

# Growing Together

**Bible Story**  
Gideon and his men  
defeat the Midianites  
(Judges 7:9-21).

**Gideon 13:**  
God's plans turn out  
for the best.

**Bible Verse**  
"For I know the plans I have for you,"  
says the Lord" (Jeremiah 29:11).

## In Touch

Today your child learned that God's plans always work out for the best and that God has a special plan just for your child. Children also learned that God can make things turn out well, even when our plans fail. Use these activities to teach your child more about God's perfect plan and more about making wise plans for himself or herself.

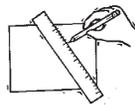
### Dinner Plans

Have your child plan a salad for your family's dinner. Take a trip to the grocery store, and let your child choose which vegetables to buy. Encourage your child to choose a variety of colors and textures so that the salad is nutritious and pleasing to the eyes and taste buds. Suggest grated cheese, kidney beans, meat, or hard-boiled eggs to increase protein. Let your child choose fun additions such as fish-shaped crackers, raisins, mandarin oranges, or Chinese noodles. Also pick out a salad dressing, rolls, and something to drink. Have your child wash the vegetables and prepare as much of the salad as he or she safely can. Talk about what it takes to plan good, nutritious meals for your family. Then thank God for making good plans for your lives.

### Natural Plans

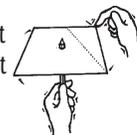
Visit a local natural history museum, or watch a nature show on television. As you watch the animals, talk about how God planned for them to live in their surroundings. For example, polar bears have white fur so they blend in with the snow in the Arctic. Then talk about how God created people to live in their surroundings. Thank God for giving animals and people what they need to survive in the world.

### God's Unexplainable Plans



Try this optical illusion with your child. Use a marker to make a dot at the halfway point on the long side of an index card. Lay a ruler so that its edge touches the marker dot and extends to the corner of the card in a diagonal line. Put several bold dots on the card along the edge of the ruler. Push the point of a pencil through the center of the card. Hold the pencil with one hand and spin

the card with your free hand. When you look at the spinning card, you'll see a circle. Talk about how God's plans always turn out for the best even when we don't see how they can work.



### Daily Plans

After dinner every night this week, sit down with your child and plan a schedule for the next day. Include time for chores, time for fun, time for family, and time for God. You might also want to plan on some time to get ready to go back to school. From the second night on, evaluate how that day went: Did anything unexpected happen? How many things from the list were accomplished? Did you forget to plan time for something? Were you realistic about what could be accomplished? End each talk by asking God to be in charge of today and tomorrow and to accomplish his plans through you.