

Dear Family,

We are ready to begin the first theme of *Fully Alive*, our family life program. Because the partnership of home, church, and school is so important, this letter is written to let you know what we talk about in class, and to offer some ideas for your involvement.

About Theme One

The first theme of *Fully Alive*, called “Created and Loved by God,” is like the foundation of a house. Everything else depends on it. In this theme we explore the Christian belief that we are made in God’s image, and that God knows and loves each one of us. We are a very special creation. Because of this, we respect and value ourselves and others. For more information go to: www.acbo.on.ca.

In Theme One we will:

- meet a group of six imaginary Grade 5 students and their teacher, Mr. Talbot.
- recognize and appreciate God’s everlasting love for us.
- explore the importance of respect for ourselves and others.
- examine the many ways we develop during our life journeys, and learn about the end of our life journey on earth and the beginning of a new life with God.
- discover that we are connected to many people, both living and dead, through their influence on our family members.

Working together at school and at home

- Ask your child to tell you about the story of Paul and what happened when he stole a magazine from a store.
- You might also ask about the “rule of respect,” which the students learned about in a story about Mr. Talbot’s classroom. What is the rule? Why is it important?
- One of the stories we will discuss is about the death of an elderly person. Ask your child to tell you about this story. Children often have questions about death, and this story provides an opportunity for you to answer some of these questions.
- In the last topic of this theme, the students will be bringing home a sheet about special people who influenced your life or the life of another person (grandparent, other relative, close family friend). Your child has been asked to interview you (or another person) about these special influences.

Teacher: _____ Date: _____