

Make space for one another

Start any week / About 20-30 minutes together / Adapt to your household

Read together: Mark 10:13-16

Jesus welcomes children when others would send them away. A welcoming home or group makes room for different voices, abilities and ways of joining in. We do not always know what another person needs. Asking respectfully, offering choices and accepting a "no" can make an invitation kinder.

Talk together

What helps you feel welcome in a new place?

How could someone join in without having to speak in front of everyone?

What could we change so an activity is easier for someone to enjoy?

Make or do: A welcoming invitation

You will need: Paper for planning an ordinary game, meal or gathering.

1. Choose a small activity with people your family already knows. An invitation does not need a special occasion.
2. Think about practical needs: a quiet space, seated play, food preferences or a clear finish time. Ask rather than assume.
3. Let an adult make the invitation and handle contact details. Offer an easy way to decline or suggest a different plan.

Read the Bible passage at bible.usccb.org. Scripture text is not reproduced. Sharing aloud is always optional.

A thought, sketch or idea from our activity

Our week of small beginnings

Dates: _____ / Choose the pace that fits your family.

- ☐ **Day 1: Read how Jesus welcomes children.**
- ☐ **Day 2: Notice what makes a place welcoming.**
- ☐ **Day 3: Plan your invitation.**
- ☐ **Day 4: Ask about practical needs.**
- ☐ **Day 5: Offer the invitation without pressure.**
- ☐ **Day 6: Pray for someone new to your community.**
- ☐ **Day 7: Reflect on what made space for others.**

Make room for different ages

Ages 4-7: Practice offering a choice between two games and making room for someone beside you.

Ages 8-12 and older: Consider how noise, cost, transport or unclear instructions might keep someone from joining.

Put love into practice

Welcome someone through a familiar parish or community activity, with an adult arranging introductions and practical details.

Pray together

Jesus, you welcome us with love. Help us make room for one another, notice who is left out and offer friendship with respect. Amen.

A moment we want to remember
