

# FAMILY FAITH ON THE FRIDGE

Jacob's Well - A Monthly Guide Connecting Home and Church - October 2017

## Wee Ones

One - Three Year Olds

### Singin' In The Car

#### God Called Samuel (tune of "Oh, My Darlin'")

God called Samuel,  
God called Samuel,  
God called Samuel in the night.  
Samuel thought that it was Eli,  
But Eli told him it was God.

God called Samuel,  
God called Samuel,  
God called Samuel in the night.

This time Samuel,  
Knew God's Calling,  
And he said, "I'm listening."

Discovering: God Speaks to Samuel (1 Samuel 3:1-10)

### Play in the Story

In October, we are learning how God spoke to the little boy, Samuel. "Here I am!" What a beautiful way to respond to God's Word. Let's practice listening for God's voice this month.

#### Pretend!

Invite your child to pretend he is Samuel who is asleep. You get to be God! Call Samuel's name. Your child wakes up and says, "Speak, Lord, for I am listening." Repeat 3x.

#### Hide it in your Heart!

"Speak Lord, for I am listening"  
1 Samuel 3:10

Motions: cover mouth, extend hands, point thumbs to chest, cup ears, hold up one finger, hold up three fingers, hold up ten fingers



#### Resources

*Samuel Listens* The Rhyme Bible page 110  
*Samuel/The Little Maid Flip-Over Book* (Little Bible Heroes)  
*The Listening Walk* by Paul Showers  
*Samuel! Samuel! The Story of God's Call to Samuel* by Patricia L. Nederveld

## The Loft

Preschool - Kinders

### Sing It!

He's Got the Whole World  
in His Hands  
(in other languages)

English: He's got the whole  
world in his hands. 4x  
French: He's got le monde  
entier (lu mund un-tee) in his  
hands.

Swahili: He's got dunia  
nzima (du-nee-ah n-zee-ma)  
in his hands.

German: He's got die ganze  
Welt (dee gan-zah Velt) in  
his hands.

Discovering: Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9)

### Play in the Story

In October, we are discovering the story of the Tower of Babel. We will learn that the people believed building a tower would make them important, powerful, famous and safe. God loved the people and knew that wasn't true so He stopped them. He made them all speak different languages, and they spread throughout the earth. Sometimes our ideas are not best for us. God's ideas are always right and true!

#### October Memory Verse

As for God, His way is  
perfect. Psalm 18:30



#### Build Together

When your child is building with blocks at home, encourage her to build the Tower of Babel. Once it is built, have her say hello in different languages (bonjour, hola, ciao, privet, shalom, jambo) and knock the tower over. Wonder together - I wonder why the people wanted to build the tower? I wonder why God stopped them?

# W 1st - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade onderground

## Couch Conversation

Who does Jesus consider his brothers and sisters?

How do you connect with God?

Is there a place you like to go to be with God?

Read the story of Ruth and Naomi.

How did God show up for them?

How did Ruth care for Naomi in an awesome way?

What's it mean to grow in wisdom?

In stature? In favor with God? In favor with man?

## Discovering: Belonging and Growing in God's Family

In October, the 1st - 5th graders will focus on what it means to be in God's family. We'll look at the passage from Matthew 12:46-49 when Jesus talks about who his brothers and sisters are, and also delve into the story of Ruth and Naomi, their connection to each other, and to God. We'll make communion bread to share with our church family, create some art pieces out of recycled materials, play games, and be contemplative, too in the Sacred Forest.

### 4th & 5th Grade

4th & 5th graders will be filming videos about what it looks like to be in God's family. They'll study the texts from Matthew 12:46-49 and the book of Ruth, rehearse and then perform skits for the younger kiddos.

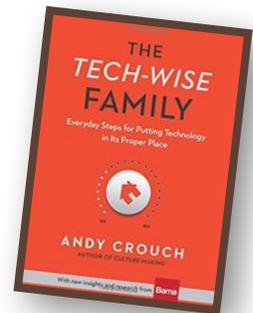
### Make A Journal!

In September, we made journals to use this year to write and draw our prayers, questions, and reflections to God. Some kiddos wanted to make one to have at home. Grab a spiral, some stickers, and markers and let the designing begin!

### October Memory Verse

"And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, in favor with God and man."

Luke 2:52



## The Struggle is Real by Scott Koeneman, Psy.D.

This past week, my nine-year-old daughter caught me in the hallway between our living room and bedrooms, and said to me, "Daddy, can you please not be on your phone while we watch America's Got Talent tonight? It's just really important to me that we can enjoy this together." I thought to myself, "I have no business talking about the practices of a "tech-wise family" (something Mimi Keel had asked me to reflect on in this format just two days prior). As I tried to untangle what this said about my digital habits, I found a small sense of hope in that my daughter was able to identify and call out the impact of a distracted presence within our shared experiences.

When it comes to technology and family life, my wife and I often think to ourselves we are not doing enough, or we are not doing it correctly, or we should be more intentional. But...we do talk about it with our kids, A Lot. Our conversations about the struggles, successes, and failures have created an ongoing dialogue within our family about the promise and peril of technology. And despite our shortcomings, we haven't given up. And maybe that's the point. It's in the struggle that we are modeling for our children what it means to think critically about our choices, to learn from our mistakes, to strive for balance, and to feel the tension of living with a posture of reflection. All of us are navigating a new frontier. There is no well-worn path to follow. We have tried a bit of everything, from thoughts of "digital celibacy," to free-range screens, but perhaps this misses the point. The reality is that it's complicated, and this topic compels our very best in parenting. Recently, I have been challenged by the words of Danah Boyd who captures her own spin of "tech-wise" parenting with the words "more conversation, less surveillance." What I find challenging in her response is the implicit vision that the most compelling antidote to the alluring power of the "glowing rectangles" is parents and children co-creating a vision for the good life.

