

FAMILY FAITH ON THE FRIDGE

Jacob's Well - A Monthly Guide Connecting Home and Church - January 2014

Wee Ones

Babes - Three

Sing a Song

Jesus Made Me
(tune of Jesus Loves Me)

Jesus made me just like Him,
Eyes and ear and nose and chin.
(Point to body parts as you sing)
Hands and fingers, feet and toes,
Heart that loves and hair that grows.

Yes, Jesus loves me (x3)
He made me just like him.

Play in the Story: Jesus Was a Child Like Me

This month, we are celebrating Epiphany and exploring Jesus as a boy. We'll focus in on the story of Jesus going to the temple with his parents (Luke 2:41-52). We especially love the Rhyme Bible Storybook's version when reading to wee ones.

Pretend you are wise men, and get dressed up in your finest clothing! Spend some time collecting or making gifts to give Jesus. And don't forget to cut out a large star. Now you're ready to take turns holding the star up high as you walk around the house searching for Jesus.

Hide-And-Seek - Explain that Jesus' parents didn't know where he was and had to look all over for him and ended up finding him in the temple.

Trace your hand, then trace your child's hand inside of it in a different color. Explain to your lil' one that as they get older, they will grow bigger, just like Jesus. Inside of their handprint, write:

Thank you God, for _____.



The Loft

Preschool

Sing a Song

Come to the River
(tune of The More We Get Together)

Go under the water x3
(hands rise like water)
Go under the water.
Like Jesus did, too.

Come out of the water x3
(hands sink like water)
Come out of the water.
Hear God calling you.
(cup hand to ear)

Play in the Story: The Rescue Begins

Read and Wonder - Share the story of Jesus' Baptism from Matthew 3 or your favorite children's Bible. Wonder together: Why did John wear camel's hair? What's a desert like? What was the river like? What did people do when they heard God speak? How did Jesus feel when he heard God say he loved him?

A Baptism Station - Explore baptism at home. Set up a tub of water with a towel, a few small figures or baby doll to baptize, and a small cup to scoop and pour. What does baptism feel like? Why do you think baptism is so special? What other bible stories have water?

Share Your Story - Do share your own baptism story with your child as well as theirs if they were baptized as an infant. Now is a great time to wonder, "Why does God want us to be baptized?"

Prayer Practice - Help us practice The Lord's Prayer for Preschoolers at home. Find at jacobswell.ccbchurch.com, under groups, your child's tribe, the files tab.



Table Talk

Have you ever been jealous of a sibling or another child? Why?

Have you ever lied to cover your tracks? How did it feel?

Have you ever dreamed something strange? Was there a message in it?

What did God do when Joseph was treated unfairly?



Get in the Story: Joseph the Dreamer

Readin' On The Sofa Together...

Joseph's Rainbow Coat
Genesis 37:1-36

Slave in Potiphar's House
Genesis 39:1-21

Dreams in Prison
Genesis 39:21-41:45

Joseph & His Brothers
Genesis 41:46-45:15

Movie Time! The story of Joseph is one of the most dramatic and moving stories in the Bible. Pop some popcorn and sit down with your kids to watch one of the many film versions:

Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (*musical, 1999*)

Joseph, King of Dreams (*animated, 2000*)

Joseph (TV movie, 1995)

Family Tree of Abraham - Build a family tree with your child(ren) stretching from Abraham to Joseph (Genesis 15-48). How is Joseph related to Abraham and how does he inherit God's promises? Find free family tree templates online.



From Bad to Good - The story of Joseph contains many reversals of fortune, but through it all, God guides Joseph into the position to rule Egypt and save his family from starvation. Help your kids reflect on a time when something that seemed really bad for them turned out to be good. Look up Romans 8:28.



Save The Date!

VBS at Jacob's Well
Coming this summer!
July 13-17th,
9:00-12:00



Planting Seeds of Prayer

I'm not much of a planner when it comes to meaningful ways to raise children. Life with a two year old and a two month old spills out with each new day and I find myself enjoying it, reacting to it, being frustrated by it, and loving it.

That's why fixed hour prayer has been important in the life of our family. We have the gift of living a chunk of the year at Youthfront LaCygne, where the residential community there prays a set liturgy together three times each day. At first, having Teagan, our two year old, there with us seemed like more of a hassle than a good thing. The community lovingly embraced the chaos. Teagan sits with us in the prayer circle in a toddler seat with a tray. We give her paper and crayons to draw on while we pray. By the time Teagan was just turning two, Jessica and I were joking with her and asked her if she wanted to pray the Lord's Prayer (which we pray every day as a part of the morning prayer liturgy). Holding back tears, we listened to her recite the WHOLE THING. Stunning.

And you don't have to live in a community of prayer for this to happen. Just start praying with your kids every morning when you wake them up, or every night when you put them to bed, or both. In addition to the prayer rhythm at LaCygne, we always pray this prayer with Teagan as she goes to bed:

"We pray that you know that we love you, that God loves you, that you sleep sound the whole night through. And when you wake (fill with what they will do the next day)."

- Micah Thomas, JW Worship Leader



Youthfront Camp Parent Meeting



Parents of kids
2nd grade - 12th
join us in Banner Hall

Sunday, January 18th
at 10:30 & 12:30

to learn more about your child
attending Youthfront Camp with
other JW kids this Summer!

