

# Together Time

**Elijah Is Fed by Ravens:** 1 Kings 17:1-6

## Family Talk

This week your child learned that God provided food for Elijah. But God provides

so much more! It is important to remember to thank God and praise Him for His care.

Take a walk and ask your child to name things God made. Ask questions, such as "How does God use the sun to take care of us?" or "Does God use rain to help us? How?"

When going to the grocery store, stop and look at items, such as a sack of flour, a favorite fresh vegetable or fruit, or a jug of milk. Ask, "Where does milk come from?" "Who made the cows?"

Using basic yet stimulating questions, you can help your child recognize and be thankful for God's daily care.

## Daily Talks with God

Use these thoughts at mealtimes, bedtimes, or other times when you pray with your child this week.

God, thank You for the ravens that carried food to Elijah.

Thank You, God. You are good!

I praise You, God, for the ways You care for me.

## Bible Memory FUN

### Psalm 107:1

Find this verse in a family Bible. Assist with writing the verse on a large piece of banner paper. Draw pictures on the banner to "thank the Lord because he is good."

This week, help your child remember:

### God cares for us.



## Family Fun...

**Feed the Birds.** Help your child remember the ravens that God used to help feed Elijah. Provide a pinecone with a string looped around the top. Spread peanut butter on a plate and roll the pinecone in the peanut butter. Pour birdseed onto a second plate and roll the peanut butter-coated pinecone in the birdseed. Hang the prepared pinecone on a tree outside the home and enjoy watching the birds that come to eat.

Articles by  
Wendy Wagoner



# Together Time

**Elijah Helps a Widow: 1 Kings 17:7-16**

## Family Talk

As important as bread was for Elijah, it was not the most

important thing he needed. Elijah knew that a person does not live only by eating bread, but also by doing what the Lord says. (See Deuteronomy 8:3.)

As a parent, it is important for you to be in the Word of God. The Scriptures help us know what is right to do, and they give insight into the teachings of God. We must know those teachings because our children also need to know them.

Reading the Bible together and discussing its lessons and stories will help your child grow up making godly choices. Give your child the "bread of life" by regularly opening the Bible and studying its truths.



## Bible Memory FUN

**Psalm 107:1**

Find this verse in a family Bible. Write the verse on an index card and mount it on the dashboard of your car. Create fun ways

of saying the verse while traveling together.

This week, help your child remember:

**God wants us to obey Him.**

## Family Fun...

**Bread Maker.** Find a favorite recipe and bake a loaf of bread. (Banana or pumpkin bread can be easy and fun for children to make.) As you measure and stir the ingredients together, talk about how God gives us what we need to make bread—flour, eggs, sugar, oil. Let your child proudly serve the bread at your next meal. Talk about how God helped Elijah and the woman have bread to eat.

## Daily Talks with God

Use these thoughts at mealtimes, bedtimes, or other times when you pray with your child this week.

God's love continues forever!

Dear Lord, help people today who might not have food to eat.

Help me, God, to obey You.

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Wendy Wagoner



# Together Time

**Elijah Helps a Widow's Son:** 1 Kings 17:17-24

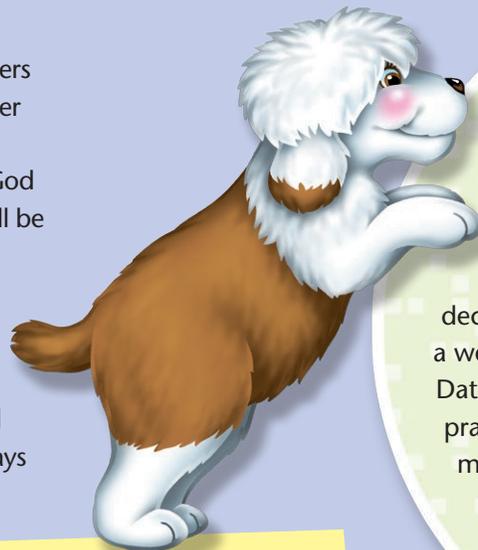
## Family Talk

As children learn about God's great power—His power to

heal the sick or raise the dead—they may question why God doesn't seem to be answering their own family prayers for people they know.

Guide your child to understand God's answers to prayer. God sometimes answers *no* when He knows that is the best answer for us. He answers *yes* when our prayers request what is best for us. Sometimes God answers *wait* in order that His answer will be at the best time.

Teach your child that God wants the very best for us. Believing and trusting God for the very best in our lives requires practice and patience. God may answer *yes*, *no*, or *wait*. But He always answers!



## Bible Memory FUN

**Psalm 107:1**

Find this verse in a family Bible. Recite the Bible words together during family prayer times.

This week, help your child remember:

**God listens to our prayers.**

## Family Fun...

**Family Prayer Journal.** Start a family prayer journal. Find a notebook to decorate. Decide to journal once a day, once a week, or at a time that is best for your family. Date each entry. Take turns writing or drawing prayer entries in the journal. Pray together and mark how God listens to and answers your family's prayers.

## Daily Talks with God

Use these thoughts at mealtimes, bedtimes, or other times when you pray with your child this week.

I am thankful, God, that You listen when I pray.

Help me, God, to remember that I can pray to You anytime.

Wow! God listens to my prayers!

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# Together Time

**Elijah and the Prophets of Baal: 1 Kings 18:16-39**

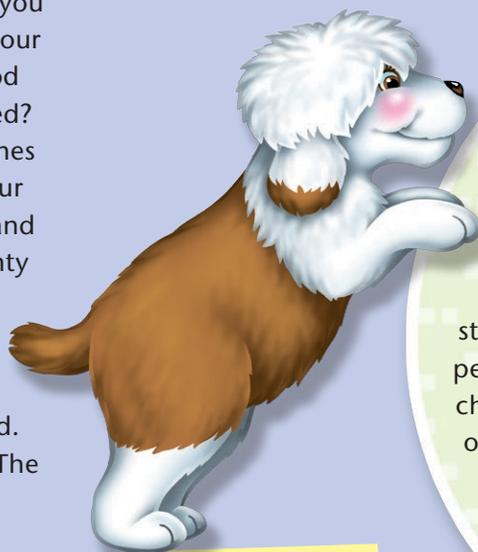
## Family Talk

Elijah boldly prayed to God, and God answered and showed His

power through an act only He could do. In response, the people bowed and said, "The Lord is God! The Lord is God!"

How do you show your child that you believe in a powerful God? Does your child see you praying boldly to God when your faith is being challenged? Have you told your child about times when God answered prayers in your life? Do you bow with your child and praise God when you see His mighty wonders?

It is important for you to live your life in such a way that your child will know God is the real God. Then your child will learn to say "The Lord is God!"



## Bible Memory FUN

**Psalm 107:1**

Find this verse in a family Bible. Learn sign language for key words of the Bible verse. (You can find helpful sites on

the Internet that show the ASL signs for most words.)

This week, help your child remember:

**God is powerful.**

## Family Fun...

**Household Stone.** Hike with your family on a mission to find a big stone. Clean the stone and prepare it to be decorated. Using a permanent ink marker, have a parent or older child write "The Lord is God" in the middle of the stone. Take turns decorating the stone with brightly colored markers. Talk about how important it is for a household to stand firm on God's truth.

## Daily Talks with God

Use these thoughts at mealtimes, bedtimes, or other times when you pray with your child this week.

My God is a powerful God!

God, You are the one true God.

Thank You, God, for loving me.

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# Together Time

**Daniel and His Friends Obey God:** Daniel 1:1-16, 19

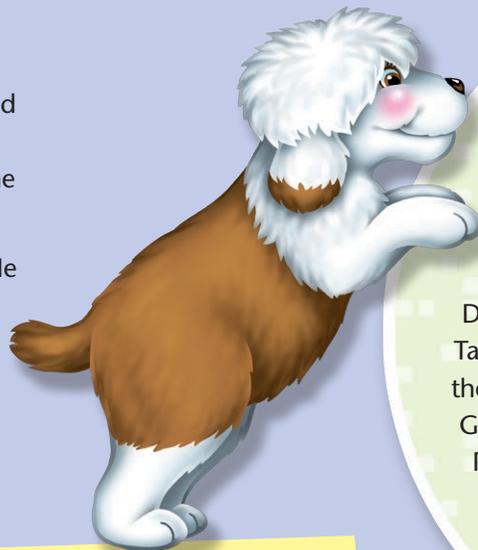
## Family Talk

Most of what young children learn about their world

is not actually taught, but is caught, through all five senses. This week your child learned how Daniel obeyed God through the sense of taste.

Provide a variety of food choices for your child. Encourage your child to describe what something tastes like and to savor the different tastes God has given us. Think about ways to make the most of your child's other senses too.

God knew what He was doing when He gave us eyes, ears, noses, mouths, and hands. Use these gifts as one more means of teaching your child the importance of obeying our wise and loving God.



## Bible Memory FUN

**Psalm 119:10**

Find this verse in a family Bible. Decorate a banner that includes the Bible verse. Hang the banner as a reminder to recite and follow the

important truth taught in this verse.

This week, help your child remember:

**We can obey God.**

## Family Fun...

**Bible Read-Along.** Sit together with a Bible. Find and read the Bible story from Daniel 1:1-16, 19. Talk about the Bible story. Take turns asking one another questions about the Bible story. Share how we learn to obey God like Daniel and his friend's obeyed God. Pray that God will help members of your family to obey Him.

## Daily Talks with God

Use these thoughts at mealtimes, bedtimes, or other times when you pray with your child this week.

God, help me to obey You as Daniel obeyed.

Thank You, God, for the Bible to follow.

With all my heart I try to obey You, God.

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# Together Time

**Daniel's Friends Worship Only God: Daniel 3:1-30**

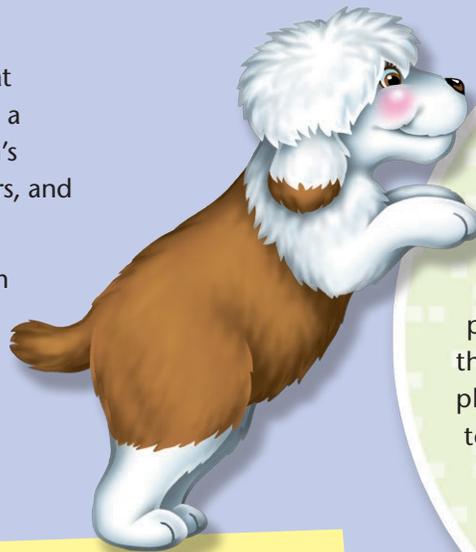
## Family Talk

Praising and thanking God are important ways to honor God. They are

expressions of our love and respect for Him. Children praise and honor God when they sing to Him, when they serve others, and when they pray to Him.

Establish a regular family devotional time. Set aside time in the morning, at a mealtime, or before bed. Read from a children's devotional book or children's Bible. Include praise sentences, prayers, and songs.

Reading God's Word and praising Him together as a family can help your child establish an important habit of worship that will last throughout his or her lifetime.



## Bible Memory FUN

**Psalm 119:10**

Find this verse in a family Bible. Make sugar cookies in the shape of hearts. While baking and eating the cookies, recite the Bible verse and talk about its meaning.

This week, help your child remember:

**We can worship God.**

## Family Fun...

**Praise Scavenger Hunt.** Gather the members of your family and ask each person to search for five objects to be thankful for. The scavenger hunt can take place indoors or outdoors. Bring the items to a designated area. When everyone has returned, recite Psalm 119:10 together. Give each family member a turn to express thankfulness to God for the chosen items. Have fun praising God together.

## Daily Talks with God

Use these thoughts at mealtimes, bedtimes, or other times when you pray with your child this week.

I am thankful that I can worship the true God.

My God is a great and mighty God!

Dear God, I love You.

Articles by  
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# Together Time

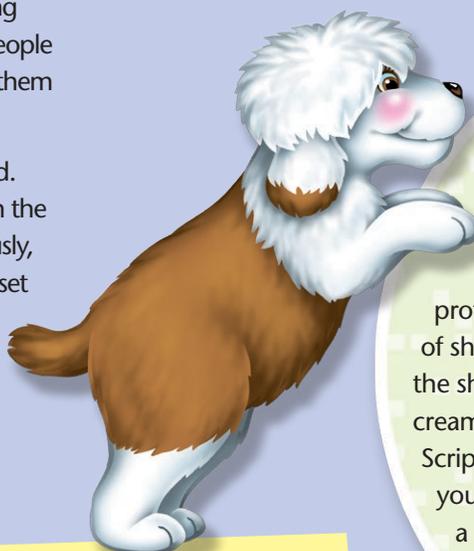
**Daniel and the Handwriting on the Wall:** Daniel 5:1-17, 22-29

## Family Talk

Can you imagine what it would be like to suddenly see a hand writing letters

on your dining room wall? That's exactly what happened to King Belshazzar. The people had been watching the king. They were following the king's ways. But the king wasn't leading them in the right way. God wanted the people to worship the one true God, so He gave them something to really watch!

Be aware of the watchful eyes of your child. You can count on your child learning from the example you set. Take responsibility seriously, be on time, carry through with promises, set an example of always obeying God's commands. Remember that God wants your child to worship Him. It is your responsibility to give your child a wise example to watch.



## Bible Memory FUN

**Psalm 119:10**

Find this verse in a family Bible. Make a yard sign that includes the verse. Encourage your children to share

the verse with friends as they play outdoors together.

This week, help your child remember:

**We can tell about God.**

## Family Fun...

**Handwriting on the Table.** Put a protective covering on the table. Squirt a can of shaving cream on the covering. Spread out the shaving cream, making a smooth film of cream on the covered surface. Take turns writing Scripture verses in the shaving cream. Assist young children by printing key words from a Bible verse on slips of paper. Encourage children as they try to copy and trace the letters in the shaving cream.

## Daily Talks with God

Use these thoughts at mealtimes, bedtimes, or other times when you pray with your child this week.

God, thank You for helping me tell others about You.

Help me, God, to share the story of Daniel with (friend's name).

My God is great!

Articles by  
Wendy Wagoner



# Together Time

**Daniel and the Lions' Den:** Daniel 6:1-23, 25, 26

## Family Talk

Before a child comprehends concepts or vocabulary, the child

senses emotion. The name of God can be a name your child associates with warm feelings. Talk openly with your child about God and His teachings. Pray aloud about the blessing of your child as she awakens. Pray for safety as your child plays outside. Thank God for His continued care as you tuck your child into bed at night. Soon your child will sense the importance you place on communicating with God the Father.

Display what it means to build a life around prayer. Talk about how Daniel lived a life of obedience to God, praying every day. The frequent prayers lifted up on your child's behalf can help your child to build a strong prayer life too.

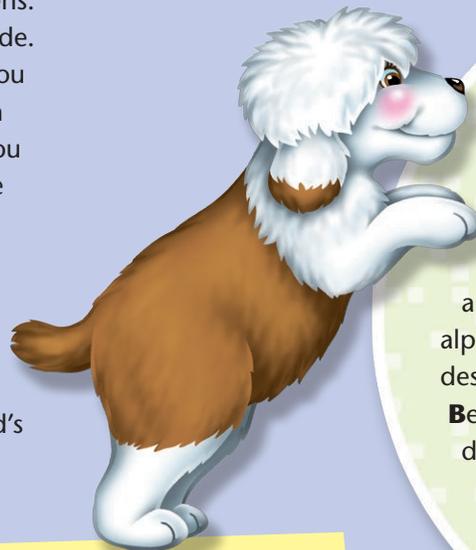
## Bible Memory FUN

*Psalm 119:10*

Find this verse in a family Bible. Pray to God each morning, noon, and night using the words of the Bible verse.

This week, help your child remember:

**We can pray to God.**



## Family Fun...

**Praise Prayer.** Gather as a family and practice reciting the letters of the alphabet. Take turns going down the alphabet, saying for each letter a word that describes God. For example: **A**wesome, **B**eautiful, **C**aring. If some letters become difficult, then make sure the letter is included within the word.

## Daily Talks with God

Use these thoughts at mealtimes, bedtimes, or other times when you pray with your child this week.

Wow, God! You saved Daniel from hungry lions!

I am thankful that I can talk to God.

God, thank You for always being with me.

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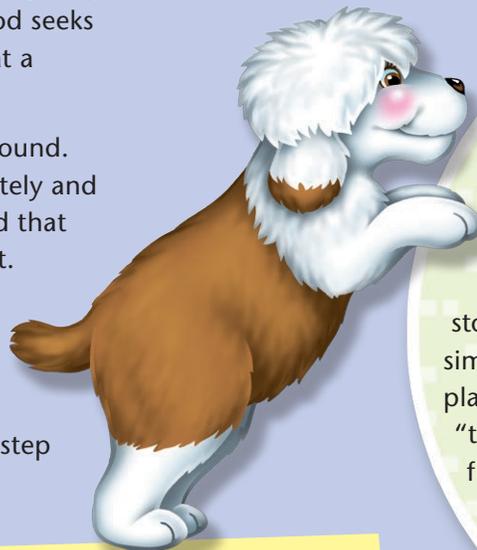
**Gideon Leads God's Army:** Judges 6:34, 35; 7:2-21

## Family Talk

Can you imagine what the day was like when Gideon went into battle against

the Midianites? What were the 300 men of Israel thinking? Did they truly trust Gideon's leadership into battle? Often we must march into battle without completely understanding God's direction. God seeks to glorify himself through us. What a privilege it is to be used by Him!

Parenting can be a tough battleground. Remember to rely on God completely and follow His ways. God has promised that He will be with us, no matter what. Demonstrate throughout your day how you are a follower of Jesus. The daily battles are worth the efforts they take when those little feet begin to march in step with God's truths.



## Bible Memory FUN

*Deuteronomy*  
**6:17, 18**

Help your child to use a family Bible to look up the Bible Memory. Talk about "big numbers"

(chapter numbers) and "little numbers" (verse numbers). Read and say the verses together.

This week, help your child remember:

**God helps us obey Him.**

## Family Fun...

**Act It Out.** Children love to pretend.

Gather as a family and cast roles for the Bible story found in Judges 6:34, 35; 7:2-21. Provide simple props, such as paper tube "trumpets," plastic container "jars," and flashlight "torches." "Gideon and his warriors" will have fun acting as they learn one of many Old Testament stories that teach us to obey.

## Daily Talks with God

Use these thoughts at mealtimes, bedtimes, or other times when you pray with your child this week.

God, help me listen to You just as Gideon listened.

Lord, I will obey You!

Thank You, God, for guiding and protecting Gideon.

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# Together Time

**Ruth Makes Good Choices:** Ruth 1:6-10, 14-18, 22; 2:1-22

## Family Talk

It may be difficult for children to understand why God wants us to work hard at the

jobs we've been asked to do. The story of Ruth shows us that because Ruth worked hard and followed God's will, He blessed her with more than she could have imagined.

Discuss together projects that children may not want to work hard at—picking up toys, making the bed, assisting in cleaning the garage. Make a list of things that might help make a task easier to accomplish. Occasionally assist your child with picking up; make up a song to sing while cleaning the bathroom sink; brainstorm a game to play while cleaning the garage. Help your child find positive benefits in making good choices that bless others.



## Bible Memory FUN

**Deuteronomy 6:17, 18**

Find these verses in a family Bible. Using the Bible words, create a song or rhyme that you

can repeat together throughout the week.

This week, help your child remember:

**God helps us make good choices.**

## Family Fun...

**Chain of Choices.** Cut construction paper of different colors lengthwise to make 2" wide slips of paper. Talk about the importance of making good choices. For each positive choice made during the day, staple the ends of a slip of paper together, forming a chain of interlocking links. During your family's evening prayer time, look at the chain and thank God for helping your family make good choices.

## Daily Talks with God

Use these thoughts at mealtimes, bedtimes, or other times when you pray with your child this week.

God, thank You for the Bible that teaches me to make good choices.

I can make good choices with God's help!

Dear God, forgive me when I make wrong choices.

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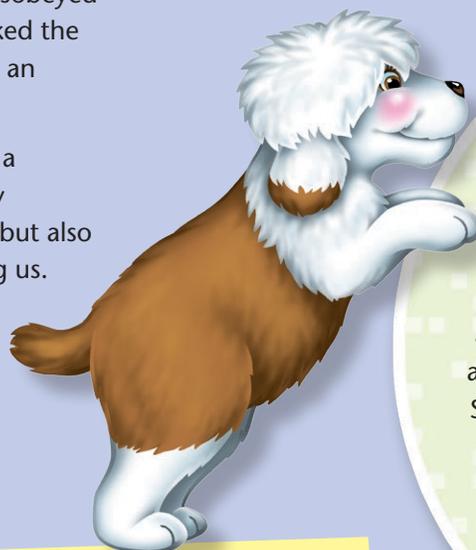
**Jonah Tells About God:** Jonah 1; 2:1, 2, 9, 10; 3

## Family Talk

How do you think Jonah felt as he sat in the belly of a big fish? Talk about smelling

fishy and turning green with seasickness! Though you have probably never spent the day inside a fish's stomach, perhaps you can identify with Jonah. Have you ever disobeyed God? Have you ever turned and walked the other way when you could have told an individual about God?

It is important for us to demonstrate a genuine love for all people—not only because that is what God asks of us, but also because there are little eyes watching us. Children need to grow up in an environment where they see on display a true love for all people. Let's raise a generation of children who "run toward Nineveh"!



## Bible Memory FUN

**Deuteronomy 6:17, 18**

Find these verses in a family Bible. Take turns saying the Bible Memory throughout the week. Thank God for helping you remember to tell others.

This week, help your child remember:

**God helps us tell about Him.**

## Family Fun...

**Where's Jonah?** Crawl under a blanket and pretend to be in a fish's belly. Open a can of tuna. What is it like in the belly of a big fish? Is it dark? cool or warm? smelly? Share with your family about a time when you were uncertain about telling someone about God. Name people you could tell about God. Remind one another that telling about God is not always easy, but God will always help!

## Daily Talks with God

Use these thoughts at mealtimes, bedtimes, or other times when you pray with your child this week.

God, I will tell about You!

Please help \_\_\_\_\_ (insert name), who needs to know about You, God.

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# Together Time

**Esther Helps God's People:** Selected verses from Esther 2–5, 7, 8

## Family Talk

Think for a moment about Queen Esther's predicament. (Read Esther

2–5, 7, 8.) Talk about a time of stress! But Queen Esther knew whom to turn to during the stressful moments—God.

Have you thought about the stress factors that impact your child's life? Do you know stress signs to watch for? Children under stress often complain of physical ailments. They sometimes withdraw and become loners. Aggression, restlessness, or a diminished ability to focus on tasks are also signs of stress.

If you see signs of stress in your child's life, seek God's help. Ask Him to guide you as you gain control over the stress factors and as you help your child to find God's peace.

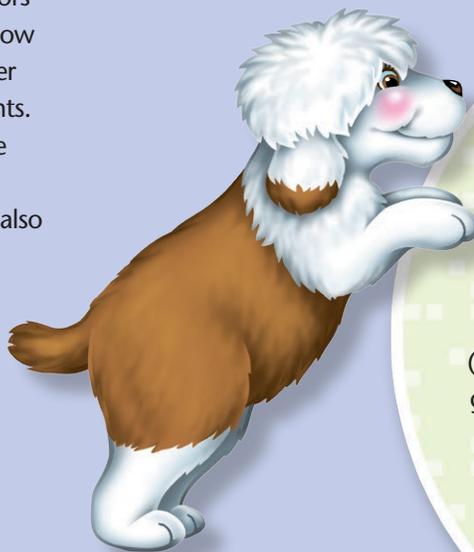
## Bible Memory FUN

**Deuteronomy 6:17, 18**

Find these verses in a family Bible. Make a crown to wear at dinnertime. Take turns wearing it. The one who wears the crown can say the Bible Memory.

This week, help your child remember:

**God helps us help others.**



## Family Fun...

**Family Royalty.** Take turns being king or queen for a day. Allow the king or queen to choose a family activity to do that day. (Examples: play a board game, take a walk, go to the pool.) While participating in the family activity, talk about Queen Esther and how she helped God's people.

## Daily Talks with God

Use these thoughts at mealtimes, bedtimes, or other times when you pray with your child this week.

Esther was brave! God, help me to follow her example.

I will be a helper who shows God's love to others!

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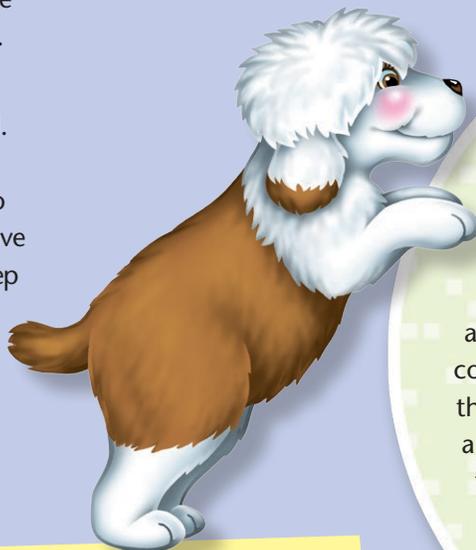
**Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall:** Selected verses from Nehemiah 1, 2, 4, 6

## Family Talk

Laying foundations for guiding a child toward a personal

relationship with Christ should begin the day the child is born. Biblical teaching in the first five years of life builds a solid foundation on which a child's knowledge and understanding of Jesus can develop.

Recognize and take advantage of opportunities to point your child to God. Words like "I'm so glad God brought Daddy home safely" or "Let's ask God to help us find the road we missed" can have great spiritual significance to a child. Keep your Bible visible. Help your child become friends with people in your congregation. Be ready to relate *all* things in life to God.



## Bible Memory FUN

**Deuteronomy 6:17, 18**

Find these verses in a family Bible. Build a wall using blocks. Each time a block is added, say a word of the Bible Memory.

This week, help your child remember:

**God helps us all the time.**

## Family Fun...

**Modeling Dough Wall.** Make a batch of homemade modeling dough. (You can find a recipe on the Internet.) Using the dough, construct a wall around a pretend city. Review the Bible story found in Nehemiah 1, 2, 4, and 6. Answer review questions by using the modeling dough. (For example, "Who helped rebuild the wall?") Make little men who are building a wall. Have fun with this interactive Bible story review.

## Daily Talks with God

Use these thoughts at mealtimes, bedtimes, or other times when you pray with your child this week.

Help me, God, when I play.

God, watch over me as I sleep.

Thank You, God, for food to eat.

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