

# THE **PARENT'S PLANNER**



# THE PARENT'S PLANNER

## A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

In family life, it's easy to let the urgent keep you from the important.

How many times have you started a week with intentionality, only to reach the end of the week feeling unaccomplished and still unprepared for the next week?

These simple pages can help prevent that. There's one page for each week of the year, with plenty of space for you to focus in on what matters and insights about what's coming up on the calendar. You'll learn a little but plan a lot.

Here's a quick rundown of each section:

**KEY TAKEAWAY:** This is a simple place for you to reflect on the last week and capture a lesson learned.

**THREE OUTCOMES:** When you get to the end of the week, what results do you want to celebrate? Outcomes aren't tasks; they are achievements.

**ACTION ITEMS:** Jot down a few key tasks for the week, making sure they are connected to the desired outcomes.

**PEOPLE:** Every week is an opportunity to nurture relationships and cultivate community. Ask God to bring three relationships to mind.

**THINK ABOUT THIS:** This short challenge is time-sensitive. It's meant to let you know what's coming and give you something important to work on.

**CHALLENGE:** These are questions to ask and ideas to consider that will help you grow as a parent and enrich your family.

**COMMUNICATION CUE:** As you're growing, these cues provide you with ways to help your child learn about important concepts too.

**VERSE OF THE WEEK:** Think and meditate on this verse as you move throughout your week.

Each page of The Parent's Planner is similar, but you'll notice timely advice for parents for each week. Print the entire packet or just the relevant page. Either way, 15-30 minutes of focus can really help you focus on what's most important in your life and family.

THINK  
ON THIS

WHAT'S YOUR VISION  
FOR YOUR FAMILY?

Welcome to a new year!

As you start with a fresh slate, begin with the end in mind. This is a thought pattern your brain uses more often than you may realize. Think about when you want to make cookies, you don't start with the ingredients. You start with the end result, the desire for cookies. Then you look up the recipe, check to see if you have all the ingredients, and begin the process.

When you begin with the end in mind in your families, it helps you create a vision to encourage you when you are tired, give you hope on the hard days and stay faithful in the mundane.

Having a vision isn't just for the leader of a business, but also the leader of a home. A clear vision helps you grow into who God designed you to be. When you cultivate a vision for your family, you partner with God to cultivate the people entrusted to you.

CHALLENGE

Here are some questions to ask yourself as you develop a vision for your family:

- What memories do we want to make?
- What characteristics do we want to define us?
- What traditions are important to us?
- Ask your kids about a few things they want to accomplish as a family this year.

COMMUNICATION CUE

Talk with your child about the importance of spending your time wisely to accomplish the plans God has for you. You show your love for God when you plan your days with purpose.

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

THINK  
ON THIS

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

There is at least one holiday in every month of the year. Celebrating helps you remember. What you repeat you remember. Start thinking now about how you want to celebrate this year and create memorable moments. Planning ahead for holidays and celebrations allows you to anticipate them with excitement not overwhelm.

CHALLENGE

Set aside some time to think through all the memorable moments you want to make this year.

- Mark birthdays, important holidays, and school breaks on your calendar.
- Make a list of how you want to celebrate each of them and what you need.
- Plan your days off now so you don't miss out on the moments that matter to you.

COMMUNICATION CUE

Invite your child to help you with the planning. Ask them their favorite birthday memory and why. Share one of yours with them too. Celebrating is a tangible way to remind us of God's goodness in our lives.

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH



MLK JR. DAY IS TOMORROW

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

#### VALUE OTHERS

Holidays are a prime opportunity to talk with your child about leaders, our nation's history and how it should impact us today.

As Christians, we reflect a God who is just and kind and values all people. Schedule a time to talk with your child this week about the value that God places on all lives. Talk about past and present leaders who fight for justice.

## CHALLENGE

Our belief that every life has value leads us to be ambassadors of justice and mercy. Brainstorm ideas together about how your family and child can show mercy and justice to the people around you.

## COMMUNICATION CUE

If you have a younger child, define justice and mercy for them. With an older child you can talk about areas of injustice they see in the world.

## NOTES



THINK  
ON THIS

ENJOY YOUR KIDS

Parenting is hard and life is busy and full. It's easy to rush throughout our days without enjoying our lives or the people around us.

Pause and remember that God loves you and likes you. He doesn't want you to rush through life, he wants you to enjoy life. God knows parenting is hard, but he's given you gifts to enjoy, sometimes you just need to pause and look around.

CHALLENGE

Set a timer and take time to just enjoy your kids. See how it changes your attitude and enjoyment of the day:

- Write down 1-2 things you enjoy about each of your children.
- Write down 1-2 things you enjoy doing with your children.

You could set a timer every day for the five minutes before they come home and think about what you enjoy about them. See how it changes your attitude.

COMMUNICATION CUE

Tell your child what you enjoy about them and do one of the activities you enjoy together.

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH



THE SUPERBOWL IS NEXT WEEKEND

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

### HOW DO YOU WANT TO REST THIS YEAR?

You plan trips, you plan schedules, you plan activities, but how often do you plan to rest?

Physical, spiritual, and mental rest is essential for growth and thriving. It seems counter-intuitive but it allows your body to rejuvenate and recover from the daily stress of life. God didn't design us to work constantly. Resting reminds us we are limited beings but have an unlimited God. We get tired and need rest, but he never does.

Rick Warren suggests this pattern for planning rest:

Disconnect Daily

Withdraw Weekly

Abandon Annually

## CHALLENGE

Rest won't happen if you don't plan for it. Set a five-minute timer and think through ways you can plan for rest daily, weekly, and yearly.

## COMMUNICATION CUE

Talk with your child about why rest is important and help them see the need for it even in their young life.




VALENTINE'S DAY IS NEXT WEEK

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK







## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK














## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH







### THINK ON THIS

### STUDY YOUR KIDS

Your child is a unique and intricate creation. Valentine's Day is a great time to celebrate them in their individual ways. Your child grows and changes daily (their likes and dislikes, friends, and interests). Studying them and knowing them communicates their value and gives them a place to belong.

### CHALLENGE

Take a few minutes this week to study your child:

- What are their favorites? (treats, colors, characters)
- What is their love language or temperament?
- What makes them laugh?

Here are some resources on studying your child:

- [Workbook: I Said This, You Heard That](#)
- [Book: The 5 Love Languages of Children](#)

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Ask your child what their favorites are right now, what friends they are hanging with the most, and what makes them laugh. Taking time to communicate your interest in them will help them feel known and loved.





18 WEEKS TO SUMMER

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

### BE SPONTANEOUS TOGETHER

Be spontaneous this week!

Routines and rhythms are good for you, they bring order and peace to your life. But it's good to be spontaneous and do the unexpected. It doesn't have to be big or expensive, just something out of your normal routines and rhythms.

## CHALLENGE

Here are a few ideas to spark some spontaneity:

- Pick a day to surprise your kids and check them out of school early for some ice cream.
- Skip your workout and go get a massage.
- Take your family out to dinner at a nice restaurant instead of drive-thru.

## NOTES

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

**PSALM 118:24**

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."



8 WEEKS TO EASTER

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

PREPARE FOR EASTER;  
CULTIVATE FAITH TOGETHER

Christians celebrate two major holidays, Easter and Christmas. These are two great opportunities to celebrate and share your faith with your children. You can build intentional rhythms around these two holidays to help you cultivate faith as a family all year.

## CHALLENGE

There are eight weeks until Easter. Set a five-minute timer today and think through how you want to cultivate faith with your children. Here are some ideas:

- Easter Reading Plans on YouVersion
- *Jesus Storybook Bible* Reading Plan
- Family Devotional time each day

## COMMUNICATION CUE

The Bible is how we know God and the story he is writing. Reading, studying, and memorizing the Bible helps us know God, love him, and follow him. (Share your favorite Bible verse with your child).

## NOTES

THINK  
ON THIS


**SPEAK WORDS OF  
ENCOURAGEMENT; WRITE A  
NOTE TO YOUR CHILD**


# 1


KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

# 3

MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK








## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK













## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH







Take a few minutes today and write a note to your child. As a parent, you have the opportunity to speak words of life and encouragement over your child. You aren't the only voice in their life, but you can be the loudest and chief encourager. Your words can help develop their confidence in their gifts and talents.

In the digital age, handwritten notes can get forgotten. It doesn't have to be fancy, you could even write it on their bathroom mirror.

## CHALLENGE

Here are a few ideas to try:

- Write a note on their bathroom mirror.
- Leave it under the windshield wiper on their car.
- Write it on a sticky note and put it on their homework.
- Write it on the napkin in their lunchbox.

## NOTES



TIME CHANGE NEXT WEEK

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

### SERVE TOGETHER

Does your family serve together?

Our tendency can be to serve in separate ways, but serving together is a fun and meaningful way to build connections and create memories.

Set aside time this week to brainstorm ways your family can serve together. It can be as simple as cleaning out clothes and toys together and as big as going on a mission trip as a family.

## CHALLENGE

Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Let each child pick an idea.
- See where you are already serving and how you can join each other.
- Look ahead at the calendar and see if your church or another organization has opportunities.
- Get creative, you could do a bake sale or lemonade stand with a small child and give the proceeds towards a need.

## COMMUNICATION CUE

As you serve together, talk about why we sacrifice our time to serve others and how it shows God's love.

WEEK OF  
MARCH 14, 2021



3 WEEKS UNTIL EASTER

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

### PURSUE YOUR CHILD'S HEART

As a parent you spend a lot of time training, correcting and disciplining. The tendency can be to focus on behavior modification over heart transformation. What we say and do is a reflection of our heart. We all tend to pitch tantrums when we are tired.

### CHALLENGE

Spend time this week peeling back the layers and pursuing your child's heart. Are they angry at home because someone at school has hurt their feelings? Are they acting out because they need some one on one time?

Pausing to pursue your child's heart allows moments of correction to foster connection.

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Ask your child what they are thinking about or how they are feeling. These simple questions can open up their heart.

### NOTES

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

**PROVERBS 4:23**

"Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."

THINK  
ON THIS

READ TOGETHER

Language is woven into the fabric of creation. Long before there was technology, there were words, spoken and written. Words inspire, shape and encourage us. The written word is how God chose to reveal himself and preserve it generation after generation. We all read everyday, sometimes out of necessity and others for pleasure. Cultivate a love for reading by reading together this week.

CHALLENGE

Here are some ways you could read together this week:

- Read a chapter from a book together.
- Listen to an audiobook or audio stories together.
- Read different things but in the same room and then tell each other about what you read.

COMMUNICATION CUE

Talk with your child about the Bible. It's the record of God's story and how we get to know him. God chose the written word to reveal himself to us.

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH



## WEEK OF MARCH 28, 2021



PALM SUNDAY

### 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

### 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

### ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

### PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

## THE PARENT'S PLANNER

### THINK ON THIS

### WHY WE REMEMBER

Palm Sunday begins Holy Week, a time when the Israelites remembered their story. They recounted their slavery and God's intervention to set them free to the next generation. They remember the good and the hard, the joy and the sorrow.

Remembering our story is important because it can get lost in the chaos of the day to day. Our stories boast of the goodness and grace of God in our lives.

### CHALLENGE

Plan a time to remember together this week. Attend a Good Friday service together or do a Holy Week Bible reading plan.

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Tell your child one of your favorite Bible stories and how it reminds you of God, then ask them their favorite story.

### NOTES

### VERSE OF THE WEEK:

**1 JOHN 1:9**

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

WEEK OF  
APRIL 4, 2021



EASTER SUNDAY

# 1

KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

# 3

MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK







## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK











## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH







THINK  
ON THIS

SHARE YOUR STORY:  
CONFESSION LEADS  
TO CONNECTION

### Happy Easter!

As you celebrate Christ's resurrection and your salvation, proclaim the ongoing work of God in your own life by sharing your story.

Our stories are one of the most powerful ways to share the gospel. Confession isn't just admitting when we sin, it's verbally proclaiming God's work in your life. Confession leads to connection. Sharing your story with your child and how God is changing you will encourage them in their own faith journey.

## NOTES

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

PSALM 45:17

"I will perpetuate your memory through all generations; therefore the nations will praise you for ever and ever."

THINK  
ON THIS

PRUNE SOMETHING  
WITH YOUR CHILD

Get outside together this week! As the weather warms, spend time outside anticipating Spring. As you prune your plants to prepare them for new growth, invite your child to help you. Cutting away the old so the new can bloom is something we all experience in life. It's hard and it's not fun work, but it's worthwhile when you see the new growth.

COMMUNICATION CUE


Encourage your child that we all have sin and weakness that needs to be pruned. Confession is simply acknowledging it and that we need God's help to get it out of our lives.

NOTES


1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

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ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

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PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

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VERSE OF THE WEEK:

PHILIPPIANS 1:6

"... being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

WEEK OF  
APRIL 18, 2021



3 WEEKS UNTIL MOTHER'S DAY

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

### PLANT SOMETHING TOGETHER

Springtime and new growth bring joy and hope for fresh starts. Plants are a magnificent visual to help us understand the growth process. In a culture of instant gratification it's good to be reminded that growth and change take time.

## CHALLENGE

Plant something with your child this week and observe the process together. Here are some questions you can ask them:

- How have you seen yourself grow this year?
- Are there places you want to grow that require cultivating a new skill?
- Plants need help to grow, how can I help you?

## COMMUNICATION CUE

God designed for us to grow and change, not just from our weaknesses, but also in our strengths and gifts. Encourage your child that growth is a process. A plant can't grow alone, it needs water and good soil to thrive. We can't grow alone either.

*With three weeks until Mother's Day, think about mothers in your life who don't have biological children. How can you celebrate them on Mother's Day?*

WEEK OF  
APRIL 25, 2021



8 WEEKS UNTIL SUMMER

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

#### BUILD ANTICIPATION; SUMMER BUCKET LIST

It's eight weeks until summer! Build anticipation for the memories you'll make by creating a summer bucket list now.

Start with the end in mind. When you head back to the routines of the fall, what memories and experiences do you want to have made? Look back at any lists you made in January of goals to accomplish or experiences to have.

### CHALLENGE

On your summer bucket list, mix in big and small activities. Keep the focus on creating memorable moments together not just exciting experiences. Let each child pick two or three things to add to the list. Keep the list visible in a central place to cultivate anticipation and excitement.

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Not everything we plan will happen, but it's more likely to happen when we do have a plan than not. God wants us to enjoy and explore the world he created. Pray with your child about your summer bucket list, that God would help you make memorable moments as a family.

THINK  
ON THIS

BE GENEROUS TOGETHER

**1** KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

**3** MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK







ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK














PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH







Are you generous together?

In the digital age of auto payments, you can give without your child ever knowing. The majority of what you pass on to your child will be what you model. Let them experience generosity with you.

CHALLENGE

Here are some ideas:

- Put a visual up of an organization you give to as a family. Talk about why you give to them.
- Call your church and ask for a need you can meet, work together to meet that need.

COMMUNICATION CUE

We are generous because God has been generous to us. Everything we have is a gift from him for us to enjoy, steward, and share with others. We show God's love and goodness when we are generous.

NOTES



WEEK OF  
MAY 9, 2021



MOTHER'S DAY

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK







## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK














## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH







THINK  
ON THIS

CELEBRATE YOUR STORY

### Happy Mother's Day!

As you celebrate today think of your family story. How has God built your family? Family is God's design for us to be known and loved. Each person in your family is unique, creating a beautiful design.

### CHALLENGE

Here are some ideas to help you celebrate your story:

- What are some of your family quirks?
- Remember how each child was added and look at pictures.
- Look through photo albums together of shared memories

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Share your favorite part of being a mom with your child.

### NOTES

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

**PROVERBS 31:31**

"Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate."

WEEK OF  
MAY 16, 2021

THE PARENT'S PLANNER

THINK  
ON THIS

LEARN SOMETHING  
NEW TOGETHER

Learn something new together this week. Learning together builds connection and cultivates a teachable heart. It's humbling to let your child teach you something, but it will create a great memory!

### CHALLENGE

Here are some ideas on how to learn together:

- Let each child teach the family something they know
- Find something none of you know anything about and learn about it together
- Learn a new game or activity together

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Define humility and having a teachable attitude. You can learn from anyone if you are humble and willing to be taught.

### NOTES

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

### ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

### PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

1 PETER 5:6

"Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you."

WEEK OF  
MAY 23, 2021



MEMORIAL DAY IS NEXT WEEK

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

### PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Over 260 million Christians live in places where they experience high levels of persecution. Take time to talk with your children about how we can encourage our brothers and sisters who face persecution through prayer. Use these resources to learn about Christians in a certain area and set a timer to pray for them together daily.

### CHALLENGE

- Talk about this at dinner, in the car, or before bed
- Set a timer to help remind you to pray together daily
- More resources at [Open Doors USA](#)

### NOTES

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

**2 CORINTHIANS 12:10**

"For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

THINK  
ON THIS

TECHNOLOGY CHECK-IN

Technology is an essential part of our daily lives. Having regular technology check-ins can ensure that you and your family are stewarding it well. Boundaries keep us from going over the edge and help us enjoy things the most.

### CHALLENGE

Here are some ideas to assess your technology use:

- Use the settings on your phone to limit your screen time
- Study the apps: Know what apps kids are interested in
- Have a technology plan

### Resources:


- Blog: [Media Mentoring](#)
- Book: [The Tech-Wise Family](#)

### COMMUNICATION CUE


Technology is something we control or it controls us. It is a good thing, but it also has downsides. It's a daily part of our lives so we need to learn how to use it well.

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK







### ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK












### PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH







WEEK OF  
JUNE 6, 2021



THE YEAR IS HALF OVER

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

#### CULTIVATE FAITHFULNESS

The year is halfway over. Take a few minutes to assess your schedule and goals. Are your daily activities moving you toward your family vision? When you go on a trip you put your destination in and follow the GPS. When you detour, the GPS reroutes you. Taking time to assess your schedule will help you reroute if you've veered off course being distracted by the urgent instead of the important. When we routinely assess our actions, we cultivate faithfulness in stewarding what has been entrusted to us.

### CHALLENGE

Use these questions to help you stay in focus the rest of the year:

- What's one thing you need to stop doing?
- What's one thing you need to start doing?
- What's one goal you wanted to accomplish that you already have?
- What's one goal you want to accomplish by the end of the year?

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Talk with your child about how taking time to assess our actions helps us faithfully steward the gifts and talents we've been given and grow into who God designed us to be.

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

**PROVERBS 3:3**


"Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart."





NEXT WEEK IS FATHER'S DAY

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK







## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK













## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH







### THINK ON THIS

### CELEBRATE OTHERS

Celebrating others communicates their value to you. It doesn't have to be big or just on special occasions. Sometimes, unexpected, small celebrations can communicate more deeply than big. Celebrating others is also an intentional way to practice using kind speech to build one another up.

### CHALLENGE

- Create a list of people to celebrate this year and their favorite things.
- Have a celebration meal as a family and celebrate each family member.
- Celebrate someone this week:
  - Draw pictures with your children and send them to grandparents just because.
  - Write a thank-you or encouragement note to someone.

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Our words can build up others or tear them down. We get to choose how we use our words. Model using kind words with your child and ask them how it makes them feel. Remind them when they use their words to build up others it makes them feel loved and valued.



WEEK OF  
JUNE 20, 2021



FATHER'S DAY

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK







## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK














## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH







THE PARENT'S PLANNER

THINK  
ON THIS

REMEMBER GOD'S LOVE

### Happy Father's Day!

Families are God's design for us to experience love and community. As you celebrate today, think of God's perfect love. We love others because we have experienced the love of God.

### CHALLENGE

Celebrate today how your family reflects God's love. Here are some ideas:

- God loves us by serving us: how do you serve each other in your family?
- God's love brings joy: how do you laugh together?
- God's love is comforting: how do you encourage each other?

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Share with your child your favorite part of being a dad.

### NOTES

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

1 JOHN 4:19

"We love because he first loved us."

WEEK OF  
JUNE 27, 2021



THE FOURTH OF JULY IS NEXT WEEK

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

#### TAKE A RISK TOGETHER

Nothing great comes without risk. Do something risky this week in honor of the risk the American founders took to create this country. Taking risks teaches your child they can be brave and face uncertainty. The goal of taking a risk isn't a success, it's trying and not letting fear win.

## CHALLENGE

Let each family member suggest an idea, do all or one or two of them. Remember the goal isn't a success, it's taking a risk and trying something new.

## COMMUNICATION CUE

Share a personal story with your child of a time you were brave. Remind them that God is with them always, they are never brave alone. They are strong and courageous!

## NOTES

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

2 TIMOTHY 1:7

"For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

THINK  
ON THIS

PRAY FOR THE LEADERS  
OF OUR COUNTRY

As Christians, we are to honor and respect our leaders, even those we don't agree with. How you treat and talk about your leaders will teach your child how to treat their leaders. This may stretch you, especially if you don't agree with the current President or leaders in your community. That's ok. It's a great opportunity to share with your child that we won't always agree with those leading us but we can still honor, respect, and pray for them.

CHALLENGE

[Here's a place](#) to look up your local and national government leaders. Spend time praying for them together as a family this week.

COMMUNICATION CUE

God is the ultimate authority. He rules over all the leaders of the world, whether they believe in him or not. God tells us to respect and pray for people in authority and leadership. We show our honor and love for God when we respect and honor those he has placed over us in life.

NOTES

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

WEEK OF  
JULY 11, 2021

THE PARENT'S PLANNER

THINK  
ON THIS

HAVE A "YES" DAY  
THIS WEEK

Have a "yes" day this week!

As a parent you spend a lot of time training, correcting, and giving discipline. Choose a day where you say "yes" to whatever your child asks (within reason), but don't tell them. It will be a fun day for them and you to not feel like you are saying no all the time.

NOTES

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK







## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK














## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH







VERSE OF THE WEEK:

PSALM 118:24

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

THINK  
ON THIS

PRAY FOR YOUR  
CHILDREN'S TEACHERS

As you begin to prep for back-to-school pray for your child's teacher, even before you know who it is. Also, pray for the school staff as they begin to prepare for the year ahead.

### CHALLENGE

Here are some ways you can pray for your child's teacher and their relationship:

- Pray for them to know and love God
- Pray for them to have wisdom
- Pray for them to have an excitement about the year ahead
- Pray for your child to connect with their teacher
- Pray for your child's teacher to challenge your child

### COMMUNICATION CUE

We don't always get to pick those we learn from, but we can choose our attitude. We can choose to be kind, loving, and respectful no matter who we are learning from.

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK







### ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK













### PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH







THINK  
ON THIS

PLAN A DATE WITH  
YOUR CHILD

Plan a date with your child for back to school shopping. Write out a few questions to ask along the way. The start of a new school year is a good time to look up what they are going through developmentally that may impact their emotions and behavior this year. Intentional time with your child communicates your love and desire to know them.

CHALLENGE

- [Here is an idea](#) for an intentional back to school date with your child.
- [Here is a developmental guide](#) to help you study your child.

NOTES

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

THINK  
ON THIS

PRAY FOR YOUR KIDS

The prayers of a parent are mighty. Only you can pray specific, detailed prayers for your child because you know them best. The work of prayer is unseen and the fruit isn't immediate. But when you pray, you partner with God in the work of your child growing into who they were created to be.

CHALLENGE

Here are five ways you can pray for your child this school year:

- Love God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength
- Be protected from the lies of the world
- Friendships to build them up and encourage them
- Confidence in their gifts, talents and how they were designed
- To grow in wisdom and character

COMMUNICATION CUE

Let your child know you are praying for them! Write them a note with a prayer or tell them what you prayed for them that day. Ask them if they have a prayer request and pray with them.

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

THINK  
ON THIS

YOUR CHILD'S  
RELATIONSHIPS  
WITH OTHERS

Parenting takes a village, you weren't designed to parent alone. Your child is influenced by teachers, coaches, friends, and small group leaders. Pray for your parenting team and your child. Pray for the relationships your child has with others this week.

CHALLENGE

Make a list of who is on your parenting team and the people your child has relationships with.

- Write down why you are thankful they are in your child's life.
- Pray for them.
- Send them a note and tell them why you appreciate them.

COMMUNICATION CUE

God created us to live life in community. Thank God for the relationships he has surrounded your family with.

NOTES

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH



THINK  
ON THIS

ENCOURAGE OTHERS  
TOGETHER: NINJA DROP

Encourage others together with a ninja drop.  
Ninja drops are a fun way to encourage people!

CHALLENGE

Choose someone as a family that you know needs encouragement. Put together a bag of their favorite treats, bake something together, and make cards. Then drop it on their doorstep, ring the doorbell and leave. The goal is not to get caught!

COMMUNICATION CUE

We don't encourage others to be noticed but to build them up. The reason we don't tell them it's from us is to make it completely about blessing them.

NOTES

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

ROMANS 1:12

"... that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith,  
both yours and mine."

THINK  
ON THIS

CONSISTENT RHYTHMS

Did you know vanilla is the most popular flavor of ice cream? It's simple but good and it's a great base to add other flavors or toppings. Your regular routines and rhythms are your vanilla. They provide consistency and order to your family life. Our rhythms and routines bring peace into our home and create a soft place for everyone to land.

CHALLENGE

Assess your rhythms and routines this week. What's working and what could be tweaked?

Use these questions to guide your assessment:

- What rhythms bring order and peace to our life?
- Ask your child where life feels consistent.
- Ask your child where life feels chaotic.
- What rhythms bring stress to our lives?
- How can we tweak it to work better for our family?
- Do we need to stop doing something?

Share your vanilla with a friend this week and ask them what their vanilla is. You might both walk away with a new topping to help your own family!

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH



LABOR DAY IS NEXT WEEKEND

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

#### WHAT'S YOUR VISION FOR YOUR FAMILY?

Muscle is built by resistance. We won't get stronger or build endurance if we don't develop it. It takes time and repetition to develop endurance. Do something hard with your child this week and let them see you persevere.

### CHALLENGE

Look back at the goals you set together in January, is there one you can work toward together this week?

Here are some ways to cultivate endurance together:

- Identify an area of weakness, academics, or activities and practice it together.
- Stretch them to run further, play a hard song, or read more words.

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Share a story with your child of a time when you wanted to quit and you pushed through. Endurance is a great character trait that reflects God. His love for us endures, no matter how many times we turn away.

## WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2021



GRANDPARENT'S DAY IS NEXT SUNDAY

### 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

### 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

### ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

### PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

### CELEBRATE GRANDPARENTS

Celebrate your grandparents this week!  
Grandparents day is Sunday, September 12.

### CHALLENGE

Here are some ideas:

- Write them notes and send them in the mail
- Make them a calendar with pictures of all the grandkids
- Send them gift cards to their favorite restaurants

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Celebrating others tangibly shows your love for them, but often it requires intentionality. We don't want to just tell others we love them, we also want to show them.

### NOTES

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

**MATTHEW 22:39**

"And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

THINK  
ON THIS

PLAY TOGETHER

Playing together builds a connection through shared experience. Spend time together this week playing with your child, even if they are older. Playing together is a simple, but significant way to invest in your child.

### CHALLENGE

Here are some fun ideas for play:

#### Older and Middle Aged Children:

- Play a sporting game together
- Play chess, checkers or a card game
- Play a video game

#### Younger Children

- Play with their favorite toys
- Play Go Fish
- Play chase

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Let your child know you enjoy spending time with them.

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK







### ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK














### PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH







THINK  
ON THIS

WHAT ARE YOU MODELING?

In his book *Lead like Jesus*, Ken Blanchard gives a framework for how to lead others, including your children. Our tendency is to give instruction and go straight to independent execution. Ken reminds us of the importance of modeling. Here's the framework he suggests:

1. I do. You watch.
2. I do. You help.
3. You do. I help.
4. You do. I watch.

You model for your children everyday. What you model, they will imitate. Use this framework as a way to help you model intentionally and to teach them in an encouraging way.

COMMUNICATION CUE


Obedience is how we model God and his instructions. Obedience is a reflection of our love and trust for God.


NOTES


1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

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ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

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PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

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VERSE OF THE WEEK:

2 JOHN 1:6

"And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, so that you should walk in it."

THINK  
ON THIS

CULTIVATE INTENTIONAL  
TIME WITH YOUR CHILD

You spend a lot of time with your child, but it's not all purposeful time. Psalm 90:12 reminds us that we don't know how many days we have and to live each day on purpose. This shouldn't cause us to live in fear but on purpose. Plan this week how you want to make each day with your child count. Imagine building a house, each brick connects to the one beneath it, you don't want any missing bricks. When you live each day with your child intentionally there won't be any gaps.

CHALLENGE

Here are some ways to cultivate intentional time:

- Think about the moments you already spend together. Ask your child to help you cook dinner or fold laundry. Turn what is routine and mundane into purposeful.
- Plan a one-on-one date with your child in the next month.
- Set aside 15-20 minutes each week to give your child uninterrupted time.

NOTES

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

THINK  
ON THIS

MAKE SOMETHING  
TOGETHER

Create something with your child this week. You could bake something or build something together and then share it with others. As you plan and prepare for this time together, think about how much you enjoy your child. Anticipating your time together will communicate your love for them without words.

CHALLENGE

Here are some ideas:

- Build a lego set
- Create an obstacle course and invite friends over to enjoy with you
- Bake something and make extra to share with others
- Paint something and frame it
- Create out of play dough or clay

COMMUNICATION CUE

As you create together talk about how God makes us a new creation through Jesus.

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH



THINK  
ON THIS

SERVE THE WIDOWS  
AND ORPHANS

The way God sees people is often upside down from how the world sees them. He values all people with the same love and respect. As Christians, we reflect God's love when we care for those often overlooked. Spend time this week considering the widows and orphans in your life and how you can serve them as a family.

CHALLENGE

Here are some ideas:

- Pray and ask God to make you aware of the needs around you.
- Ask your church for a list of the widows that don't have family in town. Also, think about your neighborhood and if you have any widows close by. Adopt someone and find regular needs they have that you can meet.
- Find out about needs in the foster system. You could support foster parents or even volunteer to help give them a night off.

COMMUNICATION CUE

Talk with your children about being aware of the needs around them and that when we take care of others we are showing God's love for them.

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

WEEK OF  
OCTOBER 17, 2021



10 WEEKS UNTIL CHRISTMAS

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

#### CULTIVATE RELATIONSHIPS

Send happy mail this week!

In the digital age most of the physical mail we receive is advertisement or bills. Create some cards or buy a pack of notecards and send happy mail this week. It will be such a fun surprise.

## CHALLENGE

Here are some ideas of people to send happy mail to:

- Grandparents
- Cousins
- Friends who live in another state

## COMMUNICATION CUE

Encourage your children to communicate and encourage others with handwritten notes. Help them remember their excitement of receiving a birthday card in the mail and how it encouraged them. Taking time to encourage others is a blessing to you and them.

## NOTES

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

1 THESSALONIANS 5:11

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."


THINK  
ON THIS


LEARN ABOUT UNREACHED  
PEOPLE GROUPS

**1** KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

**3** MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK







ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK












PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH







There are approximately 7,000 unreached people groups in the world. An unreached group lacks the resources and believers to evangelize their people. Spend time this week learning about people groups who have never heard the gospel and talk about how you can be a part of sharing the hope of Jesus to others.

CHALLENGE

Here are some ideas and resources:

- [Joshua Project](#): Adopt an unreached people group and follow the work being done to reach them. Pray for missionaries who are going to that area.
- Learn how your church is sharing the gospel internationally and how you can be a part.
- Buy Bibles for unreached people groups.

COMMUNICATION CUE

We have abundant access to Bibles and resources about the gospel. It's important to remember that there are still people who have never heard about the hope and salvation we have through Jesus.



TIME CHANGE NEXT WEEKEND

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

### SHARE A STORY; CULTIVATE WISDOM

We live in the information age. Knowledge is literally at our fingertips. But wisdom isn't the same as knowledge and information. Wisdom is understanding how and when to use knowledge. Wisdom isn't just knowing what to say, but also when to say it. As a parent, you can help cultivate wisdom in your child not just gain an abundance of facts.

## CHALLENGE

Here are some ways to help cultivate wisdom:

- After they have made a mistake help them articulate what they learned to make a different decision next time.
- Encourage them to pray for it. God says he will give wisdom to us abundantly.
- Often, we can learn wisdom from others. Share a story from your own life.

## COMMUNICATION CUE

Help your child understand the difference between wisdom and knowledge. Read the verse together and encourage them to ask God for wisdom.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

### DO A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS TOGETHER

Share God's love with others this week through a random act of kindness. Acts of kindness are so unexpected at times but are such a gift of hope and encouragement. Acts of kindness are a tangible way to show God's love to others with no strings attached.

## CHALLENGE

Here are some ideas (you can also brainstorm as a family):

- Pay for the next person's meal in the drive-thru.
- Send someone a treat with your Chick-Fil-A points.
- Pay for someone's groceries.
- Leave a basket of goodies at your local law enforcement offices

## COMMUNICATION CUE

Help your children think of a time when they experienced kindness and how it made them feel. Kindness is a way we feel God's love for us. When we are kind to others we are showing them God's love.

THINK  
ON THIS

LAUGH TOGETHER

Sometimes you just need a good laugh. Life is hard, but laughter and joy help you from being taken down by the overwhelm. Your children don't escape feeling overwhelmed either. Sometimes we need to remind ourselves to laugh.

### CHALLENGE

Here are some ways you can laugh together:

- Watch a funny show together.
- Have a water gun fight.
- Look up jokes and tell them to each other.

### COMMUNICATION CUE


Encourage your children that even though we will have struggles in life we can be joyful because of Jesus. We have hope no matter how hard it gets. Laughter and joy keep us from being discouraged.

### NOTES

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK







### ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK














### PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH









## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### THINK ON THIS

### BE GRATEFUL TOGETHER

Be grateful together this week. Use this week as an opportunity to be thankful for the significant and the mundane. Some of us are more prone to gratefulness while others need some intentional encouragement. Thankfulness helps cultivate contentment in a culture of constant want.

### CHALLENGE

Here are some ways to intentionally be grateful together:

- Ask your children each day this week about something they are grateful for. Write it down in a visible place so you can see what you are each thankful for.
- Choose a day to not eat any treats or watch tv (something that is a luxury) to remind yourselves of all the abundance we have.
- Make a list of all your needs. Thank God for how he meets each of those needs for your family.

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Thankfulness actually helps our brain shift gears from worry to peace. Share with your children that being thankful is something we must do intentionally and it helps cultivate contentment and gratitude for all we've been given.

WEEK OF  
NOVEMBER 28, 2021



4 WEEKS UNTIL CHRISTMAS

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

## PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

THE PARENT'S PLANNER

### THINK ON THIS

#### ADVENT SEASON: PREPARING YOUR HEARTS FOR CHRISTMAS

Prepare your schedules and your hearts for Christmas this week! December is a full month, but it can be a fun and joyful time with a little preparation. Taking time to prepare will help you stay calm in the chaos and enjoy every moment rather than be overwhelmed.

Don't just prepare your schedule, prepare your heart. How do you want to keep the focus on Jesus, not the busyness? An Advent devotional or reading plan is a great way to daily set your heart and mind on the reason we celebrate Christmas.

### CHALLENGE

Here are some preparation tips and Advent resources:

#### Preparation Tips

- Look ahead and make sure all parties and events are on the calendar.
- Decide now when you want to decorate and your important family times. Put them on the calendar.
- Make a list of all the gifts you need for the season and when you need them. Decide when and how you will buy them.

#### Advent Resources

- YouVersion Reading Plans
- Jesus Storybook Bible Reading Plan (great for families)
- Jesse Tree

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Talk with your children about why you give gifts to others and do so much to celebrate Jesus at Christmas time.

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

**PHILIPPIANS 4:6**

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."



THINK  
ON THIS

WHO IS IN YOUR CHILD'S  
HALL OF FAME?

We all have a hall of fame—the people, songs, and words that influence us. Ask your child this week who is in their hall of fame from the last year. Their answers might surprise you!

CHALLENGE

Here are some suggestions. Who was your favorite:

- Teacher
- Friend
- Sitter
- Coach
- Small Group Leader

Make and send a card to the people on your hall of fame list to let them know the impact they had!

COMMUNICATION CUE

Share someone from your hall of fame with your child. Encourage them to seek mentors and be a mentor to someone younger than them.

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

THINK  
ON THIS

SERVE TOGETHER

Serve together this week!

The Christmas season is abundant with opportunities to serve. Serving together is a great way to help keep your focus on Jesus in the midst of all the busyness of the holiday season.

### CHALLENGE

Here are some simple ways to serve together during Christmas:

- Volunteer to serve at your church's Christmas Eve Services
- Adopt a family in need and buy their gifts as a family
- Bake holiday goodies for a widow and stop by for a visit

### COMMUNICATION CUE

Talk with your children about how Jesus came to serve others not be served. When we serve others we are truly filled with joy.

### NOTES

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

### ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

### PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

### VERSE OF THE WEEK:

**MATTHEW 28:20**

"Even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

THINK  
ON THIS

SHARE A STORY

Your story is a part of the bigger story God is writing. It is an important thread in the tapestry that God is weaving. Celebrating Christmas is a great time to share your story with your children. Share one of your favorite Christmas memories and why Jesus' birth is important to you. Even if you have young children, it's never too early to share how God changed your life. It doesn't have to be long or formal, just a simple, "Before Jesus, I was...", "After Jesus, I am..."

CHALLENGE

Here are a couple ways you could do this:

- Read one of your favorite Christmas books and share why it's meaningful to you
- Share a memory while decorating the tree

NOTES

1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

3 MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH

THINK  
ON THIS

REMEMBER, CELEBRATE,  
LOOK AHEAD

As you wrap up this year, take time to look back and remember, celebrate the past year, and look ahead.

### CHALLENGE

Here are some questions to consider personally and as a family:

#### Remember

- What did you accomplish this year?
- How did you grow?
- How did your children grow?

#### Celebrate

- Create a slideshow or scrapbook to look back on this year as a family.
- Set aside a time (New Year's Eve is great for this) to let each family member share their favorite memory.

#### Look Ahead

- What do you want to accomplish next year?
- What do you want to stop doing next year?
- How do you want to grow?

## 1 KEY TAKEAWAY FROM LAST WEEK

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FOR THIS WEEK

### ACTION ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK

### PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH