

Dear Church Family,

One of the best ways to talk about big things that feel scary is to remind our children that God is good and in control. Some of our kids and grandkids may not be aware that something is going on, while others might be fearful or worried about the virus. Either way, it's a great time to talk about trusting God when we don't know the big plan. Here are a few ideas from our FBC staff on how to thrive (instead of just survive) in this season:

**Take time as a family and pray:**

- Pray for the sick and the elderly and the weak
- Pray for the leader in our government and the decisions they have to make
- Pray for ways to show love and care to our neighbors
- Pray that God will help us trust Him and not be afraid
- Pray for their world; maybe get out a map and look at the different parts of the world

**Read about God's goodness and control in Scripture together:**

- Isaiah 45:5-7
- Romans 8:31-32
- Psalm 27: 13-14

Loving our children well and pointing them to Christ during a crisis is a good and hard work.

**2 Thessalonians 3:13** says, "*As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.*"

Let's be honest. None of us have ever done this before and it is getting long.

Here are some things to encourage you in "*not growing weary*".

Serve together:

- Ways kids can serve
  - Make cards and notes
  - Make videos for Facebook and family
  - Drop off care packages
  - Call grandparents and elderly

**Articles and books to encourage:**

["Invested, Not Spent: Quarantine 2020"](#)

["50 Games and Activities To Do With Your Kids"](#)

["Staying Sane While Working From Home With Kids"](#)

### **Articles to Get to Know one another better:**

["Navigating Personality Differences at Home"](#)

["50 Questions to Ask Your Kids at the Dinner Table"](#)

["20 Questions to Ask at the Dinner Table"](#)

["Heart-to-Heart Time with Your Spouse"](#)

### **Books and websites to study virtue and character through stories and fun:**

[\*The Children's Book of Virtues\*](#) by William Bennett

[\*Manners and Tips for Caring Kids\*](#) by Ramona Wood

[\*Adventures in Odyssey\*](#)

[\*Jonathan Park\*](#)

[\*The Bible Project\*](#)

### **Make new traditions and give thanks as a family:**

- Make a thankfulness tree on butcher paper and add to it weekly (See [\*One Thousand Gifts\*](#) by Ann Voskamp)
- Have a Saturday morning breakfast with donuts and devotions
- Practice telling one another what we appreciate during dinner altogether
- For more information on building family traditions, see [\*Treasuring God in Our Traditions\*](#) by Noel Piper

In this season where we find ourselves at home more than usual, it's good to be reminded that God has designed our homes to be the primary sphere of spiritual growth in the lives of our kids. The words and traditions that fill our homes shape our children in incredible way (Deut 6:6-9). By God's grace, let's continue to make this most of this time together.