

# PARENT / GUARDIAN CONNECTION

## FOURTH GRADE: TOB LESSON 4

### THEME: AUTHENTIC LOVE

#### SOW THE SEED



Dear Parents,

In this Theology of the Body (TOB) lesson, your child will learn about **Authentic Love**. “What is Love?” “I Wanna Know What Love is.” “How will I Know (If He Really Loves Me?).” So many songs express wonder about “This Thing Called Love.” They emanate through the radio waves, and they echo in our hearts. St. Thomas Aquinas defined love as to “will the good of the other.” Knowing what that good is, of course, is to know God. Pope St. John Paul II spoke of love as a total gift-of-self, in imitation of Jesus who gave Himself in sacrifice on the Cross for the good of the Church. This gift-of-self fulfills the spousal meaning of our bodies and allows us to experience happiness and fulfillment.

In this lesson, your child will compare some forms of “false love” that our culture often presents to “authentic/true” love. We will discuss how authentic and false love can affect our school and community.

#### GERMINATE THE SEED



#### FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

What are some false forms of love, and what is authentic love? How can we grow authentic love in our family? *\*(Note to parents: To will the good of another means we must know what is truly good for the other. Sometimes loving can be hard, when doing what is right demands some sacrifice from us. It's most important to teach your children by example).*



## GROW THE SEED



### FAMILY ACTIVITY:

Each member of the family chooses one other member of the family to do something “good” for. Find a way to will the good of the other and make a gift for that person. For example, helping with some other household chore or homework that a sibling struggles with, or helping them practice a sport or instrument.

### FAMILY PRAYER:

Dear God, we know you are Love. We ask you to come into our family life in order that Love may abound here in our relationships more and more. Fill our home with authentic love. Help us to grow each day into who You are calling us to be.

Amen.

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Stay up to date with the TOB lessons your child is learning in the classroom. Look for the leaf at the bottom of your child’s worksheets to see a summary of their current TOB lesson labeled “THEOLOGY OF THE BODY TIDBITS.”

Want to learn more? Visit [RuahWoodsInstitute.org/parents](https://RuahWoodsInstitute.org/parents) to view a TOB parent presentation.

