

dwell[®]



DIVE

Dear Family,

We'll continue to use the guidance of the Heidelberg Catechism as we reflect on "Does What I Do Make a Difference?"

Easter Session: Luke 24:13-35; The Road to Emmaus (We Want to See Jesus) 

Session 1: Acts 18:1-4; 2 Corinthians 11:26-28; Colossians 3:23; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Passages on the Importance of Work (Working for the Lord) 

Session 2: Genesis 2:15, 19-20; Psalm 8; Eden and the Naming of the Animals (Caring for God's World) 

Session 3: Luke 11:9-13; Ask, Seek, Knock (Why Pray?) 

Session 4: Luke 18:1-8; Parable of the Judge and the Widow (How to Pray) 

Session 5: Luke 11:1-4; (The Lord's Prayer) 

Pass It On

Here are some ideas for how you might engage your child in a faith discussion:

- Share with your child a time when you "saw Jesus" in the words or actions of someone else. (Easter Session)
- Share with your child some details about your work life. What exactly is it that you do? What do you enjoy about your work? What don't you enjoy? If you have not already done so, decide together on some item of "work" your child could start to be responsible for at home. (Session 1)
- Commit as a family to one specific action you will do to "care for the world." Be sure to ask your child for ideas and input. (Session 2)
- Share honestly with your child about your prayer life. When do you pray? Where do you pray? Why do you pray (or why don't you)? What do you often thank God for? What do you often ask God for? What would you like to change about your prayer life? (Session 3)
- Share with your child a time when you prayed to God from your heart and felt that, because of the events or experiences that followed, God had indeed listened to your prayer. (Session 4)
- Share with your child the version of the Lord's Prayer you are most familiar with by saying it aloud (from memory if possible). If you can remember, share where and when you first learned the Lord's Prayer. Consider using the Lord's Prayer before family meals for the next month. (Session 5)

Sincerely,

P.S. Check out www.NurtureKidsFaith.org for more-faith building ideas for your home!

Open Our Eyes

Once there was a man whose life was one of misery. The days were cloudy and the nights were long. Henry didn't want to be unhappy, but he was. With the passing of the years, his life had changed. His children were grown. The neighborhood was different. The city seemed harsher.

He was unhappy. He decided to ask his minister what was wrong.

“Am I unhappy for some sin I have committed?”

“Yes,” the wise pastor replied. “You have sinned.”

“And what might that sin be?”

“Ignorance,” came the reply. “The sin of ignorance. One of your neighbors is the Messiah in disguise, and you have not seen him.”

The old man left the office stunned. “The Messiah is one of my neighbors?” He began to think who it might be.

Tom the butcher? No, he's too lazy. Mary, my cousin down the street? No, too much pride. Aaron the paper-boy? No, too indulgent. The man was confounded. Every person he knew had defects. But one was the Messiah. He began to look for him.

He began to notice things he hadn't seen. The grocer often carried sacks to the cars of older ladies. Maybe he is the Messiah. The officer at the corner always had a smile for the kids. Could it be? And the young couple who'd moved next door. How kind they are to their cat. Maybe one of them . . .

With time he saw things in people he'd never seen. And with time his outlook began to change. The bounce returned to his step. His eyes took on a friendly sparkle. When others spoke he listened. After all, he might be listening to the Messiah. When anyone asked for help, he responded; after all this might be the Messiah needing assistance.

The change of attitude was so significant that someone asked him why he was so happy. “I don't know,” he answered. “All I know is that things changed when I started looking for God.”

—Max Lucado, *A Gentle Thunder: Hearing God Through the Storm* (Thomas Nelson, 1987)

Memory Challenge Cards (NIV)

Copy these Scripture Memory Challenge cards onto cardstock, and then cut them apart to distribute to the young teens. To help encourage them to use the cards, consider punching a hole in each and attaching it to a key ring or small carabineer.



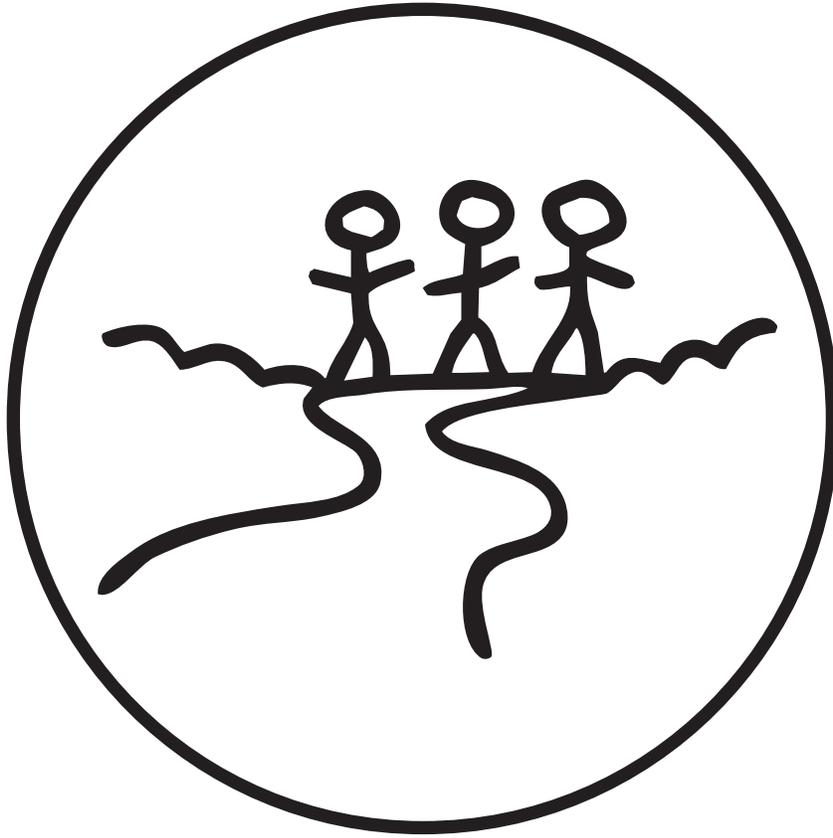
<p> Unit 5, Sessions 1-5 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord. —Colossians 3:23, NIV</p> <p>LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens. Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor. You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!</p> <p>—Psalm 8, NIV</p>	<p> Unit 5, Sessions 1-5 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord. —Colossians 3:23, NIV</p> <p>LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens. Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor. You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!</p> <p>—Psalm 8, NIV</p>
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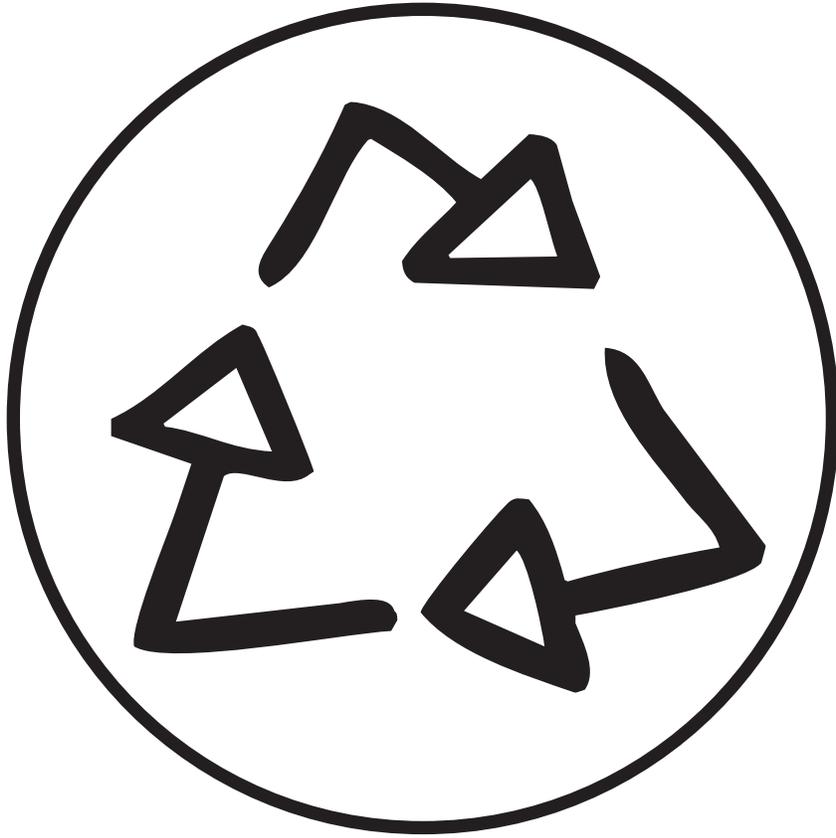
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Dwell Year 2, Unit 5, Easter Session



Dwell Year 2, Unit 5, Session 1



Dwell Year 2, Unit 5, Session 2



Dwell Year 2, Unit 5, Session 3



Dive Year 2, Unit 5, Session 4



Dive Year 2, Unit 5, Session 5

What You Can Do

Read through the following list of things you can do to help care for God's world. In the empty space, add your own ideas. Check the items you are going to commit to doing more often.

- Be happy with less.
- Plant flowers or a tree.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
- Use washable rags, not paper towels, to mop up spills.
- Take short showers (less than five minutes).
- Recycle aluminum, glass, plastic, and paper.
- Don't litter.
- Pick up litter when you see it around the yard or at school.
- Use glasses instead of paper or Styrofoam cups.
- Go through your closets and drawers and give unwanted clothing to charities.
- Start a garden. Use natural instead of chemical fertilizers.
- Reuse paper and plastic bags.
- Keep the lint filter in the dryer clean.
- Ride a bicycle or walk to places when possible.
- Buy products that have the least amount of packaging.
- Turn off lights, the television, and the computer when leaving the room.
- Talk to a deacon about helping to start or volunteering for a recycling program at church.
- During cold weather, wear warmer clothes instead of turning up the heat in your home.
- During hot weather, open windows to avoid using the air-conditioner.
- Check the faucets in your house for drips.
- Eat at fast-food restaurants that use paper packaging, not Styrofoam.
- Use public transportation whenever possible.
- Write on both sides of sheets of notebook paper.
- Encourage your parents to keep the car tuned up and its tires properly inflated to increase gas mileage.
- Don't smoke cigarettes.
- Don't waste food.
- Other ideas: _____

Signed _____

Prayer Bingo

I often pray with my eyes open.	I pray before bed at night.	I like to pray the Lord's Prayer.	I use my own words when I pray.
I believe that God hears all my prayers.	I talk to God about anything and everything.	I like to sing prayer songs.	Sometimes I ask God why bad things happen.
I pray before (almost) every meal.	I believe prayer is important every day.	I like to read prayers.	I usually pray when I don't know what to do about a problem.
Prayer makes a big difference in my life.	I often kneel when I pray.	Sometimes I ask God for stuff when I pray.	I don't always like praying out loud.

Luke 11:9-13

ASK AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU

SEEK AND YOU WILL FIND

KNOCK AND THE DOOR WILL BE OPENED TO YOU

**WHICH OF YOU FATHERS, IF YOUR SON ASKS FOR
A FISH, WILL GIVE HIM A SNAKE INSTEAD?**

OR IF HE ASKS FOR AN EGG, WILL GIVE HIM A SCORPION?

**IF YOU THEN, THOUGH YOU ARE EVIL, KNOW HOW
TO GIVE GOOD GIFTS TO YOUR CHILDREN**

**HOW MUCH MORE WILL YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN
GIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT TO THOSE WHO ASK HIM!**

Prayer Letter

Dear Father,

You have given me so many good gifts. I especially thank you for . . .

I don't want to treat you like Santa Claus, but I do need to ask things of you.

Give me, I pray . . .

Thank you for being a God who loves me.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Dear Father,

You have given me so many good gifts. I especially thank you for . . .

I don't want to treat you like Santa Claus, but I do need to ask things of you.

Give me, I pray . . .

Thank you for being a God who loves me.

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Year 1

Unit 1 What Do I Do When Things Fall Apart?

Unit 2 What's the Covenant All About?

Unit 3 Who Is God?

Unit 4 Who Is Jesus?

Unit 5 Who Is the Holy Spirit?

Unit 6 What Is the Church?

Year 2

Unit 1 What Is Being a Christian All About?

Unit 2 What's with All the Rules?

Unit 3 Can't We All Just Get Along?

Unit 4 Who's Number 1?

Unit 5 Does What I Do Make a Difference?

Unit 6 What Do I Say When I Pray?

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