

NOTE TO PARENTS: The goal of this series is to teach kids how to live out their faith in the day-to-day, talking with God in the everyday moments without it feeling like faith is something to check off a to-do list.

Each week will follow a theme and have a list of suggestions that can be slotted into your daily routine. Please don't feel pressured to do everything! Pick a couple of things you think your kids will enjoy. This isn't meant to be a sit down lesson, but easy-to-put-together activities that can be done whenever you have a chance. A lot of the content is play based, using games as a tool to get kids thinking about God and creating intentional conversations.

# WEEK SIX: God is ... our Father

Aim: For kids to understand God is our Father; He loves us as His children. He is for us, and we can turn to Him.

## **Memory Verse**

Romans 8:16 MSG "God's Spirit touches our spirits and confirms who we really are. We know who he is, and we know who we are: Father and children."

## Suggestions:

- Using sidewalk chalk, draw a hopscotch grid on the ground. Write one word in each box, and recite the verse as you play.
- Learn the verse together with Dad, or turn it into a competition and see who has it memorized first.
- Do the verse to the tune and actions of "Head shoulders knees and toes" Keep the actions (or create your own.) Moving helps kids stay focused.

#### Things to do...

## Suggestions:

- Draw a portrait of Dad, Grandpa, Uncle or any important male role model in your kids' life. (Or make a 3D model with playdoh or modelling clay.) Talk with your kids about what they love or appreciate about the men in their life. God is the perfect Father; people make mistakes, but God loves us with a perfect love.
- Watch a hockey game or a soccer match. (There are reruns available online.) You could make a poster to cheer on your team, or if you own face paint or jerseys dress in team colours.

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LINK: God is for us; that means He wants what's best for us. He's cheering us on, supporting us and coaching us through life.

- Design your own team jersey or logo.
- Go outside and play street hockey or soccer. (Use the same application as the point above.)

- Father's Day is just around the corner! (June 14<sup>th</sup>) Plan ahead to do something for Dad and the men you look up to. Here are some ideas:
  - Write ten things you appreciate about them.
  - Make an acrostic poem of their name.
  - Plan a project you can work on together.
  - Make plans to spend some quality time together. If you're separated during quarantine you can arrange to meet outside with social distance, or do a family movie night. ('Netflix Party' is a Google chrome extension that synchronizes your Netflix accounts so you can watch a movie together at a distance. There is a chat window so you can talk while you watch.)

## Things to watch...

## Suggestions:

- Right Now Media has some great resources. If you don't have an account, please email the church and we'll set you up with a free login.
- 1. BibleForce, Season 2, Episode 7 'Prodigal Son'
- 2. Theo, Volume 3, Episode 2 'Adoption'
- Watch the movie 'Inside Out' (available on Disney+) LINK: Connect the movie with the bible story below. Riley runs away at the end of the movie and then returns home to her parents. There are lots of great examples in the movie of being for someone wanting what's best for them, loving and cheering them on.
- Maker Fun Factory song 'God is for Me' (available on YouTube)

## Things to read...

## Suggestions:

- Prodigal Son Luke 15:11-32

God is our Father. Even when we do wrong, He welcomes us home! He is for us and we can turn to Him.

(To help your kids engage with what's happening in the scripture you could act out or recreate what happened using toys).

#### Things to talk/think about...

- Do you turn to God in times of trouble?
- Are there people in your life who don't know they can turn to Him? Commit to pray for them. (Make a reminder and post it somewhere you'll see it.)
- Does being a child of God change the way you think about yourself or others? Does it change how you treat others (or how you treat yourself)?
- Can you think of someone who needs to be encouraged and reminded they're loved? Do something practical to show them that they're loved this week. (Examples: Care packages. Phone someone to show them you care. Send someone an encouragement card.)

