



A Letter to CCE Parents

October 2, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians,

You are the **primary** catechists for your child. You prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. We want to first thank you for cultivating the faith of your child and being their first encounter of God's love. Secondly, we look forward to working alongside with you in the faith formation of your child!

WE ARE A TEAM! Teachers and parents are working towards the same goal:

Our ultimate goal is to get our CCE students/children to Heaven. We can reach this goal with the collaboration of both teachers and parents.

With this in mind, we are going to adopt the "H" approach to teach our students:

Head: We want them to know who God is.

Heart: We want them to love God.

Hands: We want them to do His will.

Health: We want them to be healthy and strong physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

This starts from us first.

Home: We want to bring God into our home and go home to God in Heaven.

All of these H's are only possible with the most important "H", the **HOLY SPIRIT**.

God loves his children. He says that all the time in the Bible. We must embrace the beauty of our children: their curiosity, their innocence, and their joy. They have great potential to be influential saints in the world, and it is our responsibility to give them the tools and the foundation they need to become saints and reach Heaven one day.

We can't give what we don't have to give. In order to allow and expect our children to have faith and a relationship with God, we must first have faith and a relationship with God. Have an open mind and be patient with our children. They love to ask "Why?" Embrace the "why" because that is the Spirit of God stirring in them. Help them find the answer. We must be humble enough to learn from them, because sometimes we might not know the answer to the "why" ourselves.

The distance from the head to the heart is only a couple of inches physically, but some say it is one of the longest distances and journeys we make. We need to foster an experience and an encounter with Christ for our children. Because, when you encounter someone special and influential, your life can never be the same. When you truly experience the love of God, you cannot possibly live your life the same as before. Therefore, these are the types of encounters we must try to give our children, so they can get to know God more and more. Ultimately, we want them to cultivate a relationship with Jesus.

You might be thinking that this is a tall order and a very difficult task, but if you are worried about how to act, remember that God is love. Love is God's universal language. Every child knows what love is. We have all experienced it. This is the first gift we must give our children. We must love them, because no matter how young or old they are, they can encounter Christ through love. They will come to know who God is through your love, our love, and the unconditional love of the Father. We must bring this to their awareness and truly strive to show Christ's love to them every day.

Children look up to their parents. That is only natural. You are their primary catechists and teachers. They learn so much from you, so use this aspect of parenting as a way to show God to them. Let them know how precious they are, because you want to be the one to tell them. The voices they will hear from the world are very loud, so remind them time and time again of how precious and cherished they are in your eyes and especially in God's eyes.

We are looking forward to teaching your child and journeying with them through this year. We always learn a great deal from them, we ask that you pray for us and the entire CCE team. You and your child will be in ours.

God Bless,

CCE Teachers