

Family Faith on the Fridge

Wee Ones

Babes - Two

Sing a Song

Watch Me Grow!
tune of Are You Sleeping?

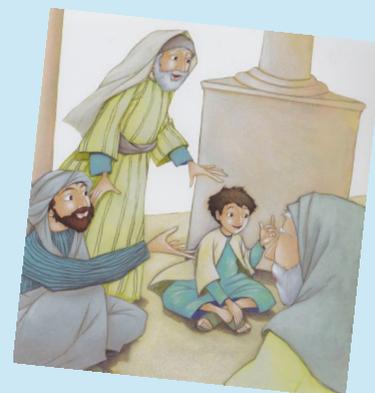
I am growing x2
Did you know? x2
Legs are getting longer,
(pat thighs)
Arms are getting stronger.
(make muscles with arms)
Watch me grow! x2
(stretch up high)

Discovering: Jesus as a Child (Luke 2)

Play in the Story

Then and Now - Get out your child's baby clothes and pictures and compare them to their clothes, and to how they look now. Talk to them about how much they have grown, and how Jesus was a little baby and grew into a child and then into a grown up, too.

Create and Chat - Trace the hands of different members of your family, and talk about how mom's hand and dad's hand are bigger than a little one's hand because they are older. Talk about how your little one's hand will get bigger too! Cut out the hands and put them on the fridge as a reminder of how we are growing.



Chat - Talk to your child about what we need to grow up healthy. While you are preparing food, talk about how we need good food to grow strong. As you read a Bible story together, talk about how we need God's words to help make us strong

The Loft

Preschool and Kindergarten

Sing a Song

He Healed Them
(tune of Row Your Boat)

Praise, praise, praise the Lord.
(clap hands in circle)
He healed their eyes and ears.
(cover eyes and ears)
He healed them from their head to toes.
(touch head and toes)
He calmed all their fears!
(shake with fear, calm)

Discovering: Jesus as the Healer (Luke 8)

Play in the Story

Faith in Action - Every year Children's Mercy here in Kansas City is looking for donation items that help sick kiddos. They are currently requesting books to read to kids in waiting rooms, and small treasure chest toys for kids who have just had a scary procedure. You can talk with your preschooler about how these kids feel, then pick out donation items together, and bring them to the Loft any Sunday in January for delivery!

Praying Together - Do you know someone who is sick? Take time to pray for them together.



Play and Chat - Care for your sick ones. Get out doctor's kits and set up mini hospitals for your sick stuffed animals. Chat about the different ways we get sick, and how it feels to be sick. How would God like us to take care of the sick? Do we know anyone who is sick? What can we do for them?

W 1st - 5th Grade underground



Table Talk

Share a time God healed you or someone you know.

Why do people get sick?

Why does Jesus heal people?

How does Jesus heal people?

How is forgiveness like healing?

Discovering: Jesus as the Healer (The Gospels)

Get in the Story

Get Well Cards – Know anyone who is sick or injured right now? Grab a blank greeting card or a folded piece of paper. Have your kids decorate the card and write a message, such as "Get Well Soon." Discuss how compassion and connection helps the sick. Ask what else could be done to help.

Injury Wrap-Up – Grab a roll of gauze or a medical wrap. Wrap your child's arm or leg tight to their body. Let them try to go about their day wrapped up for several minutes. Then unwrap them and ask how it feels to be well again.



Pray for the Sick – Choose a candle, put a sick/injured person's name on it, and put it in a prominent place as a reminder to pray for them. Light the candle each time you pray for them. Have your child pray, then blow out the candle.

Second Saturdays – Join us as we serve the community around us Saturday, January 11th, 9am -1pm. Meet up @ Jacob's Well.

Youthfront Camp



Calling all 3rd-5th Graders!
Come join us June 26-28th at
Youthfront Camp!

Informational meeting Sunday, January 19th,
10:30 & 12:30 in Banner Hall.
More details to come!



Three Lousy Tips

After 25 years of parenting, Jim Higley at Huffington Post only has these three lousy tips for parenting, but we thought they were pretty great.

Put it on ice - Take a little time to think.

30 second rule - Keep lectures to 30 seconds.

Stop Solving Everything - Kids crave empathy more than solutions.

You can find the whole article by googling, "Huffington 3 Lousy Tips."



Art, Nature, and Faith

With a son who struggles to focus at school, I've learned the value of both art and playing in nature to combat his restlessness, but I also discovered it was great for the whole family. Here are ways your family can mash-up art, nature, and faith, too.

Build a Cairn, Mark a Moment - Building a cairn together, a simple stack of rocks, can help your family mark difficult or joyful moments in life. You can then visit your cairn later and remember what God has brought you through, or His great faithfulness to your family. Building them is pretty therapeutic too.



Blessings in Ice - Write down ways you feel blessed by God or prayers of blessings for others on small colorful pieces of paper. Arrange your pieces at the bottom of a shallow dish, fill with water, set outside on a cold night, and then display your ice art somewhere special outside!

Knowing God through Nature - Hiking, my son asked if he'd be alive when heaven came down to earth. I shared I thought it had already in a lot of small ways. He responded with, "I think I know how. Nature." Yes! Nature has this unique ability to bring us into the presence of our Creator. Children are especially receptive to this invitation. So get out, let the kids lead, and get to know your Creator anew!

Chris Moore, Director of the Loft