

Growing Together

Families 13:
The church is God's family.

Bible Story
God's people share what they have (Acts 4:32-37).

Bible Verse
"Whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith"
(Galatians 6:10).

In Touch

Today your child learned that Christians are part of God's family. Christians should love, share, and take care of one another in the same way that members of our families at home do. The children learned that God wants us to "shine like stars" to let others see what it means to be part of God's family. Use these activities to encourage your child to be a faithful, servant-hearted member of God's family.

One for All

Serve this fun meal as your family discusses what it means to share at home and at church. Buy a round loaf of bread, and slice it horizontally like a hamburger bun. Form one to two pounds of ground beef into one large patty, sprinkle it with salt and pepper, and broil it until it's cooked all the way through. Drain the patty, and put it on the bottom slice of bread. Add your favorite hamburger fixings, and top it with the other slice of bread. Slice it like a pie, and serve it with raw vegetables and dip for a healthful supper. Talk about how you are sharing your food as the early Christians did.

Family Volunteers

Investigate what your church does to share with those who are less fortunate. Your church may collect money for a deacon's fund or stock a closet with food and clothes for people in need. Volunteer with your child to contribute time to some type of service. You might stock shelves, pick up donations, arrange food baskets, or deliver gifts. Be sure to pitch in food, clothing, or money from your own family.

Shining Stars

Read Philippians 2:15 with your child before you begin this craft project. You'll need glitter and a 2-inch-wide white candle. Carefully wrap a hot, damp towel around the candle for a minute or so until the wax softens slightly. Sprinkle glitter on a cookie sheet, and roll the candle in the glitter. When the wax is cool, light the candle, turn off the lights, and talk about how you and your child can shine brightly in a dark world.

Different Tastes

Set out small portions of salt, sugar, instant coffee, and lemon juice. Show your child how different areas of the tongue are sensitive to different tastes. Place a tiny bit of each of the items, one by one, on the tip, sides, and back of your child's tongue. Then enjoy a snack together, such as peanut butter on crackers and juice. Talk about how all your taste buds are different but when they work together, you enjoy how food tastes. Compare that to the differences between people in the church—nobody has the same abilities as anyone else, yet when everyone works together, the church can do great things.