

LESSON 2 Boundaries

Growing with GOD™

Safe and Sacred

In This Lesson

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What the Church Says About

The Building Blocks of Moral Conduct

A person may be sociable and open to others, but if over a long period of time he has not been trained by his elders to say “Please,” “Thank you,” and “Sorry,” his good interior disposition will not easily come to the fore.

Pope Francis,
Amoris Laetitia, 266 (2016)

Learning to Respect One Another

Kindergarteners can be full of energy as well as in varying states of social maturity. Some have been in a school environment before, while others are new at learning and playing with a large group of children.

Learning to respect others is essential in order to thrive in a group—and for a group to thrive.

Respect is an abstract concept for small children, so they need support in learning how to show respect.

You can help your child by giving him or her clear and simple rules to follow and explaining that these are ways to show respect for others. For

example, simple rules might be *Keep your hands to yourself* or *Use manner words such as please, thank you, and excuse me*.

Remind your child often of what Jesus says in Luke 6:31: *Do to others as you would have them do to you*. Teach your child that hands are for helping and caring for one another. As his or her attitude of respect develops, so will your child’s boundaries. He or she will learn to expect to be treated by others with respect. Encourage your child to tell you if someone ever does or says something that makes him or her feel uncomfortable.





3minute
RETREAT

Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, as indeed you do.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Reflection

Paul called for his fellow Christians to continue encouraging one another. Through God's grace, they received the strength to support one another as they worked through difficult times. In Baptism, we receive the same grace, which enables us to love and respect one another.

Questions

Who has built me up and encouraged me to live in God's grace? How can I teach my child to support others and build them up in Christ?



Prayer

Pray to Jesus, using this prayer or one of your own.

Loving Jesus, help me be aware of your grace in my life as I continue my journey with you and those in my care.

Lead Your Child to Grow with God: Spiritually, Socially, and Physically

Spiritual Give your child plenty of opportunities to serve God's kingdom. Work together to pick up trash in a park, help a neighbor in need, or cook and serve a meal for friends and family. As you work, talk with your child about how everything we do to serve others is a way to thank and praise God.

Social Children can play hard, and sometimes accidents happen. Teach your child to stop, show concern for others, and apologize for accidents. Give him or her the support needed. This might mean giving your child the language to use to show concern and to apologize or holding his or her hand for emotional support.



Physical Help your child develop self-help skills, such as tying shoelaces, zipping a coat, and buttoning pants or a sweater if he or she has not mastered these skills. Being able to care for oneself is a confidence booster, and it enables a child to help others as well.

Safe and Sacred at Home



Raising Faith-Filled Kids (Loyola Press)
by Tom McGrath

Commit from the start to make family life your spiritual path. Realize that you are entering into a relationship of mystery. Tend to your own emotional and spiritual health. Be attuned to your child's needs at each stage of development. Attend to your own relationship with God, and open yourself to whatever grace God offers through life in your family to become a whole and holy person. It's a joyful path if you walk it with your heart and soul undivided.

Big Ideas

In Lesson 2, your child will:

- identify words used to communicate in kind ways.
- draw examples of ways to use hands to do kind things.
- tell that we do God's work on earth when we do kind things with our hands.
- define *space* and *kind*.



Words to Know

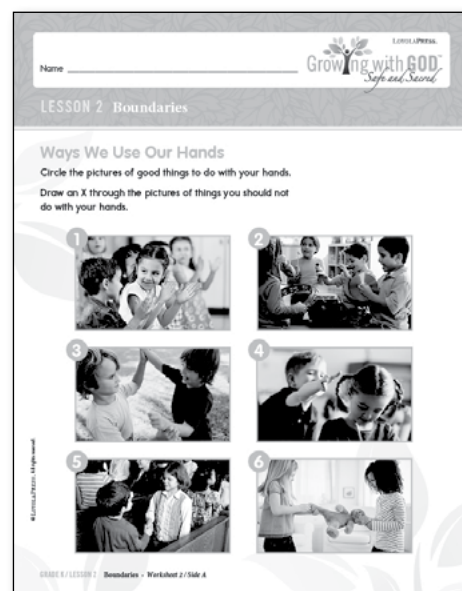
space · *The immediate area surrounding someone or something*

kind · *Being compassionate and caring toward others*



Bringing the Lesson Home

Determine ahead of time when and where you and your child will engage with the lesson content. Read or complete Side A of the worksheet with your child.



STEP 1 ENGAGE & EXPLORE

You have been teaching your child appropriate behavior for his or her developmental stage. Through modeling and positive reinforcement, your child will learn to use good judgment and make acceptable behavior choices that show respect for others.



SAY: The Bible teaches us how to treat others. Luke 6:31 tells us, “Do to others as you would have them do to you.”

ASK: Who treats you the way you like to be treated? What do they do that you like? Allow time for your child to answer. Share with your child how you like to be treated and who treats you that way.

ASK: What would you do if someone treated you in a way you don't like? Listen to your child carefully. Then talk about how to assertively say, “No!” or “Please stop,” and prompt your child to tell you if someone hurts him or her or crosses personal boundaries in any way.

Bringing the Lesson Home *(continued)*

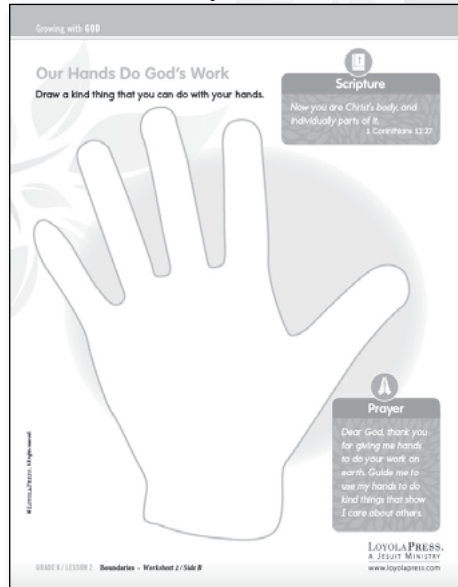
STEP 2 REFLECT & RESPOND

Read or complete Side B of the worksheet with your child.

SAY: God has given us amazing bodies, which we can use to help one another. He has given us hearts that feel kindness and compassion for one another and minds that think of ways to help others.

Share with your child what others have done for you or for your family out of the kindness of their hearts. Talk about how that made you feel and how it helped you. Encourage your child to think of people he or she could help and how. Together, read aloud the poem on the blackline master. Invite your child to color the pictures.

SAY: Let us pray together. Pray the prayer from the Pray Together feature or a prayer of your own. Begin and end the prayer with the Sign of the Cross.



Pray Together

Heavenly Father, please help us show respect for the people around us, notice their needs, and use our hearts and hands to serve them.

Scan this code and guide your child through a simple review of the lesson.

