

The Resurrection Family Activity

For Spouses

Goal: It is easy to go through life and marriage while only having conversations about budget, calendar, in-laws or the origin of the mystery item in the fridge. These are the normal everyday conversations but sometimes they can drown out meaningful spiritual ones.

Activity: Together, take some time and read through 1 Corinthians 15 and do the earlier devotional on 1 Corinthians 15. If you have already done it, share your answers with each other. Use these answer to then inform how you will pray for your spouse. Once you are done discussing your answers spend a few minutes praying for one another out loud specifically on what discussed because of the devotional. For example: If you reveal a way that you having been living with an eternal perspective pray that each of you will grow in that.

For Younger Children

Big Idea: God always keeps his promises.

For Parents

God always keeping his promises is part of the proof of His perfect character. The death and resurrection of Jesus is God's ultimate kept promise. It reminds us that if He keeps his promise and cares for us in our biggest of needs he keeps them and cares for us in every part of our life. The result: He is worthy of our trust and obedience. You can totally trust a God who totally keeps His promises!

Activity- Trust me!

- In a semi-open space clear an area and build an obstacle course pathway. You can use anything you have like blankets, pillows, used amazon boxes etc and make a maze pathway with turns and twists.
- The goal will be for a kid to make it through the obstacle course carefully without touching the sides (aka: amazon boxes) while also going through as fast as they can!
- The catch: they are blindfolded and you are their guide.
- Designate a start and end point along with some way to time it (most phones have a timer function). And on "go" they listen to your instructions on which direction and when to stop.
- Variations:
 - o Use physical touch to guide of they for example don't understand what "left" means.
 - o Make it a fun competition by timing multiple children and parent combos (example: dad instructs younger daughter, mom instructs older son)
 - o If there's only one parent/guardian instructing or only one child participating, do it a few times, challenging them to get a better time each try.

Teaching:

The lesson here is that in order to make it through, the kids running the maze had to trust the one leading them, but how do they KNOW they can trust the one leading? Probably because they have done things at other times that proved they can be trusted. God doesn't have to prove anything to us but lovingly shows himself to be worthy of our trust through what he does. The best example: the resurrection.

Say: Ok! Before I reveal the winner/best time I have a couple questions for you!

Ask: Did you trust me as I guided you through the maze? Why or why not?

Read John 11:25-6

Teach: In this verse Jesus says that anyone who believes in him will live with him forever and then he asks at the end: do you believe (trust) me? We know we can trust him for the same reason you can trust the person guiding you, probably something they did before. You can trust Jesus because He did something to prove that everything he said is true: He rose from the dead. In the same way that I guided you through this maze, even though I didn't do it perfect you can trust God even more in everything because he is perfect. He promised He would raise Jesus from the dead and He kept that perfect promise!

Ask: So why can we trust God in everything?

For Older Children

Big Idea: The resurrection is our victory.

For Parents: It is easy to think about being a Christian as merely following a list of rules so that God will be happy with us. All of Christianity begins at what God does on our behalf through Jesus, not what we do for Him. The resurrection of Jesus specifically gifts us victory over many things. Seeing them listed and spending time discussing them as well as thanking God together for them is a great way to grow in the perspective that God gifts us more than we can imagine or deserve.

Activity:

- Read through 1 Corinthians 15 and as you do make two columns. On the top of one write "If No Resurrection..." and the other write "If Resurrection.. Then fill in these two columns using verses 12-57. For example "If no resurrection...then we only have hope in this life (v19)" or "If resurrection then...death does not win (v 55). You will likely need to help them through this in pointing out things they may not have seen.
- Ask: Which of the things on the "resurrection" list really stand out to you? Why?
- Ask: Which one is the hardest for you to believe or trust?
- Ask: What do you see in this list that we can thank God for?
- Spend a few minutes taking turns thanking God in prayer for all that He gives us through the resurrection of Jesus, using the items listed in 1 Corinthians 15 as your guide.