Middle Elementary
Spring 2018

# Family Connections

**A quarterly letter for connecting with families who have children in 3rd & 4th grades at <Type your church or children's ministry name here>**

Welcome to Family Connections—the quarterly newsletter that helps you know what your child is learning from God's Word. Please let us know if we can help you in any way as we partner with you to grow kids in Jesus.

## Family Thought

"Why?" is a question preschoolers seem to ask over and over, but "How?" can dominate the elementary years. How did that happen? How can I do this? Take time to be childlike and ask Jesus your questions. He wants you to ask—and He's ready to answer!

## Coming This Quarter

Units of learning include:
- Jesus' Power to Overcome Death (Special Lesson)
- Jesus' Ministry Begins
- Jesus' Teachings and Power

## Family Memory Challenge

Bible verses your child will be learning this quarter include:
- Matthew 28:5, 6 (Special Lesson)
- Colossians 1:10
- Hebrews 11:1, 6
- Luke 6:27, 28, 31

As your family learns each unit's Bible memory passage, write the verses on blank note cards. Draw colorful borders or add stickers to decorate the cards. Post the cards around your home. Whenever you see one of the cards, say the Bible memory passage written on that card.

## Growing Together

As spring breaks forth, God's creativity is shown all around. Creativity is a wonderful quality that should be nurtured in your family. When family members are creative, they are able to express themselves freely, represent their ideas in new ways, solve problems, and act in resourceful ways.

One simple way to build creativity is to provide choices. Ask questions that are open-ended rather than spoon-fed or rhetorical. Provide opportunities for family members to freely express their ideas without fear of evaluation, ridicule, or comparison. Provide different kinds of materials to work with, even everyday household items that can be used in new and different ways. Place high value on things family members do that might look or be different from the norm. Look together and see the unusual in things or relationships that others see only as ordinary.

God the Creator gave each person the gift of creativity. As you encourage that gift in your family, you'll be delighted to watch each person grow and blossom, unleashing his or her God-given potential.

For a guide to family devotions, go to www.heartshaper.com and download the free weekly family pages for your child's age level.

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