

RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

a parent page



Focus on Faith

Works of Mercy

Blessed Mother Teresa was well known for the way she cared for helpless people in society, a mission continued by the community she founded. She said that worse than the physical pain that people suffered was the spiritual pain of having no one to care for them. What she emphasized was the importance of the Spiritual Works of Mercy. As parents, we are called to practice the Spiritual Works of Mercy. We are called to instruct and advise. We comfort and console our children in times of need. We especially have to be forgiving and patient with them. The Spiritual Works of Mercy that our children experience through us are the foundation for their future as Christians.

Spirituality in Action

Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy name practical ways to serve God in the world. The Corporal Works of Mercy are feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting people who are sick or in prison, sheltering the homeless, giving alms to the poor, and burying the dead. The Spiritual Works of Mercy are instructing, advising, consoling, comforting, forgiving, and being tolerant.

Make a set of Works of Mercy cards. Print a different Work of Mercy on each one. Use two different colored pens or markers—one for corporal works and one for spiritual works. Each week pick a card at random and discuss how you can act in this way.

Dinnertime Conversation Starter



Parents are the example, but all are called to care for the spiritual needs of others. Within your family what typical situations call for advice, consolation, patience, or forgiveness?



www.findinggod.com

Focus on Prayer

Your child prayed the Holy Spirit Prayer of Saint Augustine. Pray this prayer together. Talk about relying on the Holy Spirit to guide everyone in your family. You can find the words of this prayer at www.FindingGod.org.

