

Family Page



In today's gospel, Jesus said, "A good person produces good but an evil person produces evil." It is important for children to understand that if they want goodness in their world, they have to begin by being good themselves. The saints did not set out to make the world better, they worked at making themselves better.

There is no finer prayer for goodness than the Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi. Say it with your children each evening this week.

PRAYER

of
St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument
of your peace.

Where there is hatred,
let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master, grant that
I may not so much seek to be
consoled as to console;
to be understood
as to understand;
to be loved as to love;
for it is in giving
that we receive;
it is in pardoning
that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that
we are born to eternal life.



explaining GOD'S WORD

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) • Luke 6:39-45 • February 27, 2022



a Goodness ring

Beginning at the arrow, read every other letter and see what Jesus said about goodness in our world.



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STAYING, LYING, CHEATING, FROWNING, BEING A POOR LOSER, AND USING BAD LANGUAGE. Answer to "A Goodness Ring": GOODNESS BEGINS WITH YOU! Fruit Tree: Cross out ARGUING.

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GOODNESS BEGINS WITH YOU!

Judith takes good care of her baby brother, Colin. One day they were playing in Judith's room. Colin was building a house with his blocks. Judith was playing with her dolls.

Judith said, "Colin, pick up your blocks. It's almost time for supper." Colin shook his head and kept playing. "Colin," Judith said, feeling angry, "pick up your blocks right now!" Colin shook his head and kept playing.



Mother came into the room. "Mother," Judith said, "Colin won't pick up his blocks." Mother smiled and shook her head. "Look around you, Judith," she said. Judith looked around her room. Clothes were here and there. Game boxes were open, pieces spread all over.

Books and crayons were scattered across the desk. Dolls were on the bed and on the floor. Judith was not proud of her room.



"I'll clean my room tonight," Judith said, "but what about Colin and his blocks?" "Judith, remember what Jesus said: 'Remove the beam from your own eye first, then you will see clearly to remove the splinter from your brother's eye.'" "I don't understand," Judith said. "What does it mean?" "It means you can't teach Colin something that you have not learned yourself."

After supper Judith cleaned her room — all except Colin's blocks. When Colin saw Judith's clean room, he picked up all his blocks and brought them to his own room. Mother smiled and gave Judith a hug — and Judith understood what Jesus meant.

Jesus said a good tree produces good fruit and a rotten tree produces rotten fruit. On this tree, prune away (cross out) the bad fruit so the good fruit will grow stronger. Then color all the fruit and your tree with bright fruity colors.

