

Upper Elementary Parent Guide (3rd-5th)

September Parent Center Guide

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7 - What does the word "truth" make you think of?

Memory Verse: *"Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church." — Ephesians 4:14-15 NLT*

TALK ABOUT IT

- What do you think it means to be "tossed and blown about" by false ideas?
- What do you think it means to speak the truth in love?
- What can help you find and untangle truth in your own life?
- What's the hardest thing you've ever had to untangle, literally or figuratively?

PRAY TOGETHER

Ask your student if there's a confusing message or idea they've been wrestling with lately. Pray together that God would help them recognize what's true. Try: "God, help us know your truth and speak it with love."

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14 - What's a popular idea that clashes with what Jesus teaches?

Memory Verse: *"Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church." — Ephesians 4:14-15 NLT*

TALK ABOUT IT

What's a "popular thought" that sometimes tangles you up?

Why do you think some people try to trick others with lies that sound like truth?

What's one of God's truths you really need to remember this week?

What's something completely false you used to believe was true when you were little?

PRAY TOGETHER

Ask your student what popular idea they hear a lot that doesn't line up with what God says. Pray that they'd have wisdom to see the difference. Try: "God, help us hold on to what's true, even when it's not popular."

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21 - How can you find common ground with someone you disagree with?

Memory Verse: *"Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church." — Ephesians 4:14-15 NLT*

TALK ABOUT IT

What's the best piece of advice you can give someone to help them find common ground with someone they often disagree with?

How can speaking the truth in love help untangle tension between people?

When you see something unjust or unfair, how can you speak out about it from a place of love instead of anger?

Think of someone you often disagree with (you don't have to say their name) — what's one way you can show them love this week?

PRAY TOGETHER

Ask your student to pray, without naming names, for someone they're currently in tension with. Try: "God, help us love people well, even when we disagree with them."

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28 - What is your favorite thing God created?

Memory Verse: *"Look up toward the sky. Who created everything you see? The Lord causes the stars to come out at night one by one. He calls out each one of them by name. His power and strength are great. So none of the stars is missing." — Isaiah 40:26 NIRV*

TALK ABOUT IT

How does it make you feel to know that the same Creator who knows the names of trillions of stars knows your name too?

How does knowing that everyone is made by the Creator help you have empathy for someone, even if you don't really like them?

Do you ever look at yourself and think you would've created yourself differently? How do you think that makes God feel?

If you could create a new animal, what would it be like?

PRAY TOGETHER

Ask your student to name their favorite thing God created, then thank God for His creativity together. Try: "God, thank you for making the world, and for making me."