

Growing... Together

Bible Story
God's presence fills the Temple. 2 Chronicles 5:1-14

Worship 13:
God is with us when we worship.

Bible Verse
"I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20b).

In Touch

Today your child learned that God is with us when we worship and that wherever they go, God is there. Use these activities to remember that God is with your family this week.

Walk Around

Take a walk around your neighborhood with your family, and look up and down for evidence of God's presence. Before you head out, praise God for being a great God who is with you when you worship. Then as you walk, look for kindnesses, such as neighbors chatting, to remind you of God's kindness to us. Look for beautiful things in nature to remind you of God's creation. Look for sturdy homes to remind you of God's protection. Feel the breeze on your face, or watch leaves rustling to remind you that, even though he can't be seen, God is always with us.

Quiet Worship

Tell each family member to find a place he or she can be alone and silent for three or four minutes. Tell your family to think about the verse "Be still and know that I am God." Have them talk to God and then be quiet and listen to God, imagining that God is sitting beside them during this time. Afterward, play quiet praise music or sing a quiet worship song such as "Alleluia" while you gather the family. Talk about why God sometimes likes us to be quiet when we think about him. Thank God for quiet times of worship.

Sweet Smells

Wrap a cinnamon stick and a few cloves in a small piece of cheesecloth. Simmer the spices in a pot of apple cider after supper. Remind your family that God is with them like a sweet-smelling fragrance. Serve everyone a cup of cider, and talk about how God is always with us. As your family enjoys the cider, remind them that God's Spirit lives inside them.

God's Comfort

Have your child draw a heart on white cotton fabric with markers. Pin the picture to another piece of fabric, and cut the picture out, leaving a margin of about half an inch. Then unpin the two pieces of fabric, and turn them both over so the wrong sides are facing each other. Repin the fabric. Thread a dull needle, and tie a large knot in the end. Show your child how to make a running stitch, and have him or her sew the two pieces of fabric together. Leave a 2-inch opening on one side. Turn it right-side out, and stuff it with Poly-Fil, fabric scraps, or cut-up nylon hosiery. Sew the gap shut. Send your child to bed with this heart pillow to remind him or her that God is always present.