Focus on Faith

God Created Everything Good

We are all fascinated by the story of how things began. Our children are fascinated by stories of how they were born, who was present, how exciting it was. We have that same sense of wonder about the beginning of the world. This is the story told in the first chapter of Genesis. This story was written when the Jewish people were in exile in Babylon between 597 and 537 B.C. They wrote the story because their children in Babylonian schools were learning the Babylonian story of creation that was filled with bloody battles. The Babylonians taught that the human family was created from the blood of an evil god. The Jewish writer of Genesis wanted to make it clear that the world was and continues to be created by God and that his creation is good. Celebrate God’s good world today.

Dinnertime Conversation Starter

Discuss how you as a family celebrate God’s good world.

Spirituality in Action

No matter who we are or where we come from, we all have dignity because God created us. Although we can never lose the fundamental human dignity that God gave us, we can lose some of our dignity as members of a community when we hurt God’s creation, especially other people. With your family, look through a newspaper or magazine and discuss some of the ways that people care for or hurt God’s creation.

Hints for at Home

The Catholic Church teaches that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation for a society’s moral strength. To demonstrate to your child that he or she is unique, have your child list facts about himself or herself on a sheet of paper. Included can be likes, dislikes, friends, hobbies, favorite books and classes, and faith experiences. When your child has finished, have him or her sign it and put fingerprints on it (using ink or finger paints). Store the document in a safe place and then show it to your child a few years later. Your child will be interested to see that his or her fingerprints have remained the same despite any changes in personality or growth in faith.

Focus on Prayer

Your child is reviewing the Lord’s Prayer. To help with this review, pray this prayer as a family.