



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.**

Family Page

There is in all of us a need to be recognized and feel important. Children especially feel this need. No matter how many children you have, each should be allowed his or her own "specialness." Find activities that will bring out this specialness in each child.

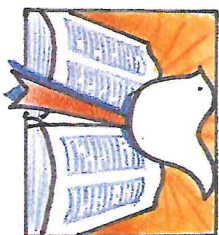
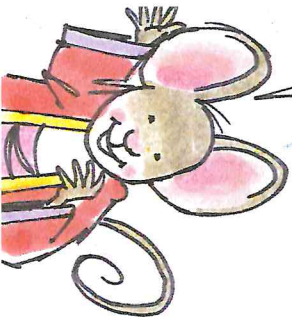
Children respond to chores and tasks with a more positive attitude when they feel that what they do is important to the family. Assign tasks that engender pride according to age. A small child could be "in charge" of making sure the tables in the living room are dusted and polished. This becomes special when you openly admire the child's work. "Jimmy (Jenny) is the best table-polisher in this whole house!"

Cut out the I AM SPECIAL badge on the front of this bulletin. Paste it on heavy paper and tape a small safety pin to the back. When a child does something deserving of recognition,

let him or her wear the badge for a whole day. Of course, you should make it a point to give each child a chance to earn the right to wear the I AM SPECIAL badge this week. If necessary, copy the badge and make one for each child.

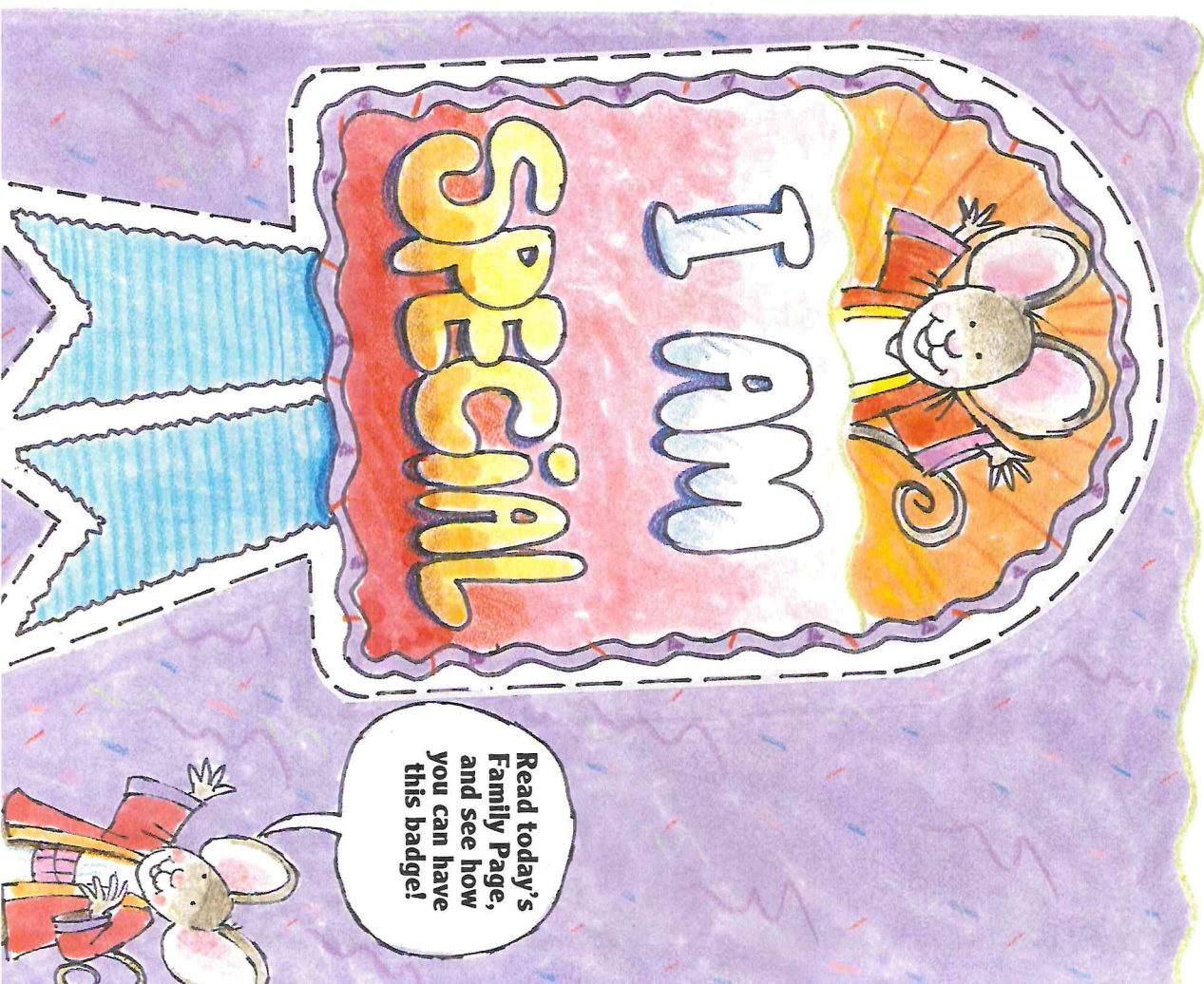


See you next week!



explaining GOD'S WORD

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) • Mark 9:30-37 • September 19, 2021



Read today's Family Page, and see how you can have this badge!

Written by Francine M. O'Connor. Art by Chris Sharp. © 2021 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Imprimatur: Most Rev. Robert J. Hermann, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Printed in USA. All rights reserved. It is a violation of copyright law to reproduce all or part of this material without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications, Liguori.org or JHE 3H 2021. Jesus Wants You to Help Others as He Did.

Everybody wants to be first!

Lisa had a birthday party.
The children played games and sang.
Then Lisa opened her gifts.
Soon it was time for the birthday cake.
All the children rushed to the table.
They pushed and shoved each other.
They argued about who should be first.
A wonderful birthday party
had become a terrible thing.



How would you feel if you were Lisa?
How would you like your friends
to act this way at your party?
*It's selfish to want to be first.
It's selfish to push and shove
just to get ahead.*



In this week's gospel story,
Jesus was walking with his friends.
He overheard some of them arguing.
"What are you talking about?" he asked.
They explained that they were arguing
about who was most important to Jesus.

Pushing and
shoving aren't
very loving.



Then what a strange answer Jesus gave!
"Whoever wants to be first with me,
must remain the last one of all
and the servant of all."
To be important and special to Jesus,
remember what he said.
Don't worry about being first.
Don't worry about being important.
Just help and love others
as Jesus helps and loves you.



A Secret Message From Jesus

Using the code
key, can you figure
out this message
from Jesus
to you?

Code key:

A = J; B = O; C = D; E = T; F = H; G = E; H = I; I = A;
J = R; K = W; L = N; M = S; N = Y; O = U; P = L; Q = P

A G M O M K I L E M
N B O E B F G P Q
B E F G J M
I M F G C H C

explaining GOD'S
WORD

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) • Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48 • September 26, 2021

to keep track of their loving actions.

Give a gold star (or draw a star) for every kindness. At the end of the week, you will have an individual tally for each member of the family and a total family tally — a visible sign of how close you are getting to God.

Help the children to learn the following prayer and encourage them to say it every day.

how close you are getting to God.

Help the children to learn the following prayer and encourage them to say it every day.

A vertical sequence of four illustrations. At the top is a yellow and white striped boat with a white cabin and a small propeller. Below it is a purple plus sign. Then is a red car with a white steering wheel and a small propeller. At the bottom is a pink plus sign.

Amen.

**Solve the
rebuses to find**

**the missing word
in this promise
from Jesus:**

Anyone who gives you a

**drink of water
because you**

***belong to Christ
will not go
without a...***

A "Little Way" to Go

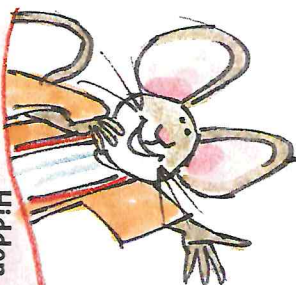


This is the story of Saint Therese, the Little Flower of Jesus. When she was just a little girl, Therese wanted to become a saint. She asked God to help her find a way to love and to serve God every day, something even a child could do.

Therese had read of many saints who had done wonderful things, brave and fearless things, to serve God and God's people. But Therese couldn't do these things. She was much too young. She was much too small. So she did LITTLE THINGS every day that she knew pleased God. When her father was sad, she would find a way to cheer him up. When her sisters were working hard, she would find a way to help them.



You can follow Saint Therese's "Little Way" to heaven.



Remember what Jesus promised in this week's gospel story? He said if anyone should give even a drink of water in his name, that person would be rewarded. What a wonderful promise! What a beautiful way to please God. See how many little things you can do for others each day. You can be like Therese — God's own little saint of love.

Hidden in the magic box are five "little ways" you can please God by helping others. How many can you find?

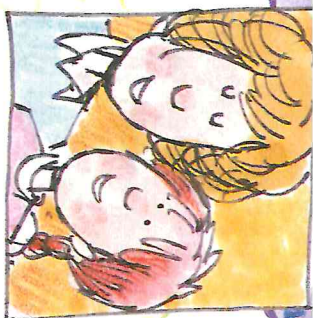
P	C	E	G	I	L
R	N	P	R	T	O
A	Y	A	G	C	V
Y	S	M	I	L	E
M	H	O	V	Q	P
R	A	T	E	V	X
Z	R	B	D	P	H
H	E	L	P	R	L

Word list:

LOVE SMILE HELP PRAY SHARE

Little Ways That Please

Family Page



Jesus asks all of us to become like little children. In so doing, he puts worldly goals and human imperfection in their place. Keep this message in mind when interacting with your children. To help them live out today's message, institute the following family project, "Instruction Booklets for Jesus Models."

1

For your booklet, you will need several pieces of typing paper, folded in half.

2

On the cover, paste the finished picture from the front of this bulletin.

3

On each page, write something about Jesus and have your child add some way he or she will follow his example. For instance, if you write *Jesus loved everyone*, your child might add, *I will be especially nice to some-*

4

one today. Or if you write, *Jesus prayed*, your child might add, *I will remember my prayers every day*. These ideas are just to get you started. The rest is up to you.

The humility, trust, obedience, and forgiving nature of little children, their ability to see someone without judging, and many other characteristics make them wonderful Christian examples for people of all ages

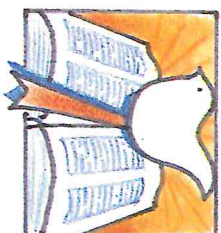
Answer to
Circle of Love:

Let them come to me.



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explaining GOD'S
WORD

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) • Mark 10:2-16 or 10:2-12 • October 3, 2021



Let the Children
Come to Me

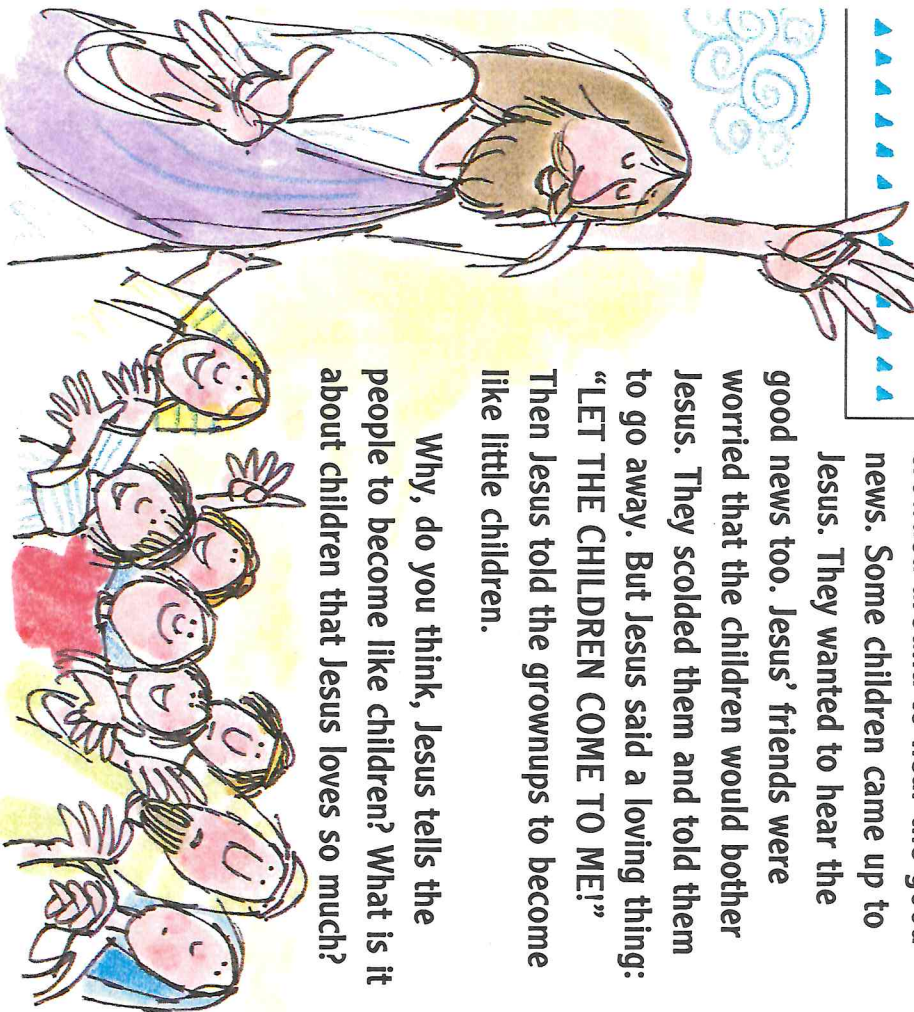
Jesus loves
all children.
Color Jesus
and these
happy
children.



Just Like You!

This week's gospel story is about Jesus and children. Jesus was talking about God. The people all crowded around to hear the good news. Some children came up to Jesus. They wanted to hear the good news too. Jesus' friends were worried that the children would bother Jesus. They scolded them and told them to go away. But Jesus said a loving thing: "LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME!" Then Jesus told the grownups to become like little children.

Why, do you think, Jesus tells the people to become like children? What is it about children that Jesus loves so much?



Children know how to listen and how to learn from others. Jesus wants everyone to listen and learn from him. Children try to obey their parents, to do what grownups ask of them. Jesus wants all people to obey the Father in heaven. Children trust the

grownups around them and know how much they need adults to take care of them and protect them. Jesus wants his people to trust God and realize how much they need God to care for them and protect them.

When you listen and learn, when you obey your parents, when you trust in others, you are exactly the way Jesus wants all of his people to be. Then Jesus will say of you, as he said in this week's gospel, "LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME!"

YOU can be a model for Jesus!



Circle of Love

To decode the message of Jesus that surrounds this circle of love, read every other letter. You will learn how Jesus feels about you and about all children.



Family Page

The young man in this week's gospel story learned that following Jesus is not always easy. Sometimes God asks us to do things we would rather not do, to give up things we feel are very important to our lives. But Jesus makes a promise — he says that if we give we will receive a hundred times over. This week, to emphasize this message in your family, work together on the "secrets of the saints" map on the front of this bulletin.



1 Make a list of seven DO commandments like the ones on the inside game, adding some of your own. You will need one for each day of the week. You can get some ideas from the list on this page.

2 Copy the stepping-stones on a separate sheet of paper so each member of the family has one.

3 Every time you follow one of the commandments on your list, color in one stepping-stone. Use a different color for each day of the week.

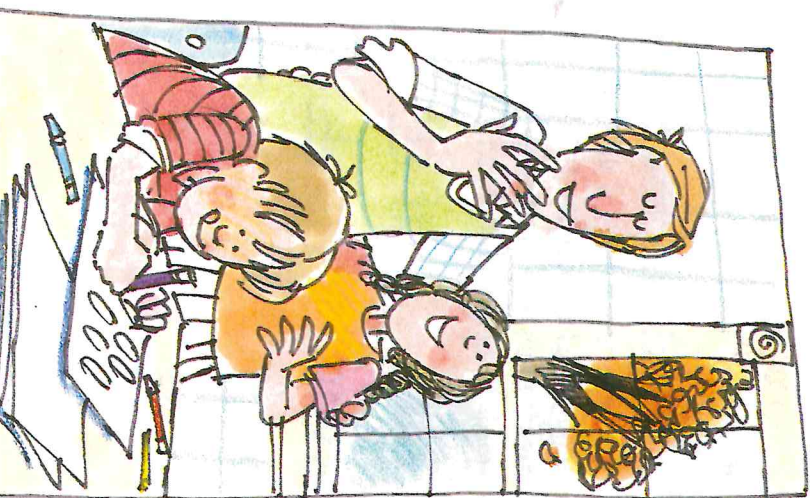
4 Plan a special end-of-the-week reward celebration for having completed a successful journey.



Written by Francine M. O'Connor. Art by Chris Sharp. © 2021 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63051-9999. Imprimatur: Most Rev. Robert J. Hermann, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Printed in USA. All rights reserved. It is a violation of copyright law to reproduce all or part of this material without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Liguori.org. Answers to "Find the Hidden DO Commandments": PAW, LOVE, HELP, GIVE, SHAPE

Ideas for DO commandments:

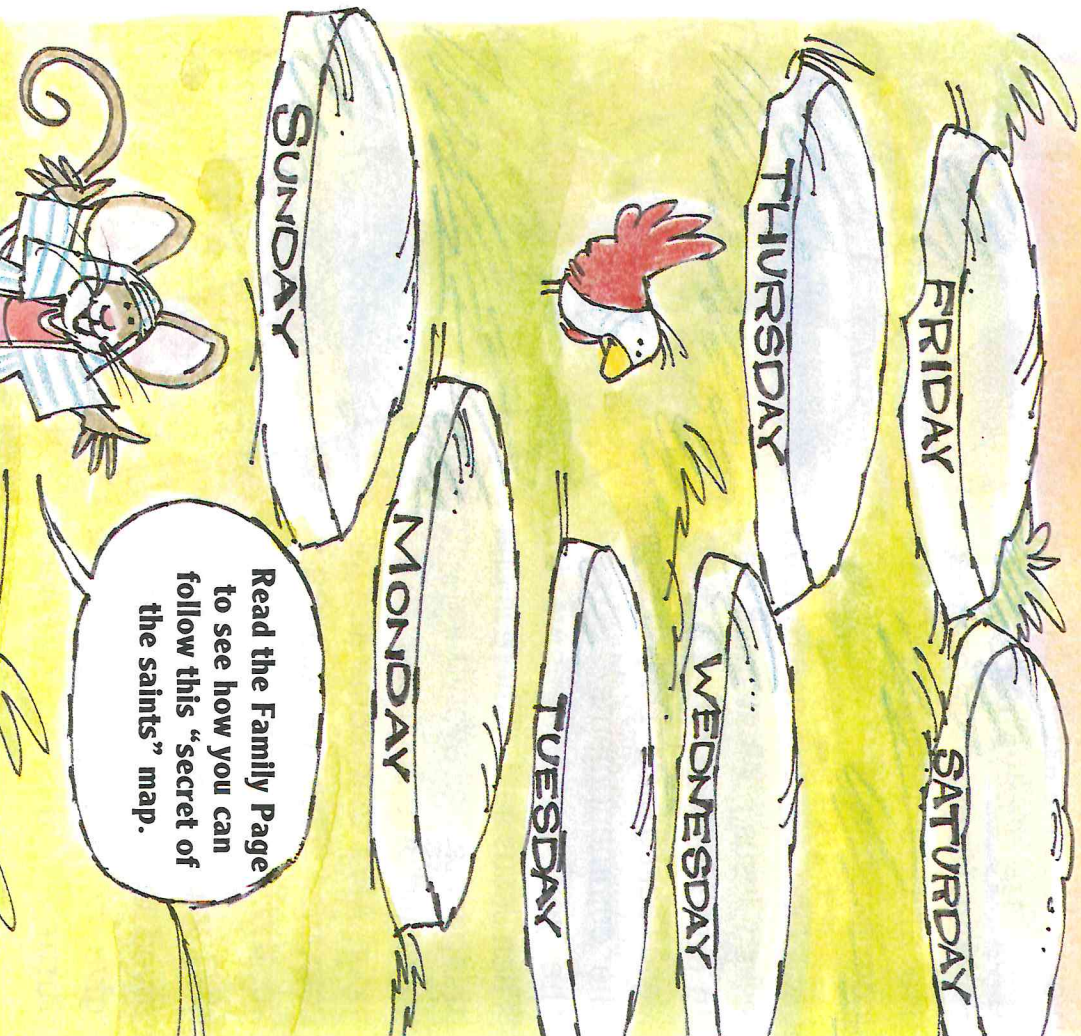
- Say an extra prayer.
- Give away a favorite possession.
- Help a neighbor.
- Share with a friend.



explaining GOD'S WORD

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) • Mark 10:17-30 or 10:17-27 • October 10, 2021

"One Thing More" for Jesus

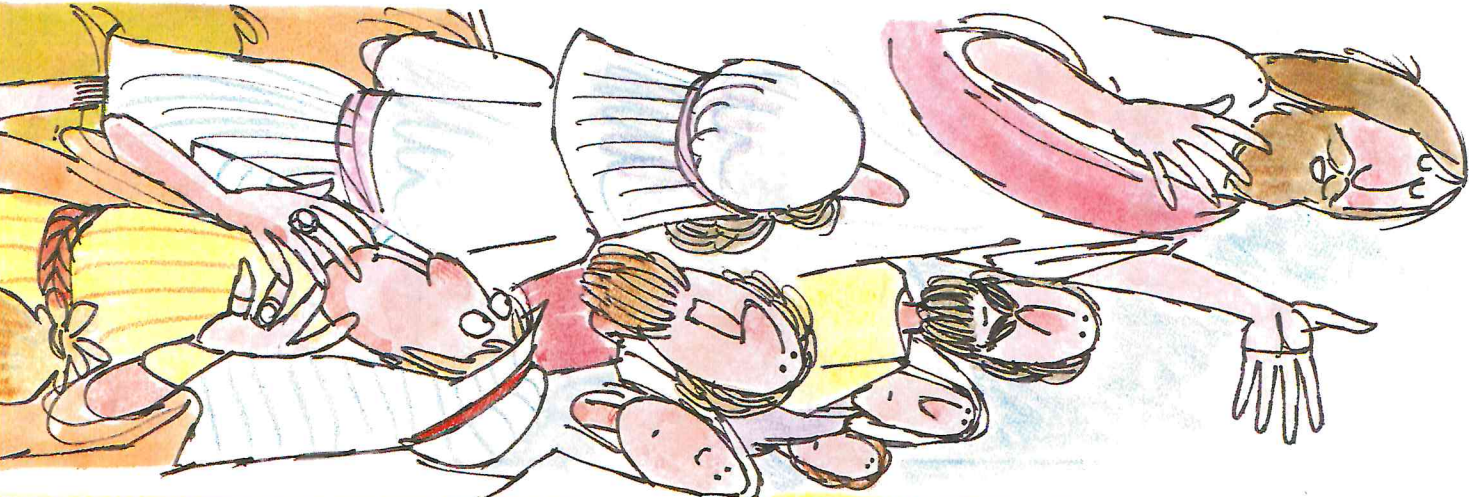


Hard to Be Good!

This week you heard the story of the rich young man who loved Jesus very much. The young man had everything any young man could want: fancy clothes, good food, and a nice home. This young man tried to be very good. He always obeyed his parents. He didn't lie or cheat. He always followed God's commandments.

One day the young man asked Jesus, "What must I do to go to heaven when I die?" Jesus asked him, "Do you keep the commandments?" "Yes," the young man answered. Then Jesus said, "There is one thing more. Sell everything you have and give the money to the poor. After that, come and follow me." This was too much for the young man.

Even though he really loved Jesus, he did not want to give up all his nice things. He turned and walked away.



Jesus told his disciples, "It is hard for the rich to understand about heaven."

God wants you to love people more than you love things. God wants you to share what you have. This is not always easy. For the young man in the story, it was too hard. Would it be too hard for you?



Find the Hidden Do Commandments

The saints have a special way to follow Jesus. They know it is not enough just to obey the DON'T commandment. For every DON'T commandment, there is a hidden DO commandment. Below are some scrambled words to help you find some of them.

YARP

P _ _ _ _

EVOL

L _ _ _ _

PLEH

H _ _ _ _

EVIG

G _ _ _ _

SHERA

S _ _ _ _

Family Page

Isn't it wonderful to find out from Jesus how you can become great in God's eyes? Some people think they are great if they can get others to wait on them, to do everything for them. These people don't understand God's ways at all.



This week, as a family and as individuals, see how great you can become. Watch how others are becoming great every day. Make a list of these great people and try to find ways to serve them or to imitate them. For example:

Who is becoming great by fixing and serving breakfast?
You can become great by clearing the table before you leave for school.



Who is becoming great by helping you learn?
You can become great by working hard at your homework.

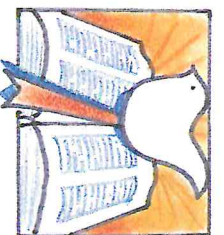
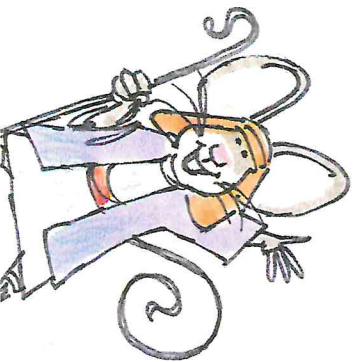
Who is becoming great by protecting your community from crime?
You can become great by watching your neighbor's house when they are gone.

Who is becoming great by teaching you about Jesus?

You can become great by your Christian example to your co-workers and friends.

Who is becoming great by helping you get well when you are sick?
You can become great by making a cheerful card for someone in the hospital.

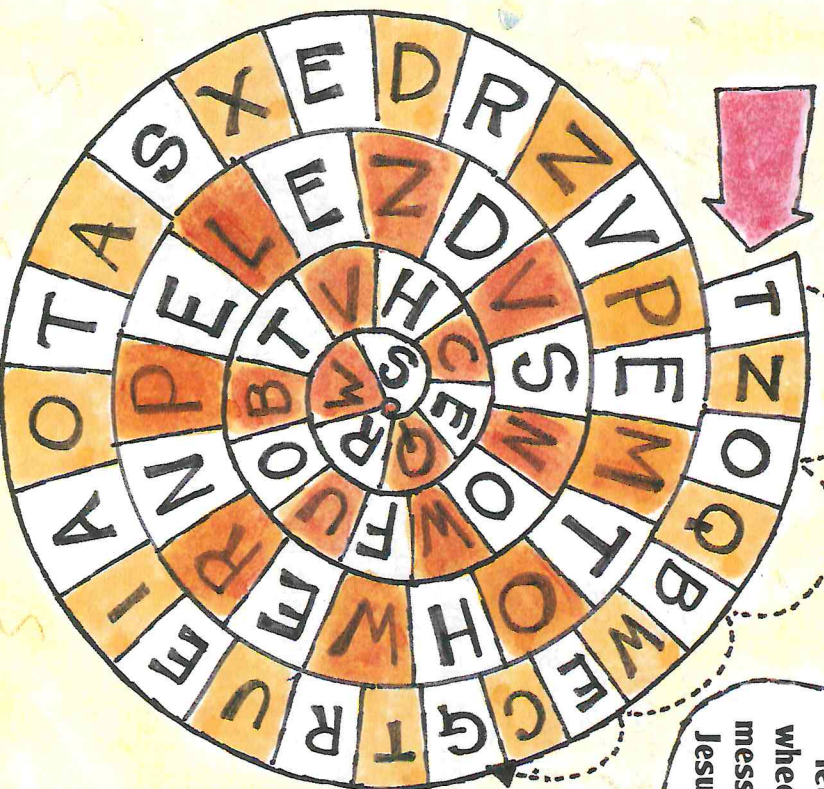
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explaining GOD'S WORD

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) • Mark 10:35-45 or 10:42-45 • October 17, 2021

Wheel of Fortune



You Can Be the Greatest!

Jenny has two brothers,
Martin and Bobby.

She also has a sister, Judy.

One day Grandmother came for dinner.

Martin said,

"I want to sit beside Grandmother."

Judy said,

"I want to sit beside Grandmother!"

Martin and Judy began to fight and argue.

Jenny said nothing.

She was setting the table.

Bobby said nothing.

He was peeling potatoes.

Then Grandmother said,

"Jenny will sit at my right,

and Bobby will sit at my left."

Can you guess why she chose them?

In this week's gospel story,

Jesus' disciples acted just like
naughty, selfish children.

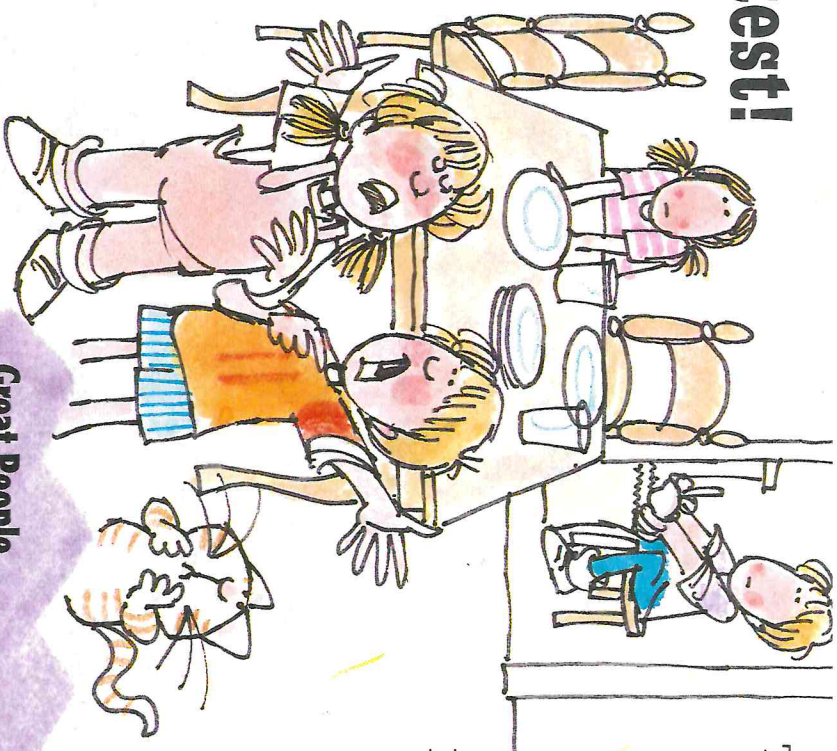
They argued over who would sit
at Jesus' right hand

and who would sit at his left.

Each one wanted to have
the most important place.

But Jesus had different ideas.

He said, "Anyone who wants to be great
must serve the others."



Think about the people you know,
the ones who are really great:
your mother and father,
your grandparents and teachers,
your friends and neighbors.

Why do you think

they are so great in your eyes?

Because they do so much for you.

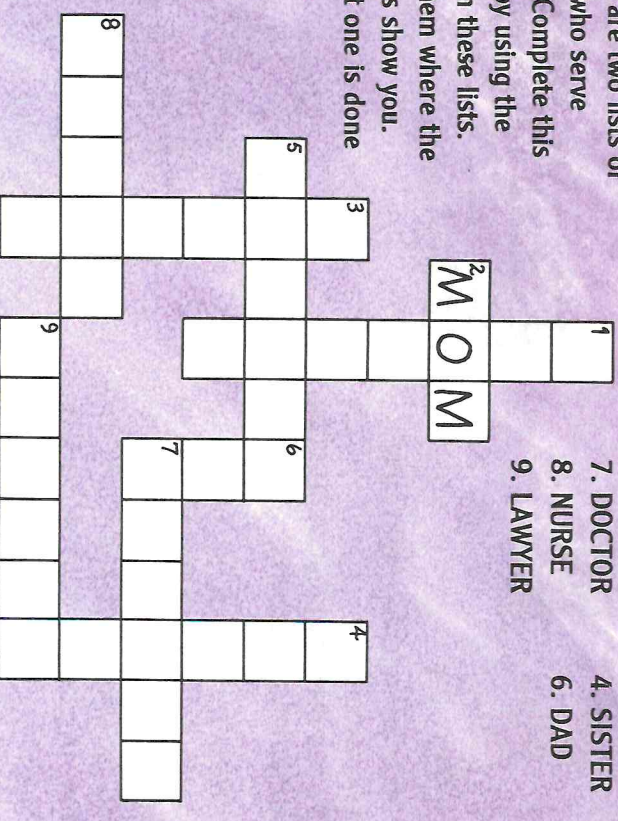
They are great because they
serve the needs of others.

If you think about Jesus' words,
you will know the secret
of becoming truly GREAT!

Great People

Crossword Puzzle

Here are two lists of
people who serve
others. Complete this
puzzle by using the
words in these lists.
Write them where the
numbers show you.
The first one is done
for you.



Across:

2. MOM
5. FRIEND
7. DOCTOR
8. NURSE
9. LAWYER

Down:

1. BROTHER
3. PRIEST
4. SISTER
6. DAD

Family Page

Just like Bartimaeus, Jesus calls you to come to him. And just like Bartimaeus, you want to throw off anything that gets in your way, anything that slows you down. Bad habits are like that. . . they get in the way of your truly coming to God.

This week have each member of the family make a list of the habits he or she would like to get rid of. Every night, check off how well you did.

For example, if one of your bad



habits is beginning to fill your plate before everyone has said grace at a meal, write that down. Every time you go a whole day waiting to say grace before filling your plate, give yourself a star. If you miss, put an X by the habit so you will know to try harder.

Dearest Lord JESUS,

Sometimes I am like Bartimaeus, trying hard to see you and to follow you.

To do this I need your help. I need to know my bad habits and to learn the best way to live in love.

I want to be near you always. Please help me to be better and better each day. Then, like Bartimaeus, I will follow you forever and come to you and the Father in heaven one day.

Amen



explaining GOD'S
WORD

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) • Mark 10:46-52 • October 24, 2021

Jesus, I want to see!



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The Blind Man From Jericho



Bartimaeus was a blind man from Jericho.

He'd never seen a bluebird or a rainbow bright.

But he could smell the flowers and touch the grass
and feel the warm sun rising after the night.

He would ask the Lord in his prayers each night,

"Please, let me see the lovely world you've made."

But when morning came and his world was still dark,
he'd wonder if God could hear when he prayed.

One day he was begging just outside of town,
and he heard many people coming down the road.

"Move, you beggar, and let Jesus pass by!"
yelled a man who had stepped from the crowd.

Bartimaeus' heart skipped a beat or two,
when he heard that the Son of God was near.
"Maybe he will answer my prayer," he thought,
and he called out loudly so Jesus would hear.

The crowd tried to hush him and push him aside,
but Bartimaeus continued to make his plea.
There on the roadside the blind beggar sat,
shouting, "Jesus, Son of David,
have pity on me!"



Jesus stopped talking when Bartimaeus called.

"Call him over," he said to those who were near.
So they went to Bartimaeus and said, "Get up!
He is calling you. You have nothing to fear."

"Now the poor blind beggar was so eager to go,
he threw off his old, ragged coat in his glee.

Jesus asked him, "What can I do for you?"

"Oh, Lord," said Bartimaeus, "I want to see!"

"Be on your way," Jesus told him then.

"Your faith has healed you." And lo and behold!
Bartimaeus saw bluebirds and flowers and grass,
and, best of all, the loving face of the Lord.

Don't think that God doesn't know of your faith
or hear the words that you pray in the night.
Believe in God's love and don't give up hope,
for to answer your prayer is God's greatest delight.

