

FYI

Summer Library Reading Program

Children grade 6 and under are invited to read books from the church library over the summer as part of our Summer Reading Program! PreSchool children are also invited to participate by having their parents read to them! If you complete the program, you will receive a special incentive. To sign up, visit www.cmbcchildren.weebly.com or stop by the church library. The reading program runs June 13-August 22.

Wednesday Evenings this Summer

We're having fun on Wednesday evenings! Children who are completing Kindergarten-fifth grade are invited to attend Heroes. Children ages 4-5 are invited to attend Veggies. Both meet on Wednesday evenings over the summer, 6:45-8:30 PM.

We busy dads are always looking for new ways to grow closer to our kids. Sometimes we think we need tons of time to make this connection—like regular "date nights" with each child or weekend camping trips with just Dad and the kids. Dates and camping trips are great, but it's actually the little things—done over time and with a loving heart—that do the trick for kids. Try some of these and watch the connections happen.

Catch a Conversation

Grab a ball and play catch or shoot hoops with your child. Between throws (or shots), ask a question like:

"What's the best thing about school these days?"

(Toss)

"What's the worst thing about school these days?"

(Toss)

"If you could only eat one food for the next month, what would it be?"

(Toss)

The Little Things

5 simple ways to let your kids know you love 'em

By John Trent

"What would your dream vacation be like?"

(Toss)

A game of catch offers just enough distraction for kids to open up about issues they might not normally talk about.

Be a "Mail Man"

On your child's next birthday, cover a shoebox with wrapping paper and a label that says, "Mail from Dad." Each year on your child's birthday, write a letter that's not to be read until you give your child the box—on his 18th birthday, the day he goes to college, his wedding day, whatever feels right for you. Use these letters to express your love, to praise his strengths and gifts, to offer specific prayers, and to share your hopes for the person he'll be one day.

Serve Up Love

When our oldest daughter, Kari, was 5, she had nights when she simply

Little Things continued on back page

The Egypt File VBS

This year's Vacation Bible School (VBS), The Egypt File, will meet each evening (6:00-8:30 PM) during the week of July 11-15. Children age 3 through those who have completed 6th grade are invited to attend.

- **Pre-register:** Complete the "The Egypt File Registration Form" that is available at the summer display in the church lobby or sign up online at www.cmbcchildren.weebly.com. Pre-registering will save you time in the registration line and will ensure that there are enough supplies for all children.
- **Parenting Seminar:** This year we have the exciting opportunity to host a parent seminar during VBS, led by *House on the Rock Ministries*. This seminar, "5 Keys to Biblical Parenting," will be held during each VBS evening. If you would like to attend the seminar, please register by completing the form in the VBS Registration brochure (there is no cost to attend the seminar).
- **VBS Work Day:** On June 26, beginning at 2:00 PM, we will be holding a work day to work on the stage props and on prepping the VBS craft supplies. Everyone is invited to attend to help prepare for VBS!
- **Volunteer:** Do you want to get involved in serving the children of our church and community? There are several open positions: PreSchool Crafts Leader and Assistant; PreSchool Games Assistant; and Elementary and PreSchool Small Group Leaders.



Contact Information

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Little Things continued from front

didn't want to go to bed. We'd do a story and snack, check under the bed for monsters, pray one more time, then move to the epic showdown of small will against parental will. One night, when Kari asked for a drink of water as her last appeal, I almost reflexively said no. But then I said, "How many ice cubes do you want in your cup?"

Kari leaned back to see if I was serious. "Five," she said.

I got her water—with five ice cubes. She took a drink, climbed into bed, and went to sleep. From that night on, I became the water boy.

Such bedtime rituals give me a chance to connect with each of my children. It might extend bedtime by a minute or two, but like dimes adding up to dollars, investing in these moments can create a lifetime of closeness.

Team Up

Pick a chore, and do it with your child. The work gets done faster and, more importantly, you'll spend another chunk of time with one of your children.

Laura, our 11-year-old, hates making her bed. One morning I dropped by her room to remind her that we needed to leave in a few minutes. Her bed was still unmade.

"Help me do something," I said, taking one side of her sheets and blankets. As I started making one side of the bed, she fell in, making the other. In a minute the deed was done.

Making Laura's bed together has become part

of our morning ritual. I don't get to drive her to school often, so making the bed is my chance to ask about her upcoming day or to find out how I can pray for her.

Keep Watch

How many times have you said you'd pray for your kids—and then forgotten? I used to do that often until I started setting my watch for prayer.

If Kari says she has a big history test that day, I ask her what time she takes the test, then set my watch to beep at that time. No matter where I am when it beeps, I stop and pray for my child right then. If I didn't set the alarm, I would completely forget my promise.

This not only helps me remember to keep my promise to pray, but the act of setting my watch in front of my daughter shows her she is a priority. It's another simple way to show my child that she's a precious part of my life.

This article first appeared in the Fall 2003 issue of *Christian Parenting Today*. Used by permission of Christianity Today International, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188

MYTH BUSTERS Kingdom Quest Camp 2010

This overnight camping adventure, held August 2-6, is for children who have completed 3rd-6th grade. At camp, children will participate in incredible games, swimming, and other indoor and outdoor activities (including go carts!). They will experience fun times in small groups, in exciting worship, and in learning challenges from God's Word. To register and for more details, pick up a copy of the "MythBusters Summer Camp" brochure that is available at the summer display in the church lobby. The registration deadline is July 18.

We are still looking for several young people (age 16 and older) to serve as camp counselors. If you are interested, please contact Heather Ensslen.

June 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Heroes and Veggies, 6:45 PM	10	11	12
13 Church Picnic	14	15	16 Heroes and Veggies, 6:45 PM	17	16	19
20 Father's Day	21	22	23 Heroes and Veggies, 6:45 PM	24	25	26 VBS Workday
27	28	29 VBS Leaders' Meeting, 7 PM	30 Heroes and Veggies, 6:45 PM			