

MARCH 2025

“BUDDING AND BLOOMING”



Spiritual Practice:
Generosity



Bible Story:
God's Kingdom Grows



Memory Verse:
Mark 16:15 ICB



*“Jesus said to the followers, ‘Go everywhere in the world.
Tell the Good News to everyone.’”*

FORMATION ACTIVITY

Family Interaction Plan

Parents, review the monthly options and decide which activities work best with your family. We've designed this plan for one day each week but you may choose to engage more or less often. Note the approximate time it takes to interact with the whole program over the month. We hope you will find 30 minutes a week to spend time discipling your children.

You may choose one day a week for Parent Time and another for Family Time.

Week 1 – Our Growing Family Day this week _____

Parent time - (27 minutes)

- Watch the Formation Intro Video to catch the big picture for March. (7 minutes)
- Review the March offerings for your family, and plan out intentional time with your children. (10-20 minutes)
- Optional Activity: Attend 'Fat Tuesday Breakfast for Dinner', hosted by Community Formation at the Community House on March 4th from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

FORMATION ACTIVITY (cont.)


- Optional Activity: Attend the March 7th Free Lunch in Cordelia on Technology and Children. Childcare is provided. Come between 11:30 and 12:00 to take your children through the food line. Children will eat with childcare workers and then walk to the gym to play. The discussion for parents starts at noon. Dr. Russell Hall will lead the session.

Family time (50 minutes if you choose every activity)

- Watch God's Story video Part 1: Pentecost hats are in your resource bag to cut out, staple, or tape together if the children want to wear them. (10 minutes)
- Use the story pieces while watching the video. Throughout the month the children can interact with the story. Keep the pieces in your garden box. Parents: watch and listen to how children process God's Story. They are your teachers.
- Read Part 1 of the book 'Make Room' together. A reader's guide is inside your book. Families with Babies and Toddlers read 'Making Room for Jesus'. (10 minutes)
- Prepare the pretzels for a Lenten snack. (30 minutes)
- Use your 40 Lent Cards throughout the month on the go. (1-2 minutes for each card)

Week 2 – Our Growing Family Day this week _____

Parent time (30 minutes)

- Watch Dr. Steve Stratton's video on Forgiveness and discuss the worksheet. (30 minutes)
- Preview the Bible Project video connected with God's Story part 2.
(Scan QR code) 
 - Decide if it is age-appropriate for your children, specifically when Adam rebels against God in the video. (7 minutes)
 - Talk about God's Kingdom with your children.
- Read the one-page resource titled, The Power of Stories to Change Us, in your online resources. (3 minutes)

Family time (45 minutes)

- Watch God's Story video Part 2 on the website, (there are two very short accompanying videos). Use your world map, purple dots, and script. (15 - 30 minutes)
- Read Part 2 of the book 'Make Room' as a family. (15 minutes)
- Families with Toddlers and Teens have optional videos and activities. (varied times)

FORMATION ACTIVITY (cont.)

Week 3 – Our Growing Family Day this week _____

Parent time (15-20 minutes)

- Look at the March Resource page titled What's The Big Idea: Generosity. Did you find anything you want to look at with your children? View this on the website and you can click on the links. Find it under Resources.

Family time (30 minutes)

- Read Part 3 of the book 'Make Room' as a family. (15 minutes)
- Watch the short video (Scan QR code) and talk about Generosity.
- Discuss these questions as a family.
 - How would you host a perfect party so everyone felt welcome and had enough?
 - When was a time someone was generous with you? How did it make you feel?
 - Why do people sometimes feel there isn't enough to go around?
 - Parents: What's the difference between having a mindset of scarcity versus abundance?
 - How can trusting God help us be more generous with others?
- Action Steps For The Week:
 - Practice saying "we have enough" instead of "we need more."
 - Practice being generous.



Week 4 – Our Growing Family Day this week _____

Parent time - Plan time for the following activity - 5 minutes.

- Invite guests to your house and share your purple-dot map with them. The children can ask your guests where they shared God's story, and spread God's Kingdom. Place a purple dot on your map. Pray for the people and places where your guests have shared the good news.

Family time (15 minutes)

- Watch the Rule of Life video again on the website found at the end of the Intro video.
- Have your family look at your trellis and leaves from November. Which habits have you continued over the last few months? Do you want to add or remove some of your original ideas? If you didn't complete this activity, find the directions on the curriculum page from November and choose a few habits to place on your trellis. Please send us a photo. We need a picture or written response to your Rule of life by May. We will contact you next year to see if your family habits stick.

TELLING GOD'S STORY:



FAMILY:

Watch Part 1 as God's Kingdom begins to grow

Watch Part 2 and find out how your family fits into God's Story

Watch and retell God's Story Part 1 using the gold bags with props.

You can use the script or tell it in your own words.

Watch God's Story Part 2 along with the accompanying videos then use your world map and purple dots. Tell each other stories of where you spread God's Kingdom.

For families with teens:

- Steph Peterson leads you through the art of ink-wash painting on watercolor paper. Notice how the ink spreads just as God's Kingdom has spread over time.

For families with babies and toddlers:

- Steph Peterson leads you in another rhyme to introduce you to God's Story. Watch the video and practice it together.

PARENTING LESSON:



PARENTS:

Watch the video – “When Sorry Doesn’t Seem to be Enough”

Dr. Steve Stratton teaches about forgiveness and explains why this process involves a commitment and a choice.