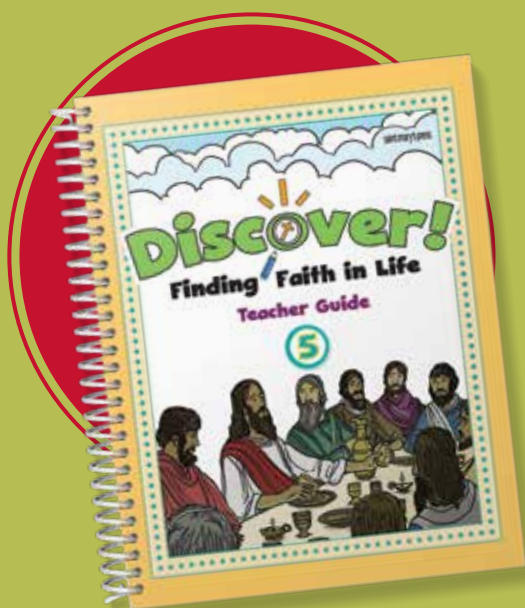


TRY THIS!



This prayer service is taken from the Ordinary Time chapter of the Grade 5 Teacher Guide in the *Discover! Finding Faith in Life* program.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT **DISCOVER! FINDING FAITH IN LIFE** AND ITS COMPONENTS:

ARE YOU AT A PARISH?
SMP.ORG/DISCOVERPARISH

ARE YOU AT A SCHOOL?
SMP.ORG/DISCOVERSCHOOL

Closer to Jesus

Prayer Service

Choose readers in advance for the different parts. Explain to the children that during this prayer, they will process to the prayer space, step by step. Ask the children to form a line across the room, facing the prayer space. Tell them that they will take one small step closer to the prayer space each time they respond, "We come to you, Jesus!"

Leader: Let us begin our prayer with the Sign of the Cross. *(All make Sign of the Cross.)* Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God. *(Allow about 10 seconds of silence.)*

Leader: Jesus, you came to Earth to teach us and show us the way to new life. We bring our prayers before you. We want to come closer to you each day.

Reader 1: Jesus, you love and welcome everyone, even the smallest, youngest ones. May we welcome others as you welcome us. We pray:

All: We come to you, Jesus! *(Invite the children to take one step forward.)*

Reader 2: Jesus, may we always trust you as we trust those who care for us. We pray:

All: We come to you, Jesus! *(Invite the children to take one step forward.)*

Reader 3: Jesus, may we learn more and more what it means to be your disciples. We pray:

All: We come to you, Jesus! *(Invite the children to take one step forward.)*

Reader 4: Jesus, show us how to follow you along right paths. We pray:

All: We come to you, Jesus! *(Invite the children to take one step forward.)*

Reader 5: Jesus, bless our teachers who help us know you and love you. May we all live our faith in you. We pray:

All: We come to you, Jesus! *(Invite the children to take one step forward.)*

Reader 6: Jesus, thank you for the gifts of your Church and of Ordinary Time. May we learn to know you better, follow your teachings, and grow in your love. We pray:

All: We come to you, Jesus! *(Invite the children to take one step forward.)*

Invite the children to come the rest of the way into and around the prayer space if they haven't already done so. Lead the children in praying the Our Father. Close by playing an appropriate song.