testament and New Testament.*)
4. What types of books make up the Old Testament? (*The historical books, the wisdom books, and the prophetic books.*)
5. What types of books make up the New Testament? (*The Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, Saint Paul's letters, letters to all Christians, the book of Revelation.*)
6. How do the Old and New Testaments work together? (*The Old Testament prepares us for the New, and the New helps us to understand the Old.*)

References

- Student Textbook: Chapter 2, pp. 18–23
- Sacred Scripture: Mt 26:17–30; Mk 14:13–26; Lk 22:8–39; 2 Tim 3:16–17
- *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: 50–95, 103–55, 185–97, 880–96



4 | apply

Help your child apply this week's lesson by asking the following questions:

1. What have you learned from the Bible that helps you understand the world better?
2. What have you learned from the Bible that has helped you love God and others better?
3. How has Sacred Tradition helped you to understand better what you've read in the Bible?

5 | conclude

- With your child, pray the Our Father.

6 | follow up

During the week, do at least one of the following activities with your child:

1. Memorize 2 Timothy 3:16–17.
2. Encourage your child to begin his private prayers by reading and meditating on a short passage from the Gospels.
3. Learn online about Hebrew and Greek, the languages in which the Bible was originally written. Find the alphabet for one and try learning the letters.

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

—2 Timothy 3:16–17

notes
