

Blessing Box

The culminating experience for your child in learning about responsibility is the Blessing Box. We have looked at responsibilities for your child in three areas: school, home, and friendships. Choose someone (or more than one person) that represents each of these areas (e.g. a teacher, the parent of one of your child's friends; someone to represent home, such as a mother, father, older sibling, etc.). Have each person write a letter to your child, stating the ways they've seen your child being responsible.

Guide these individuals in the writing of the letters, specifically with your child in mind, remembering that this time is to signify his/her becoming a "big kid" through responsibility. Feel free to use the provided sample letter as a guide. Then place these letters inside a Blessing Box. This can be something you create, buy, or already have in your possession. The Blessing Box can be in just about any form; it is simply meant to house the letters. Feel free to make it something that matches your child's room, is something that the two of you made by hand together, or is a keepsake box that is kept in a special place in your home.

Designate a special time to present your child with this Blessing Box, telling him/her that they've shown they are now a "big kid" by being responsible at school, at home, and in their friendships. Read the letters to your child, and pray with them that God would help them continue to be responsible as they grow up by choosing to do what is right. If you would like additional guidance, you can use the script

we have provided for the presentation of the Blessing Box.

Sample Letter to Your Child:

Dear _____,

I am so proud of the big kid you are becoming. At home you have been keeping your room clean without my even having to ask you. You take such good care of the dog by walking her, keeping her food and water bowls filled, and even giving her a bath sometimes. I see you choosing to do what is right most of the time. You're choosing to share with your sister, even if you may not want to.

All of these things show that you are responsible. I love watching you become the big girl God created you to be. You help our house be a place of love and peace through being responsible. I love that God gave you to me. You have shown that you can be a big kid who is responsible, allowing God to shape who you are.

I Love you,

Mom

1st Grade Blessing Box Presentation Script

This year you have become a really good reader. As a family, we've heard you read many books, and we believe the greatest book you will ever read is the Bible. We chose this Bible for you because we want you to begin spending your own time reading it every day--whether that be

in the morning when you first wake up, when you get home from school in the afternoon, or before you go to bed at night.

Lots of people that you love have marked special verses in this Bible, so that as you read, you can discover everyone's favorite verses. We hope that this Bible becomes very special to you as you spend time reading it in order to know God more.

We've written a letter to you in the front of this Bible. Let me read it with you.

[Read letter.]

As a family, we've learned that the Bible is personal, that the Bible prepares us for life, and that the Bible is true. We hope you will always remember these three things as you grow up and learn more about a great God who loves you by reading His words to you.

[Present Bible.]