

Faith Family Worship Guide – Week 33

MEMORIZE

1 Corinthians 10:12 – Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

1 Corinthians 10:24 – Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor.

READ

Read 1 Corinthians 10:12-13, 23-31.

Paul reminds the experienced believers who were strong in the faith that they had better not grow overconfident in their ability to overcome temptation. He used the nation of Israel as his example to warn the mature believers that their experience must be balanced by caution. He goes on to explain that a knowledgeable Christian did not need to alter his convictions to accord with the conscience of a weaker brother, but he did need to alter his behavior when in the weaker brother's presence. Christian behavior should be for the glory of God. Also it should build up the church of God by leading some to new birth and others to maturity in the process of salvation. Christians should show humility and avoid behavior that would cause others to stumble.

Questions:

What are some temptations to sin we encounter in life?

How can we overcome temptations to sin?

How can we help ensure we don't tempt others to sin?

Bottom Line: We should seek the good of others.

SING

Our worship song this week, "All Creatures of Our God and King", was originally penned by Francis of Assisi around 1225, shortly before his death. It wasn't published, however, for almost 400 years, and it was translated into English by William H. Draper. This is a beautiful hymn and a wonderful reminder of the gospel. Let your heart praise the King as you sing!

Visit our website for a link to this song: www.brookhills.org/gathering/this_week.html.

SUGGESTIONS

These suggestions were created by the age-group ministry leaders as a way to help parents better communicate the biblical truths discussed in the Family Worship Guide. These suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God-centered discussions with their children. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help their children discover the truths of God's word and worship him together.

Preschool

- Before you begin open your Bible to 1 Corinthians 10:24 and read the verse to your preschooler: "Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor."
- Paul loved the people. What are some ways he showed his love? (He wanted to see them, he thought about them, he was concerned about what might be happening to them, he served them, he prayed for them.) Paul didn't just say that he loved them, but he showed it.
- Discuss the ways you can show love to others and do good things for others. After discussing the ways to show love (helping, spending time with, serving, praying, etc.), ask each family member to choose one way to show love to another person this week. Discuss what humility looks like and how we should have a humble attitude. (It means thinking about others, not being selfish, loving others, and serving others as Jesus did.)
- Pray together as a family. Pray for God to help you seek the good of others.

Children

- Together read 1 Corinthians 10:12-13.
- Ask your child, "What does it mean to be tempted?" To be tempted means that someone tries to get you to do or want something that is wrong (that is sinful).
- What are some things that tempt you to sin? (Parents, sometimes children don't want to acknowledge that they are tempted because they fear they will get in trouble for even admitting they are tempted. You may need to share some examples of ways you are tempted to sin in your life to open them up to sharing.)

- Do you sometimes think that you will *never* be tempted by a particular sin? Go back and re-read verse 12.
 - This verse reminds us that sometimes we don't think we can be tempted by something, and we end up putting ourselves in situations where we allow ourselves to fall. For example, we hang out with people who aren't making good choices because we think we are strong enough to withstand the temptation to make bad choices. But then we end up falling into sin. Use the following illustration to show this point:
 - Ask your child to stand up carefully on a chair. Then ask them to try and pull someone up to the chair with them (it will be very difficult to pull someone up). Then try and pull them down from the chair (it should be very easy to pull them down from the chair). The point – it is much easier to be pulled down (and into sin) than it is to pull someone else up! So it's better to stay out of that tempting situation to begin with!
- Is there any temptation that you *cannot* resist? How does God help you so you can resist? Go back and re-read verse 13. God always provides an escape from that temptation. Talk about specific situations where a child might encounter a tempting situation and how God might provide an escape from that sin. It helps to think about how they would escape a tempting situation *before* they ever encounter it and then practice getting out.
- Pray together that God will help you resist temptation. Ask for strength and protection in the areas with which you are struggling.

Students

- Preparation
 - Before your time begins, gather pictures of your student(s) when he/she was a baby/toddler, elementary school student, and current age.
- Introduction
 - Lay all of the pictures out in sequential order.
 - As you are looking at the pictures ask these questions:
 - What physical activities were you able to do in each age?
 - Did those abilities change or grow?
 - Are you able to do more now than when you were a baby?
 - What things could you understand in each age?
 - Are you smarter now than you were in previous stages?
 - Do you understand greater things than before?
- Discussion
 - As believers, our faith grows and develops just like we do from babies to adults.
 - We are called to constantly grow and mature in our faith.
 - Look back to what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 3:1-2.
 - We are not automatically made mature at the moment of salvation.
 - As we grow, we learn how to deal with temptation.
 - We grow in learning to distinguish between what is good and what is evil, or not of God.
 - We develop a greater understanding for walking in righteousness.
 - However, we must always caution ourselves against thinking that we can't fall into temptation.
 - Read 1 Corinthians 10:12-13.
 - Does God force us to sin?
 - What does God provide in the midst of temptation?
 - Is anyone exempt from experiencing temptation?
 - Read 1 Corinthians 10:23-31.
 - Look back at the pictures.
 - All believers are not in the same developmental stage.
 - Some are babies. Some are adults.
 - As believers, Paul gives us our goal for all of our actions. Look at v. 31.
 - As we seek to do all things for the glory of God, we also have the role of leading others to become followers of Christ and to mature in their faith.
 - Our actions matter for the faith of others.
 - If you know someone is not as mature in their faith as you might be, how might you act around them?
 - Would your conversation be different?
 - Would you use different words to explain your faith?
 - Would you take greater care and concern for your actions around them?