

Let's Talk: Day 274

Today's Reading: Ephesians 5 / Family Focus: verses 6-17

This reading uses walking and light as physical illustrations of our Christian life. Our kids learn by experiencing, so get into the illustration. See who can create the funniest walk. Can you imitate each other's walk? Next, get into a very dark room and let your eyes adjust. Then light a candle and see how much of the room is illuminated. Use these exercises to compare light and walk to our Christian life.

Questions:

1. How are we supposed to walk/live? How did we used to walk? How can we tell the difference?
2. What should we do with the works of darkness?
3. What do you think makes God happy or pleases Him?
4. God says we should live wisely. Who do you know that lives wisely and how do you know they are wise?
5. You can also warn your friends when you see them making choices that can get them into trouble. How can you do that in love?

Let's Talk: Day 275

Today's Reading: Ephesians 6 / Family Focus: verses 1-9

Verse one is a great verse for every child to memorize. How awesome as parents to teach kids that the reason they obey you is because, "God says it is the right thing to do." They are obeying God by obeying you.

Questions:

1. What is the first commandment (from the 10 commandments) that has a promise attached to it?
2. How can you show honor to your parents? On a scale of 1 (not so well) to 5 (awesome), how well do you honor your parents?

3. Fathers are supposed to train their kids but not do what? What does that look like?
4. What's the difference between doing something "with eye-service" and doing something from the heart? Can you think of an example of both from your life?

Let's Talk: Day 276

Today's Reading: Philippians 1 / Family Focus: verses 2-7

We are talking about how God starts a great work in our life when we ask Jesus to be Lord of our lives. For the rest of our life He molds us to be what He wants us to be, and promises to finish that process. Work a puzzle or create with Playdoh. Talk about the start, middle and finish of a project.

Questions:

1. What does Paul do every time he thinks of the church in Philippi?
2. What people are in your life that you can thank God for right now? What makes them so special to you?
3. Of what is Paul confident? If you have asked Jesus into your heart has He begun a good work in you? Then what will continue to happen throughout your life?
4. Where is Paul right now [verse 7]? Does he sound depressed about it or joyful? Do you think having joy depends at all on your circumstances? How could Paul be joyful?

Let's Talk: Day 277

Today's Reading: Philippians 2 / Family Focus: verses 1-11

Humility is the word for the day. Ask the kids if they know what that word means. Do they think it is a good word? In ancient times humility was not a value. Many historians say that Christ and Christians were the first people group that valued humility.

Questions:

1. How can the church "fulfill Paul's joy?" What does being likeminded or having the same mind look like in a family? What about with friends?

2. Who do you know that always seems to put others before themselves?
3. How did Jesus put us before His own comfort? What all did He do for us? (verses 6-8)
4. One day what will happen when people say the name "Jesus?" Describe what you think that will look like.

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Today's Reading: Philippians 3 / Family Focus: verses 7-14

Paul gave up his reputation, job, and many comforts to know Jesus better. Brother Yun, a modern day Paul in China, was also willing to lay aside personal gain in order follow Jesus. Read his story here: <http://www.inspirationalchristians.org/biography/brother-yun/>.

Questions:

1. What is Paul's number one priority?
2. What does he consider rubbish in comparison to knowing Jesus?
3. Are there things you put in front of God? What would you be willing to give up to know Him better?
4. Who do you know that seems to put Jesus first? How can you tell?

Let's Talk: Day 279

Today's Reading: Exodus 20 / Family Focus: verses 1-12

Today's reading covers Moses getting the 10 commandments and is referenced in Ephesians 6 on Day 276. Listen to the "10 Commandment Boogie" by Go Fish on You Tube. You can find the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Kp8yXDpNaQ&feature=related>

Questions:

1. What is the first commandment? Do you put anything before God?
2. Which commandment is one that you read about on Day 276 in Ephesians 6?
3. Have you ever broken a commandment? What should you do when that happens?
4. Is it possible to keep all the commandments? Why or why not?

Let's Talk: Day 280

Today's Reading: Today is the weekly OFF day

Mystery Question for the upcoming week: Name at least one thing we should "put on" as a Christian.

This week we learned a lot about how we should act as Christians. Ask each family member to share one thing that God taught them through their Bible reading this week. How can you live differently based on what you learned?