



Seek First the Kingdom

Parents in Partnership with God – Sharing Faith with Children

A Ministry of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Immaculata, Pennsylvania

PARENTS – FIRST TEACHERS OF PRAYER Part 3 of 6: Love for Scripture

As the *First Herald of the Gospel* to children, it is the parent-privilege to introduce a child to God and to prayer-ways that engage the child in conversation with God.

Conversation leads to knowing;
knowing leads to loving;
loving leads to serving.

This bulletin is one of six newsletters:

- Prayer Prompts
- Parent Blessings
- Love for Scripture
- Blessed Sacrament Prayer
- Participation in Mass
- Sunday Gospel “Take-Aways”

May the suggestions that follow support you, the parent, to fulfill this divine task.

Saint Paul wrote to Timothy: “All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3: 16-17). Scripture is surely also a gateway to prayer.

God can speak to us in varied ways . . . through an overheard remark, a word or lyric in a song, a movie scene, nature, even while reading a mystery novel. A sure source of God’s voice is Sacred Scripture!

Accept the Scripture as God’s voice to you and respond, engage it, enter into conversation. For instance, pray with this verse from the prophet Jeremiah:

“I know well the plans I have for you – plans for your welfare – not for your woe! Plans for a future full of hope.” (Jeremiah 29: 11-14)

Parents exercise their baptismal role of prophet when they lead their children to know and love Scripture. Consider the following suggestions as “starter ideas.”

1. Collect and display favorite Scripture quotes like:

- “When you seek Me with all your heart you will find Me within you and it will change your lot” (Jeremiah 29: 11-14)
- “By waiting and calm you shall be saved. In quiet and in trust your strength lies.” (Isaiah 30: 15b)
- “Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new!” (Isaiah 43: 18)
- “Every day is a feast day to a contented heart.” (Proverbs 15: 15)
- “Do not be afraid – I will save you. I have called you by name – you are mine. (Isaiah 43:1) . . . I will hold you in the palm of my hand (Isaiah 41:13).

2. **Father’s Love Letter** is a compilation of paraphrased Bible verses presented in the form of a letter from God. Obtain a free copy @ www.FathersLoveLetter.com. Several times during a month read it slowly and reflectively to your child, perhaps as he/she is snuggled in bed.

3. From the Sunday Gospel **extract a “one-liner”** that has meaning for you. Memorize it and use it during the week in conversation with Jesus and with others.