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## Touchstones for Preaching Transcript of Preaching Homilies for Children

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“Touchstones for Preaching” is a resource of the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, produced in partnership with The Church in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Center.

### Introductory Comments

*oh great, what am I supposed to do with this?*

*how do I preach to them without demeaning the rest of the population? How can I preach to these multi-age groups within my congregation?*

|

*with*

*knowing*

*Directory for Masses with Children,*

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## The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



know

*what do we want them to  
who are you*



atrium

## Seven Characteristics of Children

### Seven Characteristics of Children

1. **children are not blank slates**  
*tabula rasa*

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2. **children are drawn to what is most essential**

3. *what is essential?*

**real** **children are most interested in things that are**

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*how do I function  
support structure for all that is in the world?*

*what is it that's holding up the house? What is the*

4.

**children are filled with wonder and awe.**

*children are asking? What is it that they're wondering about, that they're in awe of?*

*hallel, hallel, hallel, hallel*

*hallel,*

5.

**children possess absorbent minds**

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6.

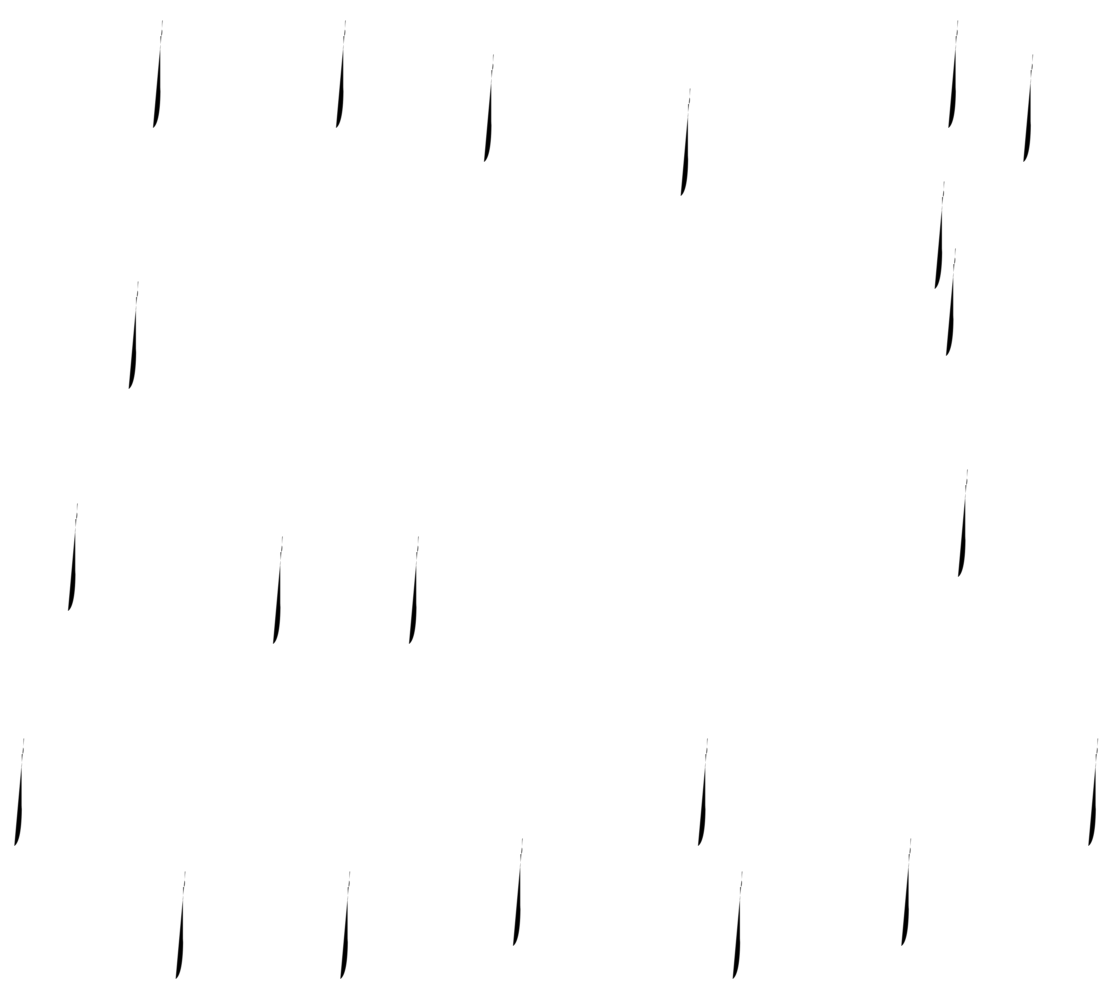
beauty evokes reverence in children

7.

children are small

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## Three Core Mysteries: Relationship, Life and Death, Time



where did I come from      where did the world come from?  
how long has the world been going on?      what was before the beginning of the world?  
what was before the beginning of God?      where is it heading? Where are we going?  
will the world ever have an end?

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## Recommendations for Preaching to Children

*the preaching should have a point*  
*preaching with children really can only have one point*

*with wonder.*

*Preach the great mysteries*



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question

*do not feel compelled as if you must have an answer to this*

|

*focus on the kerygmatic over the paraenetic.*

kerygma

paraenesis

|

kerygma

Paraenesis

paraenesis,

kerygma

|

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paraenesis

*consider the nonverbals*

happy?

*, how do I convey with my body that what I am saying makes me*

Seed Preaching

Mustard

*read with the eyes of the small*

*modus operandi*

*anawim*

**Preaching Homilies for Children**

*kerygmatic*

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