

RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

a parent page



Focus on Faith

God Is Our Loving Father

In this session's Scripture passage from Matthew 7:9–11, Jesus gives us some vivid images of what it means to be a parent. Jesus asks whether a father would give his son a snake when he asked for a fish or whether he would give his child a stone if the child asked for bread. Jesus then compares our natural care for our children with the overwhelming concern that God Our Father has for us all. In asking these questions, Jesus reminds us that the environment of care and concern we create for our children is the context in which they will learn of God Our Father's care and concern for them. How have your words and actions as a parent today influenced the way your child understands God's love?

Hints for at Home

Take a tour of your home and list the ways the decor reflects your faith. Perhaps your Bible is on the coffee table, a crucifix hangs in the bedroom, a religious calendar is in the kitchen. Can visitors tell that you are followers of Jesus? Is there something you might want to add?



Dinnertime Conversation Starter

Ask your child what things you do with him or her that are most enjoyable. Plan a time to do one of these things together.

Focus on Prayer

Your child prayed the Act of Faith. Pray the prayer together as a family. Make the Sign of the Cross as you begin and end your prayer. Talk about things that you can do to show that you believe and trust in God. For example, if you pray before and after meals at home, you might also pray before and after a meal in a restaurant. You can find the words to the Act of Faith and the Prayers Before and After Meals at www.FindingGod.org.



www.findinggod.com

Spirituality in Action

Use a box or suitcase to store clothing that has been outgrown or is no longer needed. Every few months sort through the items with your child. Make sure the items are clean. Make any needed repairs. Deliver the clothing to a local charity or shelter with your child. Remind your child that because God is our Father, we are the brothers and sisters of all people. Therefore, we must share what we have with those who need it.

