

Chapter 2 ***Faith Stories***

God's Word is living. *Hebrews 4:12*

To the Parents:

In chapter 2 your child learned the following:

- To retell the parable of the sower and the seeds
- That the Church tells the story and explains the message of the Scriptures
- To discover ways in which he or she can live our God's Word

God's stories and parables always have a message for you. Sometimes the message is easy to see; sometimes it is hidden. You have to think about the story to get beyond what you have always seen to a deeper understand.

God's stories are not one-dimensional. Sometimes they are more like holographs. You look at a story straight on, and you glimpse one meaning. Look at that same story from a slightly different angle, and you may see a distinction or a pattern that was not there before. With subsequent readings, a story may lead you to make new connections and perceive deeper meanings. Bible stories and parables do that. The obvious meaning is seldom the only one. Jesus told parables so that people would concentrate on them and study them to penetrate their meaning.

By struggling to understand, you are knocking on the door of Scripture, and it will be opened to you. In Scripture, you are in dialogue with Jesus, the Word of God. At some point in that dialogue, you will begin to discover that the Word of Scripture is alive. That in fact, is the joy of it.

With Your Child:

1. Make a list of all the friends and family members who teach you about Jesus by what they say or how they live. Plan a way to thank them for what they do.
2. Recall a story about Jesus. Talk about it with your family.
3. Together, read the story of Saint Jerome.