

Let's Talk: Day 225

Today's Reading: Acts 4 / Family Focus: verses 7-12

Give each family member a piece of paper and something to write with. Have each person write the name of Jesus in the most creative way possible (colorful, using pictures, cursive, etc.). Then share with one another the name of Jesus each family member designed.

Questions:

1. What was Peter filled with when speaking to the crowd?
2. Who was the stone that was rejected by the builders?
3. What is the only way to get to heaven?
4. How do you answer someone that says, "I am basically a good person, so God should let me into heaven"? What about a 'very religious' person whose actions don't follow their words?

Let's Talk: Day 226

Today's Reading: Acts 5 / Family Focus: verses 17-32

Discuss with your family different rules that you might have in school for the upcoming year or rules you have at home. Our first priority should be following God's rules and showing our love for Him through our actions. What can you do to follow God's rules?

Questions:

1. Where did the high priest put the apostles?
2. What did the high priest ask the apostles NOT to do?
3. Is it possible to follow God's rules and not your teacher's rules? Not your parent's rules? Why or why not?
4. Although not officially part of the reading, look at the apostle's attitude about this experience in verses 40-41. Can you imagine rejoicing that you were counted worthy to suffer?

Let's Talk: Day 227

Today's Reading: Acts 6 / Family Focus: verses 1-7

Today's passage discusses the importance of having people live out their love to one another. Before you begin reading, cut up at least one strip of paper for each family member. Ask each person to write down (parents may need to help younger kids) what they will do this week to show love to a neighbor, friend or family member. Make a chain by taping the first strip into a circle, then looping the next strip through the first one and taping it. As family members do things to help others, add to the chain.

Questions:

1. Who was being neglected and was "in need"?
2. Name the seven men who were of good reputation. What did these men do so the apostles could focus on prayer and ministering the word? Do you know who our pastors and deacons are?
3. Do you think the Hellenists were truly trying to help the widows or not? If not what were they trying to do?
4. What can you do to spread the Word and share God's love?

Let's Talk: Day 228

Today's Reading: Acts 7 / Family Focus: verses 30-42

Go on a nature walk with your family. As you are walking in the neighborhood, at a park or on a trail, count the bushes you see. Moses had an amazing encounter with a burning bush when God spoke to him.

Questions:

1. How many years passed before an angel of the Lord appeared to Moses in a burning bush?
2. Where did the angel speak to Moses? When God might be speaking to you (through His word, a message, a friend) do you stop and get closer like Moses did? If not what do you do?
3. Why do you think the Israelites formed a golden calf?

4. Do you think any of the Israelites thought what they were doing was wrong? Do you think any of them made their concerns known? What would you have done?

Let's Talk: Day 229

Today's Reading: Acts 8 / Family Focus: verses 26-40

Look at a map or globe and see where Jerusalem and Gaza are. How far away is Ethiopia from Gaza? How long do you think it would have taken Philip to travel from his home? This is a great story illustrating how, no matter the distance, God will bring Christians to those who are lost and seeking Him.

Questions:

1. What was the Ethiopian doing when Philip approached him?
2. What happened after the Ethiopian said he believed in Jesus?
3. Why do you think the Ethiopian wanted to get baptized right then and there? Have you made the decision to believe in Jesus and follow Him? Have you been baptized?
4. What does it mean "the Lord caught Philip away?"

Let's Talk: Day 230

Today's Reading: Deuteronomy 18 / Family Focus: verses 14-18

Today's reading was quoted from our Acts 7 reading on Day 229. Way back when Moses was leading the Hebrews, God prophesies the coming of Jesus. Watch this YouTube video of Face of Love by Sanctus Real: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5XDT_AjvRlo. God sent Jesus to earth and we may not know exactly what He looks like but we can know Him through His love.

Questions:

1. Who will God rise up?
2. What do you think Jesus looks like?
3. Do you think any of the physical pictures of Jesus that we see today are accurate? Why or why not?

4. Moses said that this Prophet (Jesus) would in some ways be like him. How is Jesus like Moses? How is Jesus different from Moses?

Let's Talk: Day 231

Today's Reading: Today is the weekly OFF day

Mystery Question for the upcoming week: Who did Jesus call to help Paul?

Set goals for yourself to be a Christlike friend to others and challenge yourself to reach out to one new classmate each week.