

FAMILY FAITH

Chapter 8: God with Us

God dwells among His people and shows them how to love and worship Him.

Chapter Summary

God sent the Israelites bread from Heaven called manna to nourish them on their journey to the Promised Land. God told the Israelites to build the Ark of the Covenant. In the Ark, they kept the stone tablets with the Ten Commandments and some of the manna from Heaven. God dwelt among His people through the Ark of the Covenant. Eventually, the Israelites were unsatisfied and wanted to have a king like other nations. So King Saul was chosen, and the twelve tribes of Israel became the Kingdom of Israel. God made a covenant with their second king—King David—that his kingdom would last forever. God kept this promise even after their enemies captured the Kingdom of Israel and destroyed their beautiful Temple. The Israelites were left waiting for the Savior, Jesus, the descendant of David who would establish God's kingdom as an everlasting kingdom.

More for Parents

God is present to His people. God makes Himself known to us in many different ways. Many parents attest to recognizing God's presence in their children. God is love, and the love that binds families together is a sign of God Himself. The family home becomes a "temple" in which the love of God is experienced. It is a place of learning to give ourselves out of love for God and one another. Parents have an amazing vocation of making God's presence known to their children. They provide for, care for, support, and nurture their children as God does for His family.

Virtue in the Family

Virtuous living should be nurtured in the home. As Catholic families, we are called to make the home a "domestic church," a place that calls the mind to worship God and to show the love of God to every member of the family.

Building Up Your Domestic Church

- As a family, decide how to make your home a dwelling place for God.
- Have each family member choose a specific decoration to honor God: a different crucifix for each room, holy water fonts, images of the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts, or sacred art.
- Dedicate a special place in the house just for family and private prayer. Buy devotional candles and have them blessed for use in this space. Decorate with statues of the family's patron saints, the Blessed Mother, and Christ.
- Print out how-to guides for this family chapel to help the family know how to pray such prayers as the Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Angelus.

Vocabulary Words for Your Children to Review

- **Eucharist**
- **manna**
- **worship**

Find digital flash cards to help your children review on the parent portal.



For more family faith formation resources, go to the parent portal.