

## Let's Talk: Day 351

Today's Reading: Matthew 19 / Family Focus: verses 13-15

As a family, sing the song "Jesus Loves Me." If you would like a reminder, or want to see a video of the song, go to the following website: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9AAloccjo3Q>.

Questions:

1. What did the disciples do when the little kids were brought to see Jesus?
2. Why do you think they did this?
3. What did Jesus say to his disciples in response? How does that make you feel as a child?
4. How are the kingdom of heaven and little children connected? What do you think that means?

## Let's Talk: Day 352

Today's Reading: Matthew 20 / Family Focus: 1-16

Discuss with your family what it means when something is not fair. How do you feel when you have been treated unfairly? Jesus told the parable of the laborers and the landowner. Some of the laborers felt they were treated unfairly.

Questions:

1. How much did the landowner agree to give the first workers?
2. How did the first workers that were hired feel about those who were hired later in the day?
3. Do you think it was fair that the men who worked less hours were paid the same as those who started working in the morning? Why or why not?
4. What does God [the landowner] say about "fairness?" What do you think this story means for us?

## Let's Talk: Day 353

Today's Reading: Matthew 21 / Family Focus: verses 12-17

Watch the video on YouTube of Jesus cleansing the Temple of the money changers <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ak3kXsx-i2U&feature=related>. Brainstorm together all the sounds that you might have heard, had you been there that day.

Questions:

1. Why did Jesus "cleanse the temple?" About what was He angry? Afterwards, who came to Him in the temple?
2. What happened when Jesus healed the sick? Were the priests and scribes happy about this? Why or why not?
3. Where did Jesus travel to next? Do you remember which of Jesus' friends lived there?
4. If you were a disciple, what do you think you would be thinking at the end of this day?

## Let's Talk: Day 354

Today's Reading: Matthew 22 / Family Focus: verses 34-40

Make a heart out of construction paper. On one side write the great commandment. Then on the other side write the second greatest commandment. See if you can memorize these two verses this week.

Questions:

1. Who asked Jesus which commandment was the greatest?
2. These two commandments are the basis of something; do you know what?
3. Why do you think loving God is the most important commandment?
4. Which of these two commandments is the harder one to keep? Why?
5. If we could perfectly keep these two commandments, would we need any other rules? Why or why not?

## Let's Talk: Day 355

Today's Reading: Matthew 23 / Family Focus: verses 1-12

Discuss with your family what a Pharisee is. Then read the passage for today and see what Jesus says about the Pharisees.

Questions:

1. What does Jesus say the Pharisees do in comparison to the commands they give others? Did Jesus say the people should follow the Pharisees' actions or instructions? Why?
2. According to Jesus, when are the Pharisees motivated to do any good works?
3. How can you find the greatest person in your midst? What should you be looking for?
4. Are "celebrities" known for their humility and service? If what society values and what Jesus values are two very different things, how can we make sure we are influenced more by Jesus?

## Let's Talk: Day 356

Today's Reading: Deuteronomy 6 / Family Focus: verses 4-9

Today's passage is an important scripture of the Old Testament and was quoted on Day 355 in Matthew 22. Discuss how you can grow closer to God as a family. A few examples may be: continuing to do LET'S TALKs, making a prayer journal, completing a Bible study together, memorizing a passage of Scripture, serving together at church, or sharing daily "God moments" at bedtime.

Questions:

1. How should we love the Lord our God? Give multiple practical examples of how we can do this.
2. Name four different times in our day that we should be looking for opportunities to talk about God? What might that look like in your daily schedule?
3. Is God's Word visually displayed in your house? How can you keep Him in front of your eyes and in front of your house?

4. With all the influences that can come into your house through various media sources and friends, what plans do you have to diligently teach your kids how to know God throughout their day?

### **Let's Talk: Day 357**

Today's Reading: Today is the weekly OFF day

Mystery Question for the upcoming week: How many times did Peter fall asleep while Jesus was praying in the Garden? Matthew 26

Take time to develop your plan to grow closer to God as a family. Use ideas from yesterday's discussion or take a risk and have your own worship service as a family. Praise God with some traditional hymns. Read Luke 2 together and act out the parts. Finally, take some time to thank God for sending His Son to earth as the ultimate gift to us.