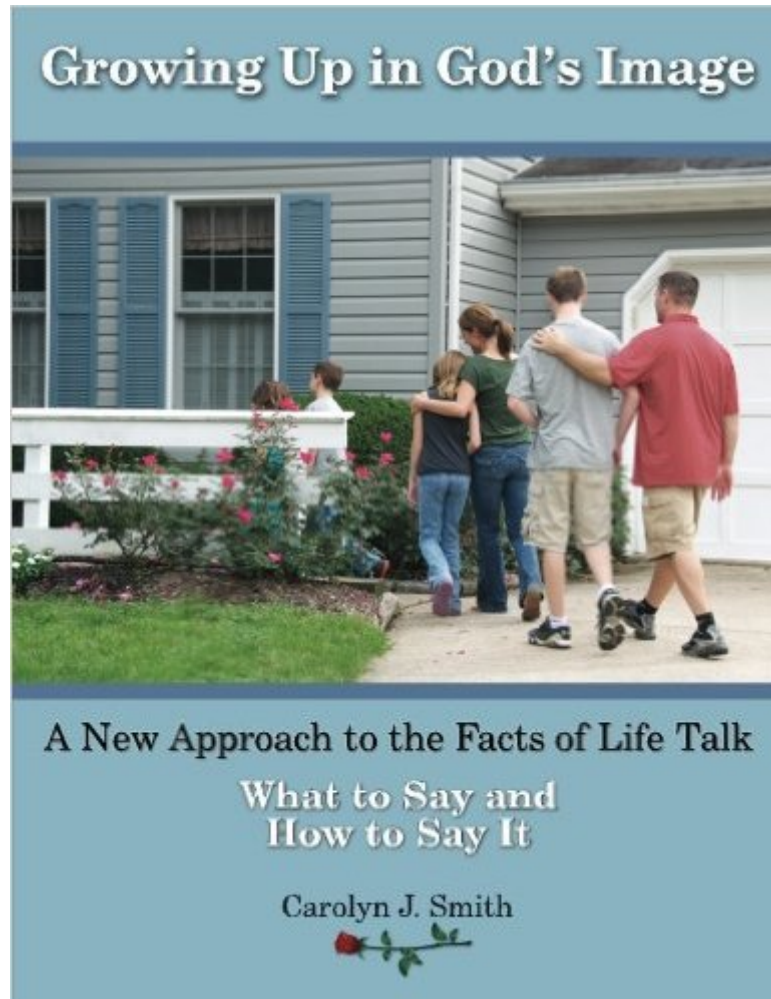


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# Growing Up In God's Image: A New Approach To The Facts Of Life Talk



## Synopsis

A Catholic guide for parent and child to discuss the child's emerging sexuality. Reviews: "I thank Carolyn J. Smith for thoughtfully and prayerfully compiling a resource that will help parents in explaining the facts of life to their children by placing it within the context of our Faith and the Theology of the Body. Growing Up in God's Image is a wonderful tool for any parent..." Lisa M. Hendey, Founder and Editor CatholicMom.com and author of A Book of Saints for Catholic Moms "This book guides parents to gradually expand a child's understanding of life beginning with how the love of family reflects the love of God. Teaching the facts of life fully demands including the spiritual. Caroline does a beautiful job explaining the physical changes that occur during puberty while including the responsibility to be true to God's plan and purpose for our bodies. The life lessons are presented in clear language and will enrich not just the children, but the parents also reading this book as an aid." Patti Maguire Armstrong, author "Courageous, timely and beautifully sensitive. In a time when our children are bombarded by all the wrong messages about their bodies, here is a wonderful guide for parents to talk to their children about Godliness, their bodies and sex." Donna Piscitelli, children's author "A useful guidebook for parents and a resource that's sure to strengthen your family. Discard the dread of "the talk" and embrace the beauty of a faith-based approach. My copy's sure to be dog-eared and passed along!" Sarah Reinhard, author of Catholic Family Fun and SnoringScholar.com

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There is something about teaching one's children about the facts of life that inspires fear in the hearts of parents everywhere. When that day came for my boys and I, I nervously searched my

local library for an appropriate book (many I found were clearly not appropriate from a moral standpoint), sat down on the couch with the two of them, read, and answered questions as we went. I also did my best to include a moral component. I know it was only the first of many conversations and it was painful for all three of us, but at least it covered the basic biological aspects of procreation. I wish I had a copy of the new book by Carolyn J. Smith at my disposal when I faced that initial conversation. "Growing Up in God's Image: What to Say and How to Say It" includes all the information any Catholic parent will need to pass on a biologically informative, morally sound take on the changes of puberty and the beauty of sexual intercourse. Smith has been married for forty-two years and is a mother of ten children and grandmother of fifteen. She created a Family Life curriculum at a private school in the Baltimore area and used Growing Up in God's Image as a tool in her own parish to help guide parents through the discussion of the facts of life with their children. Smith divides the text into three main sections, all focused on love: Spousal Love Reflects the Love of the Trinity, Spousal Love Reflects the Love of Christ for Each One of Us in the Eucharist, and Spousal Love is Sacramental Love. The book is rooted in Scripture, the Catechism, and Blessed Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. She emphasizes the self-giving nature of love, and the importance of co-creating with God in the conception of children.

This approach to sexuality and how it is sacred, and to be treated as such, is Growing Up In God's Image: A New Approach to the Facts of Life Talk who want their children to learn about how they are created in God's image. The author Carolyn Smith and her husband of 42+ years, Jim, have had plenty of experience teaching their children about the facts of life from a Godly standpoint. They are parents of eight daughters, two sons, and grandparents of 15 (and counting). More than just a biology lesson about puberty with diagrams, Growing Up in God's Image: A New Approach to the Facts of Life Talk What to Say and How to Say It gives parents who are a bit skittish when it comes to discussing sex with their offspring gender specific scripts to go by when educating children on the faith-based version of the birds and the bees talk. In essence this guide saves you the trouble of summarizing Man and Woman He Created Them: A Theology Of The Body by Blessed Pope John Paul II so that your kids would understand it. (I recommend everyone read the previously mentioned work. Outside of the Bible itself, it's the book I've found has the most powerful of description God's love for us.) The basics of God's love for us as it's expressed in the Trinity and through husband and wife to their children are covered. There's a section specifically for moms talking with their daughters and one for fathers who are talking with their sons about the Christ-centered "facts of life.

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