Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B - RCLB Lectionary

Lectionary: 140B
Read the Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

Gospel Summary

In the first part of today's Gospel, Jesus reminds his listeners of what was God's original plan for marriage. A man and a woman are to be joined together and so become one flesh. In the second part of the Gospel, Jesus welcomed the children to come to him, and instructs that we, too, are to accept the kingdom of God like a child.

Reflection for Parents

At the end of today's Gospel, Jesus embraces and blesses the children, placing his hands upon them. *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers* (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, © 2007), includes suggestions for daily blessings titled Daily Blessing of a Child. Consider offering one of the short blessings to your child at the beginning or end of the day, when your child leaves home in the morning, or when your child returns home at the end of the school day. Make the sign of the cross on your child's forehead as you offer the blessing.

- May God bless you.
- May God keep you safe.
- God be with you.
- God be in your heart.
- May God bless and protect you.

Bringing the Good News Into Your Family

In today's Gospel, the disciples *rebuked*, or "disapproved of," the children who came to Jesus. As a family, search your parish bulletin or Web site for opportunities to minister to children who are unwanted, forgotten, or in need. Such opportunities may include collecting diapers and formula for infants in need, donating gently used toys and books for children living in local shelters, or donating money to larger relief efforts for children living in poverty throughout the world. Make a family action plan and follow through on your commitment.

Discussion Starters

1. As a child, someone who always made me feel welcome and loved was . . .
2. A child I know who needs kindness and friendship is . . . and I will be a friend to that child by . . .
3. A married couple I will pray for every day this week is . . .