

Talking with Your Child About God

Every time you speak with your child about God, you affirm in them the powerful influence of God in their lives. As life in any family goes, you will have an abundance of opportunities to do this, both formally and informally.

Showing God's Love

During your child's earliest years, tell them about God's great love for them in simple words and know that they will experience this reality through the security that your love and joy provides them. They will also experience God's love through recognizing all of the good things that God has given us in this world. Instill in your child the truth that they will always be God's gift to your family and to the world because they were created by God.

Sharing Bible Stories

Everyone enjoys a great story, so tell your child stories about Jesus. This is a foundational way to learn about God's love. Use the stories that are provided in the *Stories of God's Love* program to relay, in a simple way, some of the essential stories of our faith. Storytelling will easily engage your child, especially if the storyteller is someone they love and respect, like you. Share with your child your favorite Bible stories and tell them why they mean so much to you. This will affirm your family's Catholic identity as you grow in faith together.

A Model of Faith

When we love our neighbor, we extend the acceptance and love that we receive from God, and thereby live as Christ's disciples. Modeling this love is especially powerful when your child observes you extending these Christian values to others in your family, your parish and your neighborhood. Just as you offer this love, so too your children will learn to give and receive this love.

Talk to your child about God and God's love and they will continue to recognize this throughout their lives. Let them know that God is our loving Father, and together you will spend the rest of your lives learning how to love and serve him more.



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