

RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

a parent page

Focus on Faith

God Made Everything Good

A father was looking at his two-year-old son. Never had he imagined the joy that having a child would bring to his life. Until this point, he had not given much thought to God; in fact, he was not even sure that he believed in God. On this day, however, he noticed his little boy's perfectly shaped ear. It must have been formed deliberately and intricately to perform its function of gathering sound. The father marveled at how something so seemingly ordinary as an ear could be formed so flawlessly. Amid these thoughts, he realized that he was looking directly at the wonder of creation. He saw how good it was. At that moment, he realized that his son existed because of something much larger than he: a loving, caring God.

Dinnertime Conversation Starter

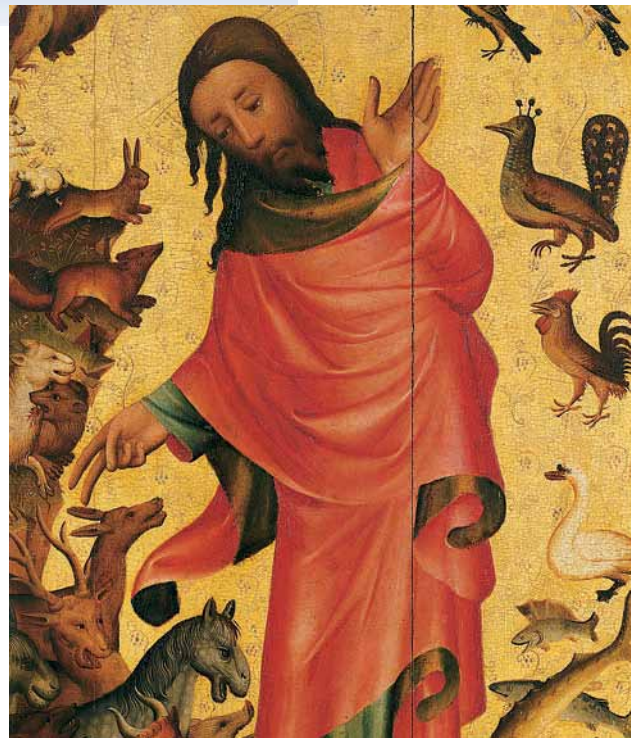
Think about the wonders of creation that you noticed today. Consider the most minute to the most grand. Share these with your child, while encouraging him or her to do the same.

Hints for at Home

Plant flower or vegetable seeds in small paper cups. As a family, talk about how God created everything—from flowers to oceans to people. All of God's creation is precious and special in its own way, and we can each show our appreciation by caring for it. Discuss with your child simple ways in which he or she can care for God's world. When the plants grow large enough, encourage your child to give them away as gifts or plant them in your neighborhood.



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The Creation of the Animals (detail), Grabow Altarpiece, Bertram

Spirituality in Action

Go on a nature walk with your child to instill in him or her an appreciation for God's world. Point out the beauty that surrounds you: trees, grass, flowers, birds, insects, smells, and sounds.



Explain to your child that God made all these wonderful things for us to enjoy. Talk about how you can show respect for nature and care for it.

Focus on Prayer

Your child has learned that when we pray, we open our minds and hearts to God and ask him for the things we need. Practice beginning and ending prayer with the Sign of the Cross.

