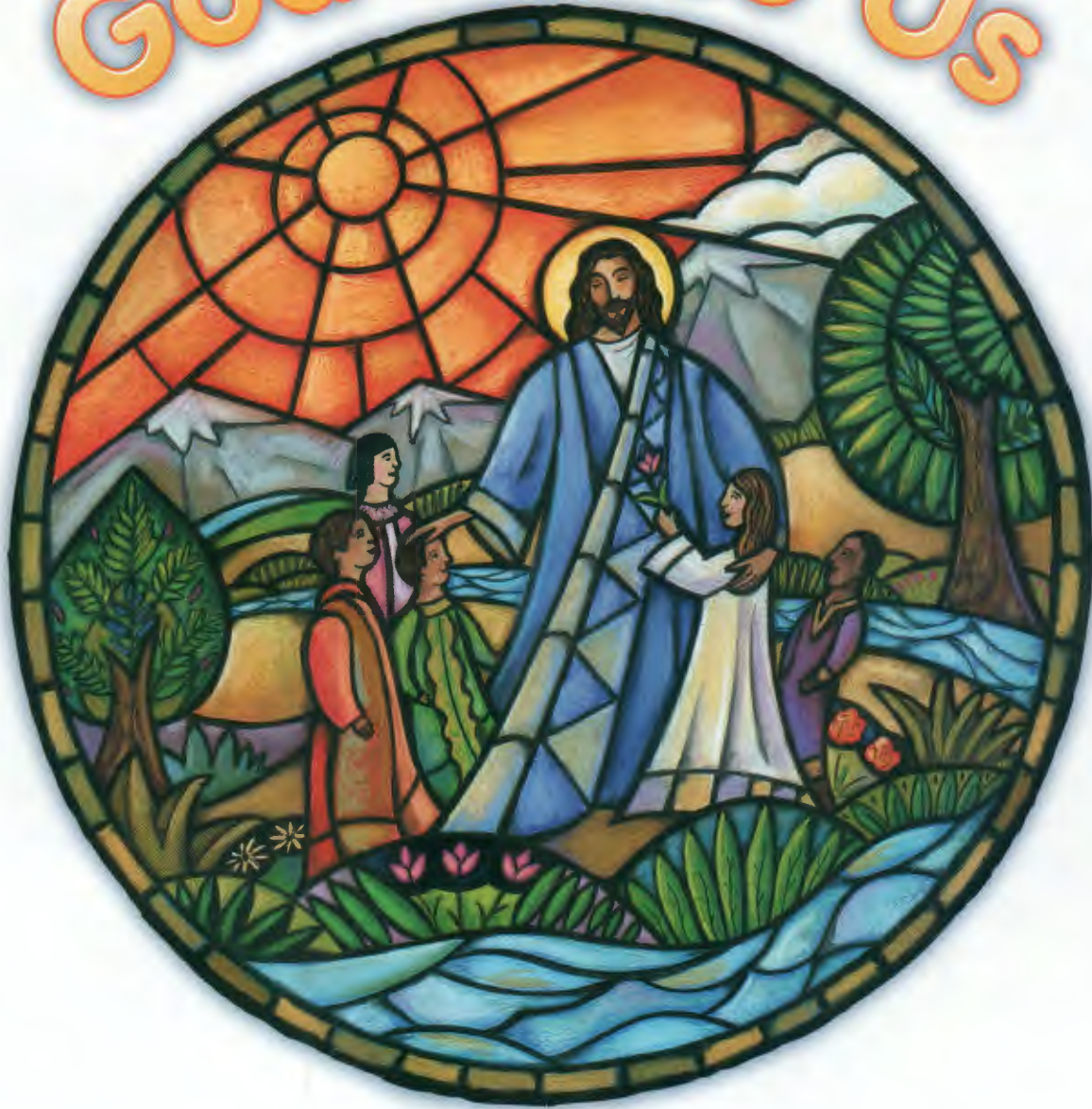


KINDERGARTEN

God Loves Us



AUTHORS
Sisters of Notre Dame
Chardon, Ohio

LOYOLA PRESS.
A JESUIT MINISTRY
Chicago

I Am Good

Henry

Hey, wake me! Wake me!
Time to walk
Listening for the flowers' talk!
See me! See me!
Wrinkling my nose,
Smelling a rose.
Me! Me! Wrinkle-nose,
wonderful me!

Swing me! Push me!
Way up high.
I need to get me
a piece of sky.

Catch me! Catch me!
Here I come
Zooming right into
your open arms.

Feed me! Feed me!
I'm weak in the knees.
Some peanut butter
and jelly, please.

Hold me! Hold me!
Squeeze me tight.
Now's the time
to kiss good night.

Me! Me!
Sleepyhead,
wonderful
me!



I can do all kinds of wonderful things.
I thank God for making wonderful ME.
God made me wonderful.

God made me.

God loves me.



Scripture

I thank you, O Lord, for the wonder
of myself.

Based on Psalm 139:14



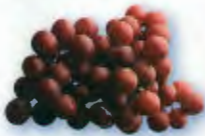
Try This

I am good. God made me wonderful.

I can hear.



I can taste.



I can touch.



I can smell.



Read the words and look at the pictures.

Make an X on each picture that does not belong.



Thank God for making you so wonderful.



Self Concept in Families

The Lesson Your Child Learned

We are made in God's image and are called to share eternal life with him. In this chapter the children learned that God made them and considers them very precious. They engaged in activities designed to help them appreciate themselves as worthwhile persons.



Living the Lesson

Can you think of a significant person from your younger years who paid you a compliment that stuck with you? Someone you respected who told you something about yourself that gave you a sense of your self-worth? Maybe it was a boss on your first job, a coach who noticed your drive and commitment, or a favorite relative who saw something special in you.

We all need "mirrors" in our life, that is, people who can see us and reflect our goodness back to us. Our children need that positive mirroring from us as well as from others who care about them. They also need the opportunity to use their talents and skills, as well as to exercise their virtue. I'm not talking about giving manufactured compliments to artificially build up their self-esteem. The best way to gain self-esteem is to do "esteem-able" things.

So make a point of observing your child and mirroring back the good you see in him or her. And be sure to offer (and model) a variety of opportunities for your child to take virtuous and worthy action.

—Tom McGrath, author of *Raising Faith-Filled Kids* (Loyola Press)

Bringing the Lesson Home

- Read with your child the pages that were sent home.
- Encourage the members of your family to note and acknowledge one another's successes. Reinforce the importance of sending positive, encouraging messages.
- Children learn by doing. Refrain from helping your child before it is needed. This shows you have trust in your child's abilities and encourages his or her independence and development. Caregivers who rush in to do for their children what they can do for themselves or for others take away a golden opportunity for their children to learn independence as well as the value of contributing to the well-being of the family.
- Let family members make their own decisions whenever possible. Caregivers may worry about what decisions their child will make in the future. But if you give your child the gift of making small and relevant decisions now, your child will have the benefit of learning through consequences on small matters, such as what clothes to wear. As your child grows, the importance of the decisions will grow, and so will his or her ability to make wise choices.
- Show respect and appreciation for the work of each family member.

