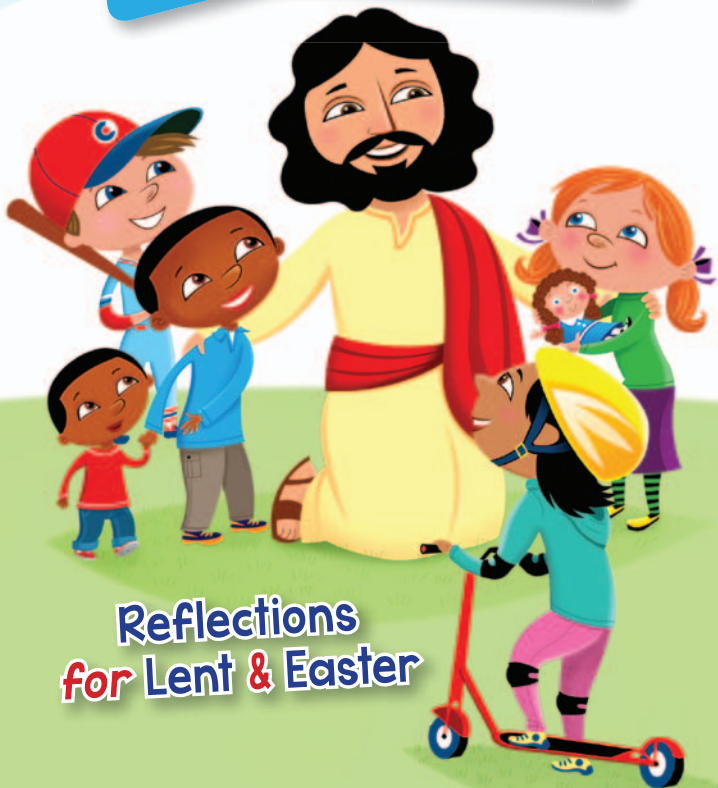


Be Like Jesus



Reflections
for Lent & Easter

A Note to Parents:

To help your child benefit the most from this booklet — find a time and a quiet place or take a few moments at the family dinner table —assist your child with understanding the ideas in the reflections and in the response questions that encourage discussion and possible actions appropriate for their age level.





Becoming a Better Loving Friend

Lent is a time when we get ready for Easter. At Easter we celebrate how Jesus lived and how God gave him a new life in heaven after he died. Jesus showed us how God wants us to act. In this book, we think about what Jesus told us to do to be a loving friend to him and to others.

**What are some things I can do
to be a loving friend?**



Jesus Loves Everyone

Jesus told us that God loves everyone. God made the whole world and everything in it. We are all God's children, so we must be kind and care for others like Jesus did.

Jesus said, "Whatever you do for one of these friends of mine, you do for me"

(Matthew 25:40).

What can I do to make someone feel more a part of my group?







A cartoon illustration of a young boy with brown hair, wearing glasses and a teal shirt, looking towards the right. In the background, there is a wooden signpost with a green tree and a white arrow pointing right.

Jesus Invites Us to Be His Friend

Jesus wanted everyone to be a loving friend to God and to others. He was friends with people who were sick or sad or lonely or left out. He was friends with rich people and poor people. He was even friends with people who were not liked. Jesus said, “I call you friends, because I have told you everything I heard from my Father”
(John 15:15).

How can I be friends with others like Jesus was?

Jesus Helps People

Jesus always helped people when he noticed they were not being treated fairly because they were different. God loves each person in the same way. So Jesus wants us to treat others the way we want to be treated. Jesus said, “As I have loved you, so you also should love one another”
(John 13:34).

**What can my family
and I do for those who
need help?**










Jesus Feeds Those Who Are Hungry

People need food to live. When people have enough food, they have energy to play and work and be happy. One day Jesus was teaching outside the city. It was late and the people who came to hear him had no food. So Jesus shared his food. “Jesus blessed and broke the loaves of bread. He gave the loaves to the disciples. The disciples gave them to the people. Everyone ate and had enough”
(Matthew 14:19-20).



How can I and my family help those who are hungry to have the food they need?

Jesus Hurts No One

Sometimes others get mad at us and hurt us. Jesus tells us not to hurt them back. When people hurt Jesus, he forgave them. If we choose not to hurt people who hurt us, we forgive them like Jesus wanted. Jesus said, “Forgive others, and God will forgive you” (*Luke 6:37*).

What can I do when someone hurts me instead of hurting them back?









Jesus Wants Us to Forgive

Sometimes I get mad at others and I hit them or hurt them with words. When I have done wrong, I must tell the other person “I am sorry” so we can be friends again. Jesus said, “If you have hurt someone, go at once and make peace with them”
(Matthew 5:23-24).

**What are some ways to
make peace with others?**

My Prayer for Lent and Easter

Jesus, thank you
for asking me to be your friend.

I want to be like you.

Help me to treat other people
like I want to be treated.

Help me to see
when others are hurting,
or being picked on,
or being left out
or need my help.

Because I know that
when I help others
like you did,

I am a loving person
like God wants me to be.

Amen.

Be like Jesus was written by Mary and Steve Mueller.

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