



Spring 2025

Dear Families,

Raising children in the faith doesn't happen just at church, but at home and in everyday life. As parents, you have the unique role to walk alongside your children every day and teach them about Jesus. In order to help promote and encourage faith development at home, I have included several resources for you to use in your homes:

- Family Devotions
  - The Bible App for Kids
  - Seeds Kids Worship
- Smart Moves for Little Ones
  - Growing a Young Faith
- Family Traditions
  - Everyday
- Lenten Calendar

“Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” (Deuteronomy 11:18-19).

Blessings,

Jen Roettjer, DCE

Director of Youth and Discipleship





## [ FAMILY DEVOTIONS ]

### LEARN

The Bible App for Kids

Videos of the most familiar Bible stories for kids.

Find on Google Play, the App Store, or website.

For extra resources visit:

<https://bibleappforkids.com/parents>

### SHARE

Highs and Lows from the day

What are you thankful for today?

### PRAY

Confess

Honor

Ask

Thanks

### MUSIC

Seeds Kids Worship

YouTube: @Seeds Kids Worship

Spotify Artist: Seeds Kids Worship

Amazon Artist: Seeds Kids Worship



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## GROWING A YOUNG FAITH

### Thoughts to Consider

Little ones grow so quickly during their first years of life. Often we are so focused on their physical and mental development, we overlook their faith development. How much you love your child and make them feel secure, is the first way in which they will begin to think about God.

### Love and Security

Your job as a parent is to play with your child, which in turn sets the ground work for their faith development. Have fun with them. Smile at them. Play peek-a-boo. Kiss them. Make silly faces. Hold them close. Sing. Dance. Say "I love you." Say "God loves you."

### Exploring Creation

Regularly take your child outside to explore nature. As your child encounters the trees, flowers, grass, bugs, and so much more, talk about how God created each one uniquely. Ask them about the color and shape. Describe how the grass is different from the tree. When the seasons change from one to another, use this opportunity for your child to discover the differences in temperature, color, and weather. Be intentional about giving God the credit for everything that we see.

### Giving Thanks

In response to all of the good and beneficial things that God has given us, we respond with thanks. Begin by talking about our blessings with you child, and then in turn thank God for them. We can thank God for everything around us, including the food we eat, clothes we wear, house we live in, and friends that come to visit. When they receive a gift, teach them to not only say thank you to the gift giver, but also thanks to God as the ultimate provider of all things.



# [ FAMILY TRADITIONS ]

## EVERYDAY

### Thoughts to Consider

Most of our lives are spent living the day-to-day activities. Within those daily events, we can find ways to create family traditions and shared memories with our family members.

### Everyday Activities

- Create a secret family handshake
- Family Sweater Day – Find set of matching clothes, whether they are sweaters, pajamas, Hawaiian shirts, or socks. Then wear them all on the same day.
- Yes Day – One child gets to pick all of the activities, food, and so forth for the day. The choices must be reasonable, but the family must say yes to doing them.
- Barbershop visit with Dad or Spa-day with Mom
- Family Game Night – Pick a set day once a month to play games as a family.
- Find the Best Food in Town – Whether you pick ice cream, donuts, pizza, or some other favorite food, over the course of several days/weeks, visit as many places as you can to determine which location has the best food.
- Looking for cloud formations – Pick a sunny day with fair weather clouds outside. See what pictures you find in the clouds. Maybe even create your own storyline as the clouds change and move.
- Listening Car Ride – Listen for the sounds of God on your car trip, then share what you hear.
- Box of Goals – Have everyone write a goal for the month, then put them in a box. At the end of the month, check to see how you did and write new ones.
- Annual Trip – Whether your family goes camping or to a water park, each year you find a place to visit and spend together.
- Love Languages – Learn each family member's love language. Find a new way to say "I love you" to them.