



Kids' **LITURGY**

Dear Parents,

Here are weekly activities, centered around the Sunday liturgy, that children can engage in during our time of remote services. Just click on this page and scroll down to the current Sunday.

May God continue to guide and bless us.

You can reach the Office of Faith Formation at 805/969-4868.

The Good Samaritan

When Jesus says, "Love your neighbor," who do you think he means? Is it the lady who lives next door or your very best friend in school or someone who lives on the next block? Who is this neighbor Jesus wants you to love?

In today's gospel story, a man asks Jesus this question: "Who is my neighbor?" Jesus tells a story about a poor man who was beat up and robbed and left lying in the street. Two people passed right by the man. They lived in the same village as he did, but they didn't even stop to help. They were much too busy.

Then along came another man. He was from a country called Samaria. Samaritans were not well liked by the people in this village. The Samaritan stopped to help the man. He cleaned the man's wounds and took good care of him.

Who was the injured man's neighbor? Those who lived in his own village or the "Good Samaritan"? Jesus wants you to think about that.



Your neighbor is anyone who needs you. Your neighbor is anyone who helps you. Look around you. Is there someone who needs your help? Can you be a "Good Samaritan" today?

A PUZZLE FOR YOU

Use the key below to unscramble the question someone asked Jesus in this week's gospel story.

X I P

J T N Z

O F J H I C P S

_____ ?

KEY

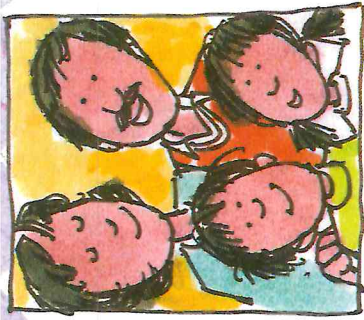
X=W	P=O	T=S	Z=Y	F=E	C=B
I=H	J=I	N=M	O=N	H=G	S=R

Family Page

While it is important to learn the traditional prayers of the Church by heart, another special way of praying is just to BE with Jesus, thinking about him and trying to love him with all your heart. This kind of loving is natural to children. Think of how a small child will snuggle into your lap, content just to be near you or how a child will move the center of his or her activity to be in the room with the rest of the family. This week, practice just "being" with Jesus. Here are some ideas.

The last thing at night or the first thing in the morning are good times to be with Jesus. Begin by sitting down and closing your eyes. Try to picture Jesus sitting with you. Love him in your heart and think about how much he loves you and wants to be with you.

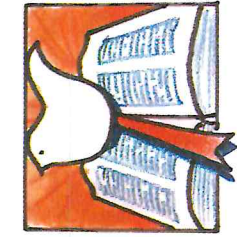
You don't need words, but if you have something you are worried about or something you are very happy about, you can talk about it when you are with Jesus.



If you have trouble getting started, say a little prayer that reminds you of Jesus.

Stay with Jesus as long as your heart and mind are able to picture him. It could be one minute or five or ten. How long doesn't matter. The important thing is that you have taken time just to be with him.

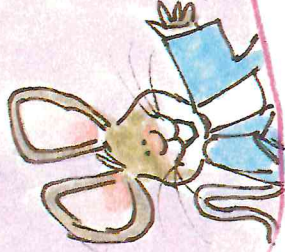
Remember that Jesus called the BEING way of loving him the "better part."



explaining GOD'S WORD

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) • Luke 10:38-42 • July 17, 2022

Here are two pictures of a mother showing her love for her little girl. These are both good ways of showing love. Which way do you think makes the little girl feel happier?



Another Way to Love

How do you say I love you to someone very special?

Mom and Dad say I love you by doing something especially for you. It could be something like baking a cake or playing catch in the yard.

Sisters and brothers say I love you by sharing their toys with you or helping you with your chores.

These are all good ways to say I love you. They are called DOING ways.

But there is another way to say I love you. It is called the BEING way.

The BEING way to say I love you is the nice feeling you get just being with those you love, just sitting together, talking and listening and feeling very warm and happy.

In this week's gospel story, Jesus visits two of his friends, Martha and Mary.

Martha loves Jesus the DOING way. She works hard in the kitchen, fixing all his favorite foods. Mary loves Jesus the BEING way. She sits quietly at his feet, listening to his words, feeling happy just to be with him.

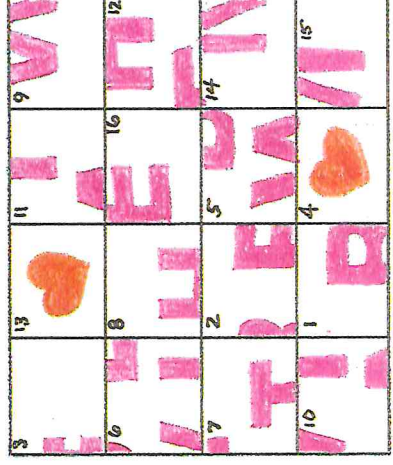
Sometimes you love God by DOING, by helping others and working hard. And sometimes you love God by BEING, by praying to God and thinking about God and loving God with all your heart.



Scrambled Picture Puzzle

There are two ways you can work this puzzle. You can redraw the lines in the squares at the right into the same-numbered square on the left, or cut the squares on the right and paste them in the correct squares on the left. The message will tell you the special way that Mary loved Jesus.

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16



Family Page

There are so many different ways to pray and so many things to pray about that we would need many, many pages to write them all down. Each member of the family has his or her own special way to pray for special needs. Last week you learned to pray just by BEING with Jesus. Sometimes you pray just to tell Jesus how wonderful he is. And sometimes you pray for things you need. Here is a special family project that will help you to think about this week's kind of prayer.

- Decorate a big piece of poster paper with birds and trees and small animals and flowers—all the things that God has given you.
- Hang your poster on the refrigerator where everyone can get at it.
- Each day, members of the family can write on the poster something they want to pray for. This can be something a person needs or it can be for help in school or for someone who is sick. It can also just be special words of love for God. (Visitors and friends who want the family to pray for them should be invited to add their intentions.)
- Each evening, when the family prays together, you can all pray for the special things that are written on your poster.
- At the end of the week, share the many ways in which God has answered the prayers and petitions of the family. Write a family thank-you prayer, then celebrate God's constant care by reciting your prayer together.

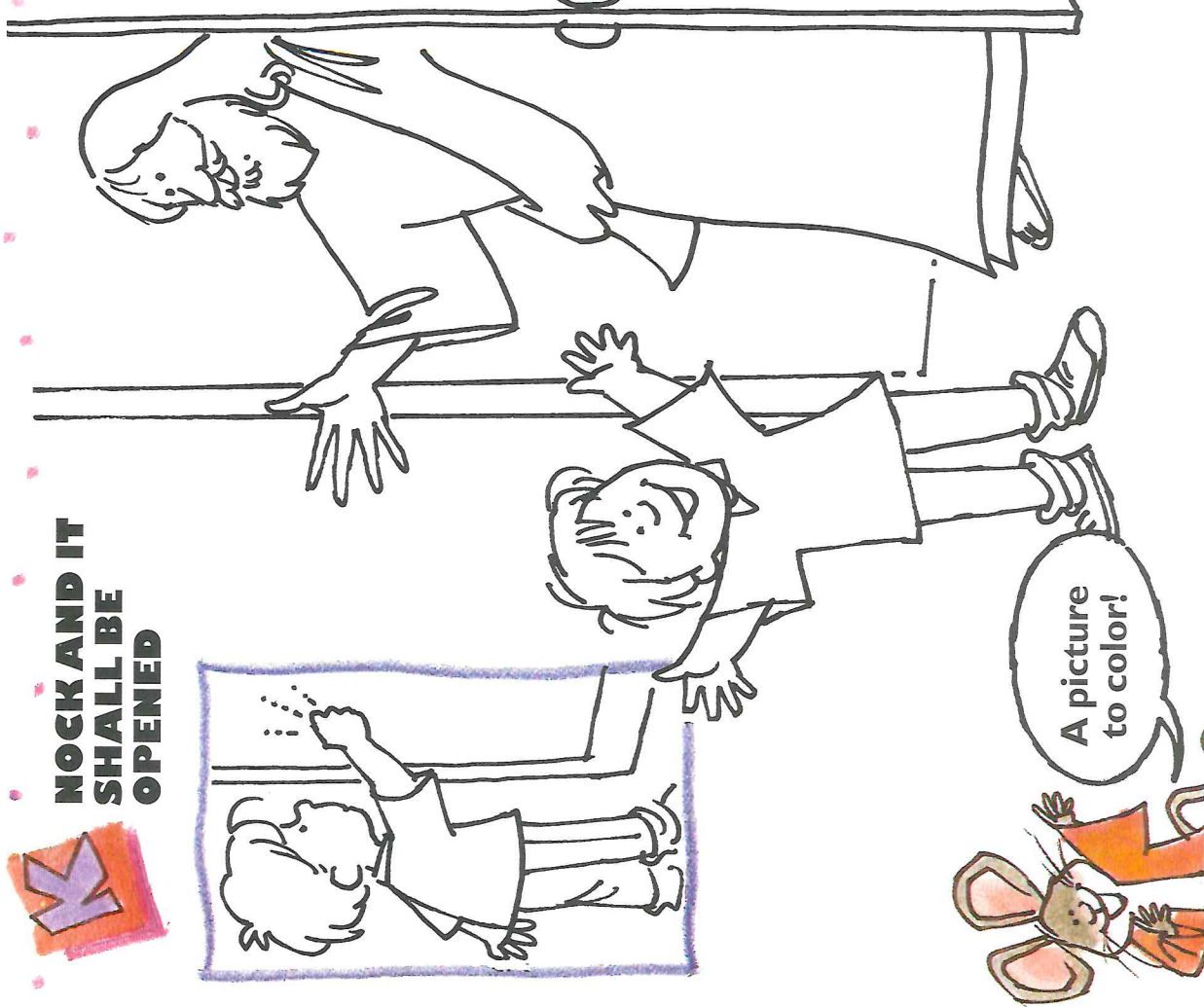


explaining GOD'S WORD

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) • Luke 11:1-13 • July 24, 2022



KNOCK AND IT SHALL BE OPENED



Jesus Answers Your Prayers

If your very good friend asked you for a favor, what would you do? You would try very hard to help your friend.

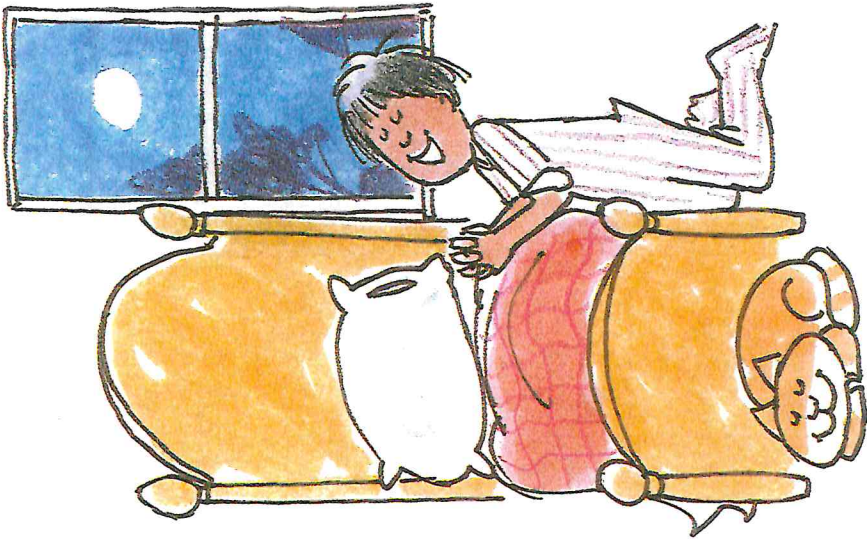
If you asked your good friend to do a favor for you, what would your friend do? Your friend would try to help you. Of course! That's what friends are for.

Now how about God? God is your very good friend. God is your BEST friend. If you should ask God to do you a favor, what do you think God would do?

If you should ask God to make someone who is sick all well and healthy again or if you ask God to help you to do your schoolwork better, do you think God would hear you?

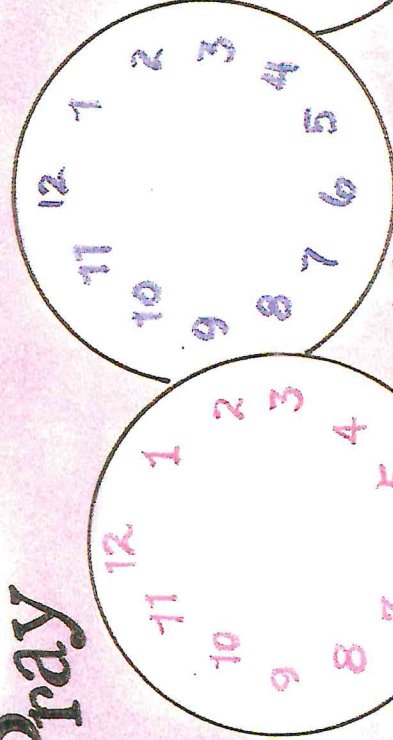
Jesus tells you a secret this week, a very wonderful secret. Jesus makes a promise about your prayers. He says, "Ask and you shall receive; seek and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you."

God hears your every prayer and wants to do nice things for you. What a wonderful promise! What a really good friend is God!

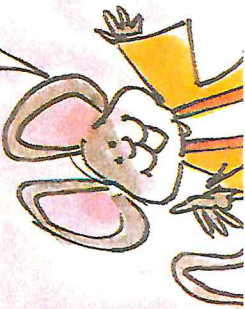


Time to Pray

Here are four good times to pray. Can you fill in the correct times on the clock faces?



MORNING



LUNCH

DINNER

BEDTIME

Family Page

Would you like to grow rich in the sight of God? Here are some ways you can do it.



Have a family conference to discuss ways that you can all share with others. First, discuss the nonmaterial gifts you can share — your time, your love, and so forth. But keep in mind that this is also an opportunity for the whole family to learn about charity.

1. Follow the instructions on the front of this bulletin for making your Share Bank. Now think of ways the whole family can help to fill the bank. Discuss ways you can help others with the money in your bank. Maybe you can give it to a poor family in your community or neighborhood or to your parish collection for the poor. Whatever you decide upon, everyone should add his or her share — even if it's just pennies.

2. In addition to extra money earned that can be put in your bank, you can also write on little slips of paper things you will share with others. "I will share time with Grandma by reading to her," or "I will play a game with Jeannie this week," or "I will let Bobby ride my bike." Don't forget to keep all the promises you made on paper. Doing something nice for others pleases God — and when God is pleased with you, you are truly rich.



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explaining GOD'S WORD

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) • Luke 12:13-21 • July 31, 2022

MY SHARE BANK

After you have finished with this bulletin, cut on the dotted lines of this page. Wrap the label around a container that has a plastic lid. Fasten the label with tape. Cut a slit in the lid and place your Share Bank where you can see it every day.



The Sad Story of Jeremy

Jeremy was a very rich little boy. Whenever Jeremy wanted something, his father would buy it for him. But Jeremy was not happy. All day, he sat in his room, looking very sad, surrounded by his beautiful toys.

One day Jeremy's father said, "Why don't you play with the other kids?" Jeremy was afraid the others would break his toys or steal them or lose them. So he just stayed inside, all alone in his room.

"Toys are meant to be shared," Jeremy's father said. "You can't catch a baseball if there's no one to throw it to you. It's no fun playing any game without a friend. Go outside now," he said, "and play with the children."

Jeremy did what his father said, and he had a wonderful time, making new friends and sharing toys.

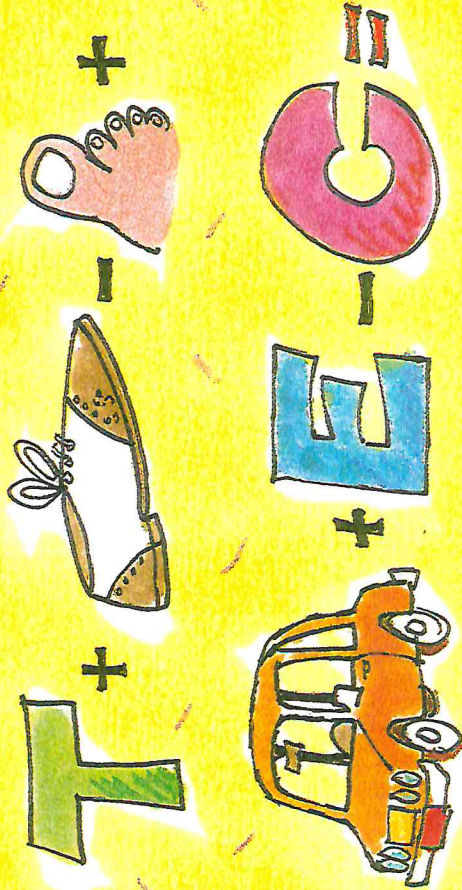
In this week's gospel story, Jesus tells of a rich man who had so much grain he had to build a bigger barn to keep it all in. God wanted him to share his grain with his neighbors and friends.

That is the way, Jesus said, to be rich in the sight of God.

You can be rich too, if you share what you have with others.

Richness Rebus

Solve this rebus to find out how you can become "rich in the sight of God."



Family Page

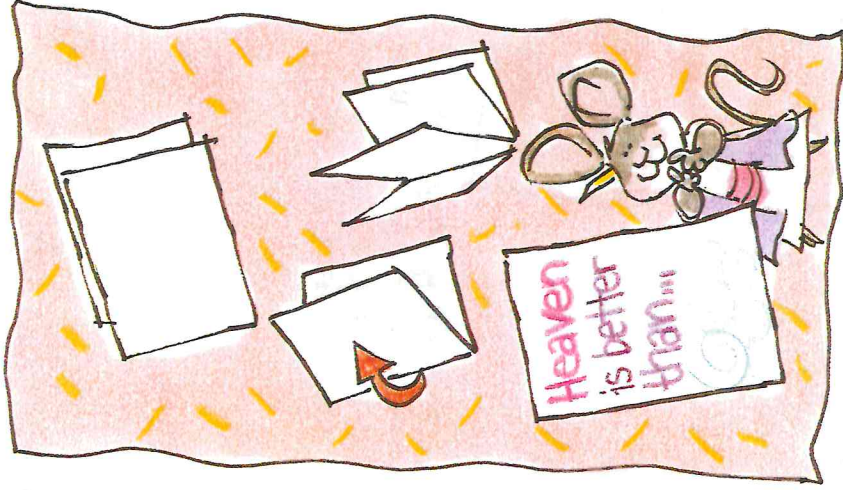
God the Father wants us to be happy. He gives us many things for our happiness on earth: birds that sing, lovely flowers, lakes, trees, and best of all, family and friends. These are all gifts our Father gives to show us how important our happiness is to him. But the best gift of all is the special place that he has saved for us in heaven.

This week, spend some time talking about the happiness that awaits your family in heaven. There is no joy on earth that can compare with it, but sometimes it helps to imagine this great joy by concentrating on the things that make you happy now.

Here is a little book your family can put together to help you think about this. Just follow these simple steps.

1. Take four or more pieces of paper, any size, and fold them down the middle so they form a booklet of several pages.
2. On the cover of the book, print: **HEAVEN IS BETTER THAN...**
3. On each page, paste or draw pictures of what makes you happy. Title each page. (For example, **A WALK IN THE PARK; A DAY WITH THE FAMILY; A TRIP TO THE ZOO; PLAYING WITH MY FRIENDS.**)
4. On the back cover, make a collage of what you think heaven will have for perfect happiness. (For example, **ETERNAL LIFE, EVERLASTING PEACE, PERFECT LOVE.**)

You can show your book to your friends and visitors so that they too will realize how much joy God has saved for them in heaven.

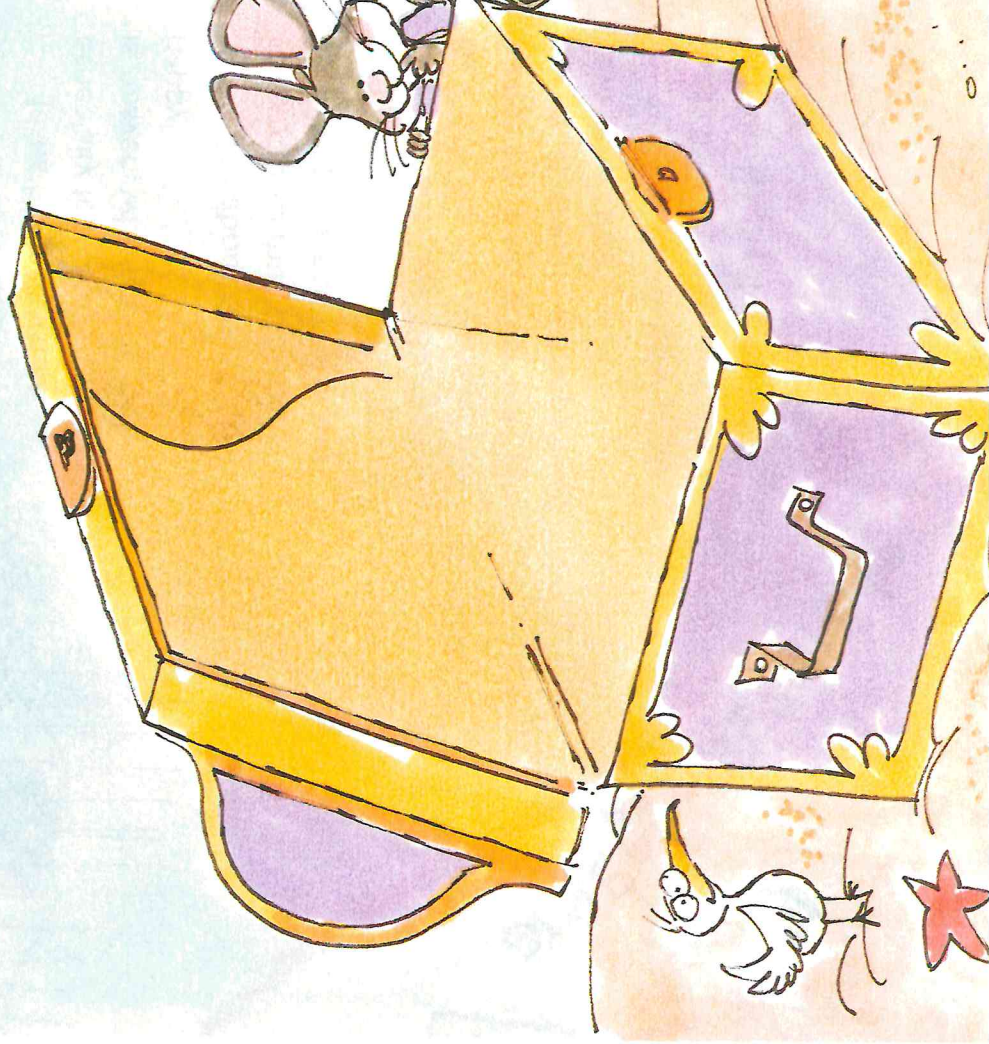


explaining GOD'S WORD

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) • Luke 12:32-48 or 12:35-40 • August 7, 2022

T REASURES FOR HEAVEN

Do you have a treasure box? What do you keep in it? Everybody has something special, something that makes him or her happy. This something special is that person's treasure. Draw a picture of your treasure in this box.



WHERE IS YOUR TREASURE?

In this week's gospel story, Jesus tells you, "Wherever your treasure lies there your heart will be." Do you know what your treasure is?

Whatever makes you happy, that is your treasure. Whatever you love most, that is your treasure.

Jesus has a treasure especially for you. That treasure is heaven, where everyone is happy!

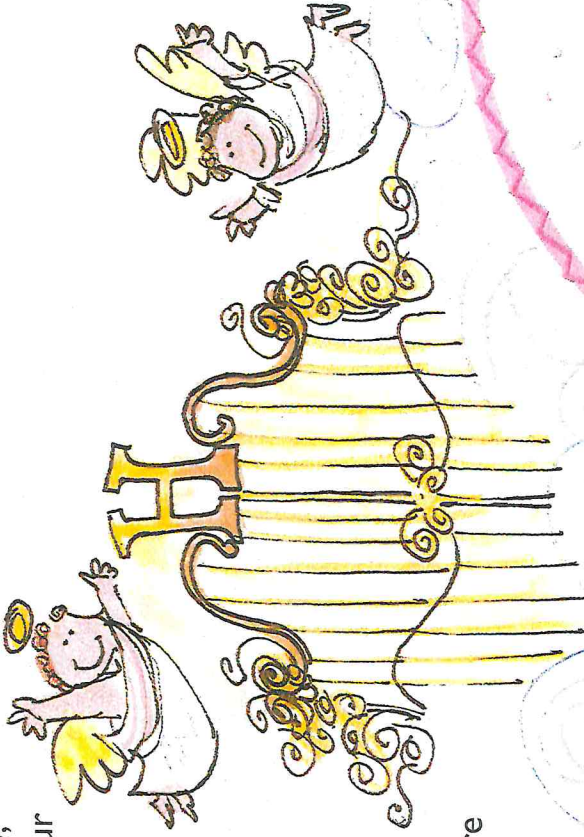
Think about that! God loves you so much it makes God happy just to make you happy.

So Jesus says, "Be ready!" Be ready for the treasure the Father has waiting for you. In heaven, everyone is happy with God the Father.

Do you know how to be ready for the happiness of heaven? Jesus told you the secret.

Jesus said: Love the Lord your God with your whole heart, with your whole soul, and with all your mind. Love your neighbor as yourself.

Do as Jesus says. Be ready for the Kingdom of his Father.



Different things mean happiness to different people. Even animals have special ways to happiness. Can you match up the column on the left with what makes each person or animal happy?

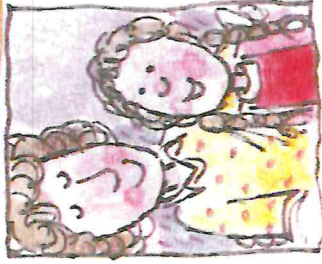


Happiness Game

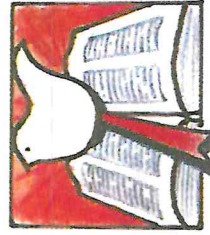
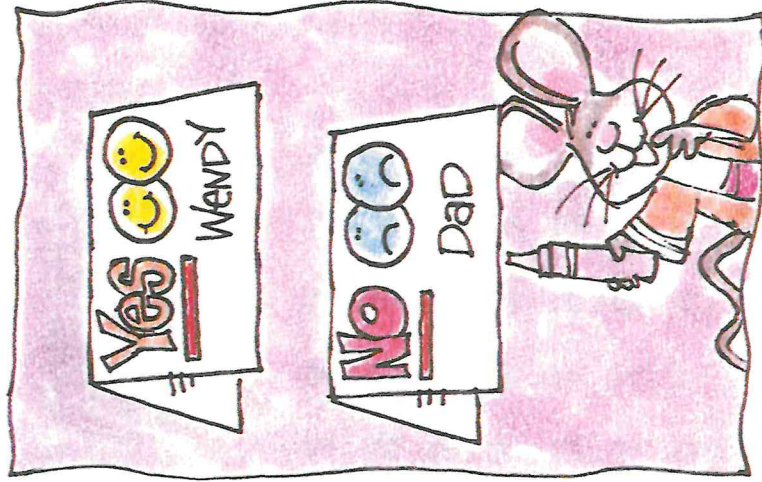
Family Page

The way of love is not always the easy way. Jesus knew that. Today's message was meant to prepare us for the many obstacles that will face us in our spiritual journey.

It is important for the children to realize the difficulties involved in always choosing the right way, even when it means going against their friends or their own desires. Also, that sometimes they may make wrong decisions but that wrong decisions can be reversed. Here are some ideas to help them in their decision-making.



- 1 Make up a small card for each member of the family (index cards work well) with the word YES on one side and NO on the other. You can decorate the YES side with a smiling face and the NO side with a frowning face and write the person's name on both sides.
- 2 Use these cards as place cards at the dinner table each night this week.
- 3 Ask each member of the family to tell of any difficult right/wrong decision he or she had to make that day. If the decision was correct, that person turns his or her card to the YES side. If, however, the person made a wrong decision, he or she must turn the card to the NO side.
- 4 It's important to remind the children that, while they will not always make the right decision, they will have new chances to turn the card around by making right decisions the next day.



explaining GOD'S WORD

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) • Luke 12:49-53 • August 14, 2022

A Surprise for the Teacher?
Connect the dots to see what the "surprise" could be.



What Is Really IMPORTANT?

"A toad! A toad!" yelled one of the boys. "Let's put it in teacher's desk!" "Oh yes! Oh yes!" all agreed. "That will be a very good trick." "Let Jimmy do it," someone said. Jimmy did not agree. "It's a very mean trick," he said. But the other kids teased him and called him "teacher's pet." So he thought, "Maybe I'll do it so the kids will like me."

Then Jimmy thought some more. "What will Jesus think if I do this thing?" Jesus is very important to Jimmy. Jimmy is important to Jesus too.

But what was more important — being liked by the kids or doing what Jesus would want? Jimmy knew! He said NO to the kids and YES to Jesus.

In today's gospel story, Jesus tells how hard it is for those who will follow him. Having other people like you is not the most important thing. The most important thing is to believe in Jesus and follow him every day.

When others try to take you away from following Jesus every day, it is hard to say no. Remember to say a little prayer at times like these. Jesus will be there to help you!

Follow Jesus

Following Jesus means always saying YES to what God wants you to do. Here is a secret YES square. YES can be found 18 times in this square. See if you can circle all 18 of them.

A	B	C	Y	E	S	D	Y	O	F
Y	E	S	Q	R	P	J	E	T	O
E	S	M	K	Y	E	S	S	L	V
S	Y	E	S	X	O	Y	M	T	R
Y	E	J	S	T	L	E	Y	E	S
E	T	Q	R	Y	E	S	E	M	L
S	Y	E	S	L	L	M	S	O	Y
L	K	Y	E	V	X	Y	E	S	E
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