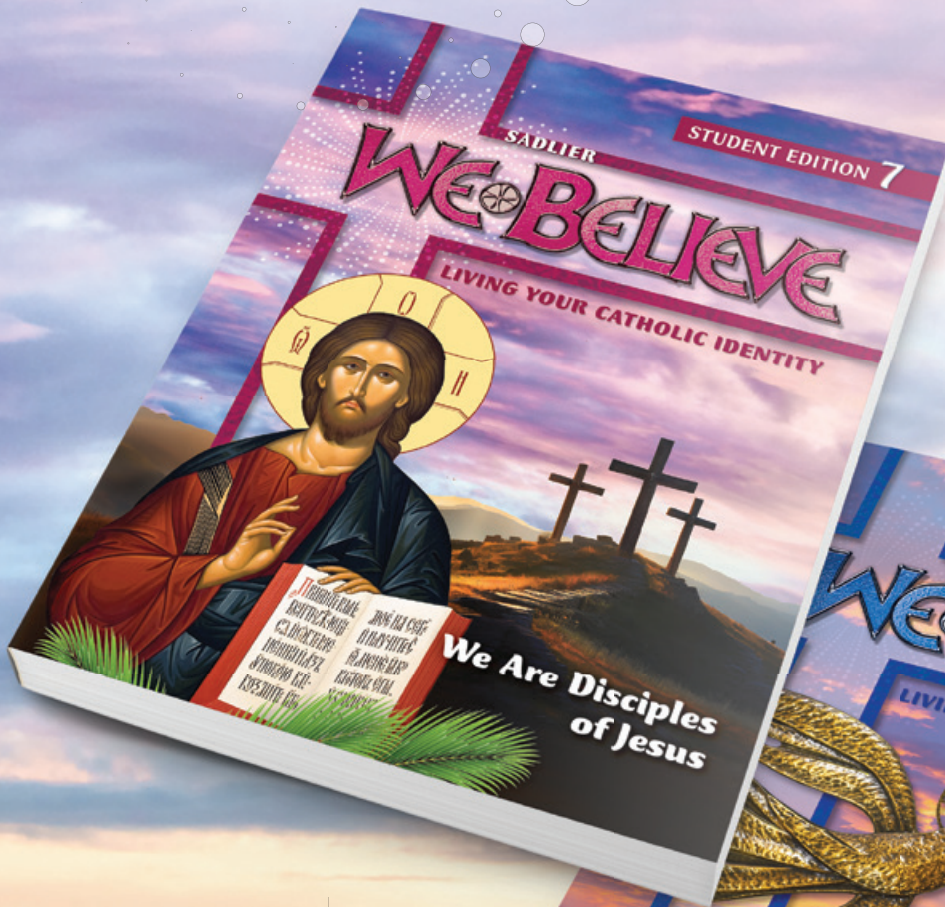


Sadlier Religion

**NEW!**

# **We Believe™**

## **Living Your Catholic Identity Grades 7 & 8**



**Continuing the Journey  
of Faith Formation**





# The Journey Continues: Deeper

Inspire young adolescents with the **NEW!** *We Believe: Living Your Catholic Identity*, designed for young preteens and teens. Strengthen Catholic identity in students and guide them to foster a personal relationship with Christ through enriching lessons, engaging activities, and a supportive faith environment.

## Rooted in Tradition, Growing in Faith

Building on the K-6 foundation, this program continues with the three-part lesson structure: **We Gather, We Believe, and We Respond**. Each lesson begins with the **Faith Words** that will be covered in the lesson and incorporates **four key faith statements** highlighting essential aspects of Catholic belief and guiding students to connect with the Gospel and live their faith daily.

**The Source of All Life**

**WE GATHER**

**Opening Prayer**

**Leader:** Lord, may we recognize that even as we seek your presence in our lives, you are always seeking us.

**Reader 1:** A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

"The God who made the world and all that is in it, the Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in sanctuaries made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands because he needs anything. Rather it is he who gives to everyone life and breath and everything" (Acts of the Apostles 17:24-25).

**Reader 2:** "People might seek God... though indeed he is not far from any one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'" (Acts of the Apostles 17:27-28).

**Reader 3:** God of Heaven and earth, be with us as we seek you.

**All:** For you are not far from any one of us.

**Reader 4:** God of Heaven and earth, help us to find you in our lives.

**All:** For in you we live and move and have our being.

**Leader:** God, our Father, we ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**All:** Amen.

**THINK! ABOUT IT**

How do you know that God is present in your life? How do you respond to his presence?

**Faith Words** Divine Revelation | salvation | grace

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Engaging lessons start by highlighting a prayer, key faith terms, and a reflection.

Prayer sets the tone for every lesson.

A lesson-related question invites students to engage in reflection.

Key Faith terms are highlighted up front and defined at point of use in each lesson.



# Living Faith with Grades 7 & 8

## Discover and Live the Gospel!

Engaging student pages inspire students to live out their Catholic faith actively and emulate the saints.

### PARTNER WITH SAINTS & LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!

**Partners in Faith** presents saints as relatable role models. Through writing prompts and videos, students connect saints with their lives and apply their lessons to their faith journeys.

**Let Your Light Shine!** offers practical ways for students and families to put faith into action, fostering dynamic learning and building strong foundations for a vibrant Catholic life.

Live the Gospel pages bring lessons full circle, encouraging real-world faith integration.

Inspiring examples of saints invite students to explore how to live their faith.

### LIVE THE GOSPEL

**WE RESPOND**

## Partners in FAITH

**Saints Basil and Emilia (fourth century)**

Basil and Emilia lived in Cappodocia, a region in modern-day Turkey. They had ten children and raised them to love God. Basil was well known for his wisdom and virtue. After he died, Emilia and their children went to live with his mother, Macrina the Elder. Emilia and Basil's oldest child, Macrina the Younger, encouraged her siblings and her mother in their faith. Emilia and Macrina focused on prayer and penance, finding wealth in God instead of material possessions. Their way of life attracted other women to live with them, and they formed a community.

Macrina the Younger and five of Basil and Emilia's other children are also saints. Two of their sons, Basil the Great and Gregory of Nyssa, became bishops and are now counted among the Fathers of the Church. Their daughter Theosebia served the Church, cared for orphans, and helped women prepare for Baptism. Their son Peter was a bishop and encouraged his brothers to write about Christian doctrine.

What can you do to help others to grow in the Catholic faith?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Partners in Faith**



**Saints Basil and Emilia**

**Let Your Light Shine!**

In this lesson, you learned that all people are created in the image and likeness of God. Reflect on how respecting the image of God in others helps you to further deepen your relationship with God. Think of one thing you can do at home, at school, or in your parish to respect the image of God in others. Develop a plan for action. Take your plan a step further and invite a friend or family member to join you into putting specific ideas into action.

**For more, go to the Family Corner page.**



## Gifted by God

**In God's Image and Likeness**

In the first creation account in the Book of Genesis, God declares on each numbered day of creation that what he has made is "good" (see, for example, Genesis 1:3). The earth, sky, sea, and the animals are all "good" precisely because God has made them. Finally, on the sixth day of creation, God creates humanity in the divine image, as male and female. Only then does God look "at everything he had made," finding it "very good" (Genesis 1:31). The addition of that simple word "very" helps us to know that human beings are the crown of all of God's creation. We embody and reflect the Creator's glory in a beautiful and unique way. Truly, we are very good!

God made us very good. Even though we sin, God gives us grace, especially through the sacraments, to live as his faithful, beloved children. In the chart below, write three ways you try to be good and do what is right. For each of these, write how God helps you.

Ways to Be Good	Ways God Helps Me
1.	
2.	
3.	

Let Your Light Shine! empowers students to reflect Gospel values in their lives.

### WE ARE EACH A GIFT OF GOD

**Gifted by God** explores Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body, helping students embrace their God-given dignity and understand their role in God's plan through age-appropriate lessons and activities.



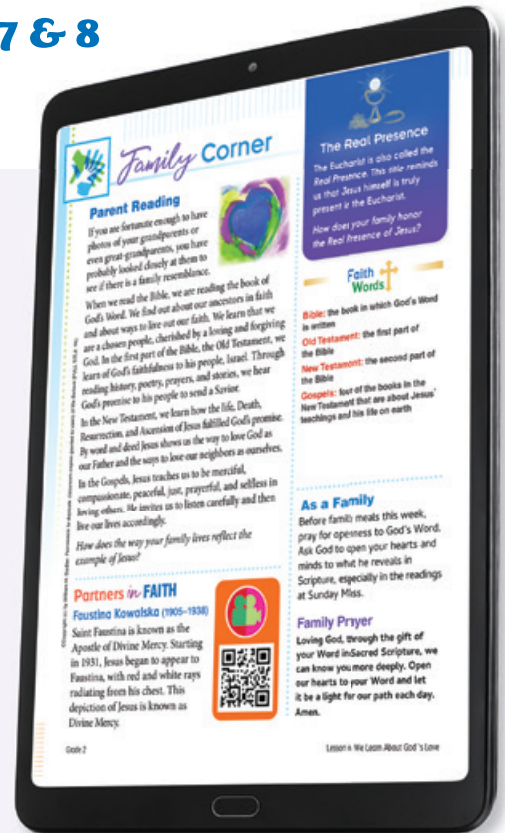
# WE BELIEVE

LIVING YOUR CATHOLIC IDENTITY, GRADES 7 & 8

## What's **NEW!** for Grades 7 & 8!

Exciting new features engage and inspire today's young disciples to begin a transformative journey of faith formation.

- **Connections** to the Eucharist and Sacraments
- **Reflection and journaling** in every lesson
- **Partners in Faith**, an inspirational story about the life of a saint in every lesson
- **Footsteps in Faith**, a spiraling review of the Catechism in every lesson
- **Online Family Corner** to enhance classroom teachings with at-home family catechesis
- **Let Your Light Shine!**, activities and ideas for putting faith into action
- **Gifted by God**, focusing on Theology of the Body and morality
- **Full Access™ for We Believe**, assessments and personalized reports to measure and accelerate faith formation growth
- Easy access to engaging **digital resources** at point-of-use
- **Multimedia components**, including videos, games, and more



To learn more about *Full Access* go to  
[www.SadlierReligion.com/WB-FullAccess](http://www.SadlierReligion.com/WB-FullAccess).

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