

# RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

a parent page

## Focus on Faith

### Jesus Sees Possibilities

**W**hen Jesus called Peter to be his disciple, Peter asked him to leave. Peter did not see the possibilities that Jesus did. Peter was an intelligent man with an established trade. He did not want to think beyond day-to-day concerns, but Jesus recognized Peter's talents and called him to become the leader of the Church. As parents we have the best opportunity to recognize and nurture the talents of our children. Many parents are tempted to see in a child possibilities that do not suit the child's personality or abilities. By recognizing and nurturing each child's true talents and abilities, we can help our children become who God is calling them to be.

### Dinnertime Conversation Starter

**T**ell your children some of your dreams. Ask them, "What do you want to be when you grow up? Why?" Listen to their dreams and encourage the development of their talents.

### Spirituality in Action



Jesus called Peter personally. The need to be connected is as strong as the need for food. As a family, make a list of people who would like to hear from you or with whom you haven't gotten in touch for a while. Phone, send an e-mail message, or write to them.

### Focus on Prayer

**Your child has read and reflected on the Gospel story of Jesus calling Peter (Luke 5:1–11). Help your child to understand that he or she receives a personal call from Jesus to be his special friend and follower. Encourage your child to spend a few quiet moments thinking about accepting Jesus' call as Peter did.**



### Our Catholic Heritage

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul was started in Paris, France, in 1833 by a group of students who were challenged



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to show the good works of the Catholic Church. The society was formed to minister to the needs of poor people. The society spread to the United States in 1845. Today this international group gives people of all backgrounds a chance to serve those in need. An example of the virtue of solidarity in action, the society provides many services, including assisting

elderly men and women, helping people with disabilities to find jobs, and operating thrift stores, nurseries, shelters, and rehabilitation facilities.

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