

RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

a parent page

Focus on Faith

Following Jesus' Way

Jesus told his disciples that unless they became like children they would not enter the Kingdom of God. Jesus was not promoting some starry notion of childlike innocence. Jesus was speaking here of children as those who need direction in life. Our journey to God is not one that we can travel by choosing our own ways. We have to take direction from God in order to follow him. God has given us the Ten Commandments, and Jesus has given us the Beatitudes as fundamental signposts. They tell us how to worship God truly and to care for others. We want our children to follow God's way. We are the most important examples they have of what this means.

Dinnertime Conversation Starter

Discuss with your child how important signs are in life. Point out how the signs we obey each day (for example, traffic lights, stop signs, right-of-way signs, walk and don't-walk signs) help to keep us safe. Relate these signs to the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes, which God gives us to help us follow Jesus.

Spirituality in Action

Encourage your family members to think of ways to help someone you know who might be dependent on others for basic needs or who might appreciate some help. For example, you could visit an elderly or homebound relative or visit a neighbor to give the person company or to run errands for him or her.



Focus on Prayer

Your child is learning the Morning Offering, which is a prayer to remind us to stay close to God during daily activities. You might pray the prayer together when it is possible—perhaps at the breakfast table or while in your car commuting. You will find the exact words to the prayer at www.FindingGod.org.



www.findinggod.com

Hints for at Home

With your child, discuss a beatitude that has a special meaning to him or her. Help your child do an art project related to that beatitude. For example, your child might write it out in special script or type it using a special font on the computer. Display the resulting work in your home.

