

RESPOND INSTEAD OF REACT

Jesus said, "...for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say." Luke 12:12 (NIV)

This title is especially important to us as it is the catch phrase for this month's Friendly - Social Emotional Learning. We have learned that when you become angry, you should **Stop** to give yourself some space in order to respond thoughtfully. Then you should **Pray**- even something as quick as these 3 powerful words – "Jesus, Help Me". After that you should **Walk Away**. The Bible verse that reminds us of this is from James 1:19-20. "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires."

When we read this verse from Luke 12:12, we decided that this verse was telling all of us that when we are afraid or don't know what to say to someone about God, we need to remember that God will give us the right words to say. He will also guide us in the right direction and lead us on the right path. We need to remember that God knows us better than we know ourselves. Another verse that reminds us of the importance of staying connected to God is from Genesis 4:7b that says, "But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at that door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it." We cannot win without giving our ways over to God and letting the Holy Spirit give us the words to say. We pray that all of us together will daily seek God's Will and listen before we speak.

In our classroom we have been praying this prayer together as we begin each day. We want you to join us in praying this every day.

Prayer: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, thank you for this day. Bless us as we work, study, and pray. Be present with us, in all we do, may we bring glory and honor to You. Amen

St. John's 5th Grade Class

Mrs. Wykert