

FAMILY FAITH ON THE FRIDGE

Jacob's Well - A Monthly Guide for Playing in God's Story at Home - March 2017



Wee Ones

One - Three

Finger Play

I May Be Short, But God Loves Me

I may be short (pat the air)
but God loves me (hug yourself).

Just like Zacchaeus
up in the tree (point up).

God loves all people
from east to west
(spread one arm out, then the other).

Following Jesus is the very best.
Yeah!
(raise hands and cheer)

Discovering: Jesus Sees Me (Luke 19:1-10)

We'll be spending March learning about Zacchaeus and focusing on how Jesus SAW Zacchaeus and how he loves His people even when they are different.

Sing It!

Did You Ever See Zacchaeus?

(Tune: Did You Ever See A Lassie?)

Did you ever see Zacchaeus,
Zacchaeus, Zacchaeus
Did you ever see Zacchaeus way up in a tree
(Look up, shielding eyes with hand)

He looked 'round for Jesus
(scan around with hand over eyes)
Then climbed up to see him (make combing motions)

Did you ever see Zacchaeus, Way up in a tree?

Jesus saw Zacchaeus,
Zacchaeus, Zacchaeus
Jesus Saw Zacchaeus
(look up, shielding eyes with hand)
Way up in that tree (point up)

Zacchaeus come down now;
I'm coming to your house.
Jesus saw Zacchaeus
(look up, shielding eyes with hand)
Way up in that tree (Point up)



Drop Off

Drop off time on Sundays can be hard on children and parents! Having a simple and consistent drop off routine helps your child learn what to expect and feel a sense of security. Here is a helpful little rhyme you can say to your child during drop off:

"A hug and a kiss
I love you (insert child's name)
I'll be back after this."

The Loft

Preschool and Kindergarten

Sing It!

The Lord is My Shepherd (adapted Bible song)

The Lord is my shepherd,
I'll walk with him always.

He knows me

And he loves me,

I'll walk with him all day.

Always, always,

I'll walk with him always.



Discovering: The Good Shepherd (Matthew 18:12-14)

In March, Pre-k & kinders are playing in the story of Jesus, The Good Shepherd from Matthew 18:12-14. Grab a storybook bible and let them retell the story to you!

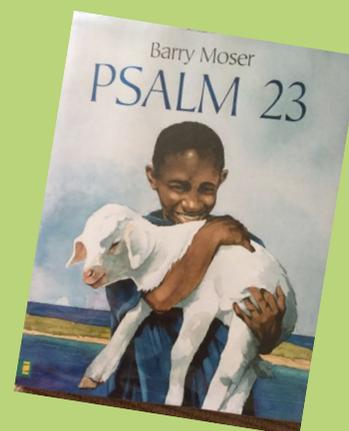
YouTube!

Check out these YouTube videos on shepherds & their sheep:

Mesmerizing Sheep Herding
(posted by: Caters Clips)

Sheep Responding to Their
Master's Voice
(posted by: dixi179)

The Good Shepherd and His
Sheep
(posted by: lbotnx2)



March Book Picks!

The Lost & Found Lamb
by Tracy Harrast

The Lord is My Shepherd
by Hans Wilhelm

The Little Shepherd
by Bijou LeTord

Psalm 23
by Barry Moser

W 1st - 5th Grade onderground



Table Talk

Who are our neighbors...in the neighborhood? ...in KC?

What do neighbors need from us? What do we need from them?

What does it mean to be prodigal?

Do you have any enemies? If so, how can you show them love?

What is mercy? How does God show us mercy?

Discovering: Stories Jesus Told, Part 1

Turning from our examination of the ministry of John the Baptist, we now look at how Jesus conducted his ministry, specifically through the telling of short stories called parables. Through such famous tales as The Wise & Foolish Builders, The Unmerciful Servant, The Good Samaritan, and The Prodigal Son, Jesus transmits to his listeners fundamental principles about the new kind of kingdom he is inaugurating. These stories introduce themes of faithfulness, forgiveness, generosity, and mercy that will mark his followers.

Bedtime Parables

Matt. 7:24-28 - Wise & Foolish Builders

Matt. 18:21-35 - The Unmerciful Servant

Luke 10:25-37 - The Good Samaritan

Luke 15:11-31 - The Prodigal Son



Pretzels for Lent

Make pretzels and learn the meaning of the pretzel at: www.catholicicing.com/pretzels-for-lent

Lenten Candles

Help your kids mark the season of Lent with a Lenten wreath of six purple candles arranged in the shape of a cross. Unlike an Advent wreath, light all six candles the first week and progressively light one less candle each week. On Good Friday, extinguish all the candles.

Practicing the Prayer of Examen with Kids

Simply put, the Prayer of Examen is taking a few minutes of quiet to become aware of God's loving presence and reflect upon your day, asking yourself two questions: For what am I most grateful? For what am I least grateful? Other ways to ask this questions might be: Where did I feel close to God and where did I feel far from him? When was I happiest? When was I saddest?

With my 3 and 5 year old, I simply started by asking them each day what their "high" was and what their "low" was. I started this partially to better connect with Quinn as she started kindergarten and I longed to know a little about what went on in her day. I want to know the best part of her day, to rejoice in this with her; and I want to know about any sad parts of her day, so we can talk and pray about it. Sometimes we do this in the car on the way home from school. Sometimes we do it as a family at the dinner table. And sometimes we do the Examen at bedtime. After we talk about our highs and lows, we bring those to God in prayers of thanksgiving for our highs, and prayers for help or guidance in our lows.

A friend of mine uses the "Pray As You Go" app (under: The Examen->An Examen for Children) with her son at bedtime to help him relax, let go of his day, and fall asleep peacefully. It has helped ease his anxieties about school and has given him a way to find the "positives" in his school days. The recording ends beautifully by praying the Glory Be together.

Another resource is *Sleeping with Bread: Holding What Gives You Life* by Dennis, Sheila, and Matthew Linn.

Consider using the Examen with your kids as a practice to slow down and be present with each other and God in this season of Lent.

- Maria Smith, a JW Parent

facebook

Check out the JW Facebook Family Co-Op Page at:

www.facebook.com/groups/105473686183918

for fun & meaningful ways to engage your kids throughout Lent & Holy Week.



March Books!

