

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 your 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

We've spent some time looking at all the responsibilities you have at school, at home, and with your friends. Responsibility means taking good care of the things under your control. While learning about responsibility, you

have shown us that you are a big kid and are ready to do your best in all of these areas. We asked your teacher and [your friend's] mother to write a letter to you about the responsible behaviors they've seen in you. Mom also wrote a letter. We want to read these to you.

[Read the letters.]

We've placed them inside this Blessing Box. You can take them out at any time and read them to remember what we think of you. You are ready to be a big kid with responsibility. We are so proud of how responsible you've been at home, with your friends, and at school. We are blessed to have you as our son/daughter, and we hope you'll be blessed by the letters inside this Blessing Box.

Responsibility is a big deal. We hope you'll continue to be responsible at home, at school, and with your friends. As you get older, the amount of responsibility expected from you will increase. We know you are ready for that, because you've shown what a big kid you are with the responsibilities you have now. Welcome to the world of being a BIG KID.