

RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

a parent page

Focus on Faith

Wisdom for Everyday Life

We all use sayings that help us to get through everyday life. In this computer age “Garbage in, garbage out” is popular. We may remember our parents saying “A watched pot never boils.” The Wisdom Literature in the Bible also has sayings to help us understand our relationship with God and others. Sirach 19:11 warns about spreading gossip to untrustworthy people, saying that it is like an arrow stuck in a man’s thigh. On the positive side, Sirach reminds us that showing reverence for God and following God’s law are the ways to perfect wisdom (Sirach 19:17). We can discover many other wise sayings like these in the other books of Wisdom, and we can have fruitful discussion about their meaning and application to daily life.

Dinnertime Conversation Starter

Brainstorm with your children about some of the sayings prevalent in society today. Discuss the values these expressions are actually teaching.

Hints for at Home

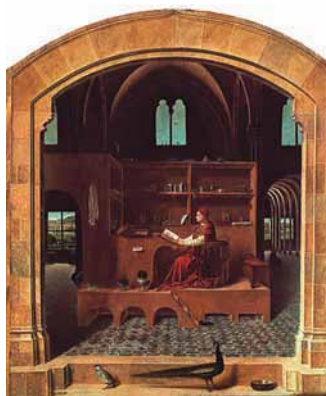
This week use situations in your family life to show something about God’s love—anything from caring for an infant to teaching an older child a new skill or comforting one another.



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Our Catholic Heritage



Saint Jerome in His Study,
Messina

A number of books in the Catholic Bible are found in neither the Jewish Bible nor the Protestant Bible. These books are Baruch, Judith, Sirach (Ecclesiasticus), Wisdom, and 1 and 2 Maccabees. These books are called the deuterocanonical books. They were a part of the Bible used by Greek-speaking Jews in Jesus’ time, and they have been a part of the Catholic Bible since

Jerome created his Vulgate version. These books were formally canonized, along with all other books of the Bible, in 1563 at the Council of Trent.

Focus on Prayer

Read the following proverbs and talk with your family about what they mean: Proverbs 10:12, 16:3, and 17:1.

