# Family Hearing Aids

You can help your kids hear from God by creating opportunities and the right atmosphere. While you're at it, you may even **hear God** yourself.

### 1. Create an atmosphere conducive for "listening."

Turn off the TV or radio. You may even want to dim lights or play soft worship music.

### 2. Always begin with prayer, inviting the Holy Spirit to speak.

If there is something in particular that your child wants to hear from God about, tell God specifically what it is.

### 3. Take into account your child's age and personality.

One child may want to go off by himself to listen, while another child may want you sitting quietly alongside him.

### 4. Leave plenty of time for listening—don't rush.

### 5. Once they've finished listening, ask the chil­dren what they've heard

(or discuss their drawing or letter—see the activities below). Talk about whether or not what they heard lines up with Scripture. If it does not, be gentle in your explanation and say, "let's try again." Never ridicule or belittle what a child says he's heard. If your family is asking God about something in particular, come together when everyone has listened and compare notes. Often each person will hear something that confirms or builds on what someone else has heard. If there is a discrepancy, ask the Holy Spirit for clarification and try again.

### 6. Don't be discouraged.

If your child does not hear something, tell him or her not to worry. God has promised to give us wisdom when we ask for it (James 1:5). But it often takes practice and experience to easily recognize God's voice (see the activities below). The important thing is not to doubt that we will hear from Him and not to give up trying (James 1:6-8).