

## Child Protection/Safe Environment Student Inservice Prayer Service and Lesson *Grades 4, 5, 6*

✦ **Opening Prayer:** *Leader reads each line to the students and asks them to repeat it.*

We praise you, so wonderfully you have made us! (Psalm 139: 14)  
God has made each of us unique and special.  
We are created in God's image and likeness.  
We deserve respect and we must give respect.

✦ **Scripture:** *Show the children a picture or statue of "Jesus and the Children" and tell or read the story found in Matthew 19:13-15.*

*Leader:* Jesus was very busy, teaching and healing people in the crowd. A group of parents came toward Jesus, bringing their children so Jesus could talk with them and bless them. The disciples stopped the parents and children and said, "Don't bother Jesus with the children; He is very busy." But Jesus heard what the disciples said and called the parents back and said, "Let the children come to me and I will be glad to talk to them and bless them."

✦ **Reflection:** *Refer to the picture and ask the students how they think Jesus felt about the children; and how the children felt about Jesus.*

### ✦ **Lesson**

*Leader:* Jesus loves all children and wants them to be safe. Our parents and family members love us and want us to be safe too. Our family shows us in many ways how they love us: by hugging and kissing us, working hard to raise us and care for us. Our family also teaches us rules about how to be safe. What are some of them?

Look both ways before crossing the street.  
Don't talk to people we don't know unless our parents are with us.  
Don't take gifts or candy from people we don't know.  
Don't get into cars with people we don't know.

Today we are going to talk about some other rules that will also make us safer. *Introduce the presenter or video program.*

*After the program, review the information presented with the children and ask if they have any questions.*

✦ **Closing Prayer:** *Leader reads prayer slowly to children.*

Dear Jesus,  
When you walked this earth, you showed that you love little children.  
We know that you love us as your own children.  
It is hard for us to hear that some people do not treat children the way you did and hurt children by their words and actions.  
Help us to learn how to protect ourselves, and others, from harm.  
Help us to forgive those who have harmed children in the past.  
Bless all those who teach us and work to keep us safe. Amen.

