

MAKE TIME TO TALK ABOUT FAITH

KINDERGARTEN

In today's world, time is one of our most precious commodities. In our increasingly busy lives, we must make the best of the time that we have. So, when is the best time to discuss our faith and Jesus with our children? How can we lead our children to Christ? The only reasonable answer is anytime.

CAR TIME

Doesn't it seem like the most time you spend together as a family is when you're in the car, on your way to the next thing you must do? Try turning off the radio and asking your children what highs and lows they had during the day. Then take a moment to pray for the event that you're headed to next. Before exiting the car, ask your child, "What is one thing that Jesus says about you?" The Bible has hundreds of "I am" statements that your child can learn. Here are some examples:

I am loved

I am healed

I am creative

I am strong

I am beautiful

I am protected

I am used by God

I am wonderfully made

I am joyful

I am smart

I am content

I am safe

SICK TIME

Another significant block of time you have with your children occurs when they are sick and have to stay home from school. While no one looks forward to his or her child being sick, it does provide time to have a healthy conversation. Sick time gives you a chance to watch videos, read books, or listen to music together. So why not choose videos, books, or music that will naturally lead to talking about issues of faith and life?

BEDTIME

There might not be a better time to talk about faith than at bedtime. Share the highs and lows from the day and then take time to pray for each other. With teenagers you can ask, "What's on your schedule tomorrow that I can pray for? Do any of your friends need prayer for anything?"

VACATION TIME

Traveling together over a long distance or just getting away on a long weekend trip can be a great time to reestablish faith-talk in your family. Tithe ten percent of your vacation time to God. Do a family service project, take some quiet time to read the Bible together, or have a family devotion each day. On the final evening of your vacation, spend time in prayer and worship. This doesn't have to be elaborate—simply listen to a few contemporary Christian songs and take some time to give thanks for the time you've spent together. Take turns sharing one thing that you were thankful for on the trip and one thing you look forward to when you get home.

ONE-ON-ONE TIME

One of the best things you can do as a parent is to establish the ritual of one-on-one time with each of your children. It can be weekly or monthly, but it needs to be built in to your life rhythm. A failure to establish this time will leave you saying later in life, "I should have done that." Spend a weekend alone with each of your children or establish a monthly date night when you see a movie or have dinner together. The particular activity is far less important than your commitment to spend time together.

Read additional helpful articles here:

<https://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/leading-your-child-to-christ/>

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