

grace  
**KIDS**

**ELEMENTARY**



WEEK TWO

JOHN 1:43-51

Philip and Nathanael

SAY  
THIS

Find friends who  
help you trust Jesus.

DO  
THIS



MEAL TIME

Q & A for kids: Who is your best friend and why?

Q & A for parents: Which childhood friend did you get in the most trouble with? And which friend inspired you to do better?

REMEMBER THIS

“Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 1:6, NIV

LIFE  
APP

CONFIDENCE—Living like you believe  
what God says is true

YOUR SUNDAY BEST

By Terry Scalzitti

Growing up, I can remember my mom saying, “Be sure to put on your Sunday best!” For us, that meant you ought to be clean, tidy, and looking perfect when you go to church. But at the core of this well-meaning admonishment is a comparison game a lot of us never outgrow.

The trap we fall into is comparing our worst to everyone else’s “Sunday Best.” We all do it. Walking down the hallway at church, smiling and waving to a friend who seems to have it all together . . . we begin thinking to ourselves, “Why can’t I be more like her?” or “Why can’t my child act like theirs?” We quickly recall our worst moments and imagine others’ best moments in comparison. How can we avoid this dangerous trap? One way we can do this is to be sure that our faith is an exercise and not a “standard.”

When we treat our faith like a standard, we compare our motives, decisions, and actions to a standard we can’t meet. We’ve been told that we need to be “Christ-like.” The problem is when we fall short of Christ’s standard (which we always will). On the other hand, if, as parents, we treat our faith as an exercise that we put into practice every day, we will understand that there are growing pains that will happen

through successes and failures. That’s the difference between a standard and an exercise.

A runner who trains for a marathon never starts training by running 26.2 miles on their first day out. They’ll start with a few miles and build each day. In other words, they fall short every day during training. But instead of feeling like a failure during their exercise, the runner gains confidence by practicing. Imagine if every time we failed as a parent, we understood that it’s a chance to exercise our faith believing that Christ “in us” can help us overcome every obstacle, difficulty, and challenge.

When we treat our faith like an exercise, we walk away from every moment, win or lose, knowing that we can learn from them and better ourselves in the process. The next time you compare your worst parenting moment to someone’s best, remember that your Sunday Best isn’t going to look like anybody else’s. But it’s yours still the same.

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and parenting resources, visit:  
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AVAILABLE FOR IOS AND ANDROID DEVICES

## READ PROVERBS 19:20

## DAY 1

Unscramble the list below of helpers from the community.

TDOCOR \_\_\_\_\_

RRFIEIETFGH \_\_\_\_\_

LIMA REACRRI \_\_\_\_\_

CAEEHRT \_\_\_\_\_

AAIIRNTNEVRE \_\_\_\_\_

RNNUIOCOSTCT WKORRE \_\_\_\_\_

OILPT \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, all these people can help you. They can help when you don't feel well, when you're scared, when you need to learn something, or your puppy is sick. But friends can help you too, especially when it comes to trusting Jesus. It's important to surround yourself with people who can give you wise advice and help you make wise choices.

**LISTEN** to others who trust Jesus.

*Answers: Doctor, Firefighter, Mail Carrier, Teacher, Veterinarian, Construction Worker, Pilot*

## READ PROVERBS 13:20

## DAY 2

Have a friend or family member sit with their legs crisscross applesauce. Then, tell them to jump up really quickly. It's kind of hard and awkward, isn't it? Now, have your friend sit again with the same task, but you can give them a hand to help them up.

As you can see, it's much easier to stand up when you have a friend helping you with the task. Much like this, we need to find friends who will help us when we need a hand. When we hang out with friends who are wise we also become wise. And who doesn't want to be wise!?

**ASK** God to help you find friends who help you trust Jesus.

## READ 1 CORINTHIANS 15:33

DAY 3

Which of these characters from books, movies, and shows do you think you should listen to for advice?

Darth Vader  
Doc Hudson  
Amelia Bedelia  
Captain Hook  
Aslan  
Judy Hopps

LeFou  
Discord  
Hei Hei  
Charlotte (the spider)  
Baymax  
Owl (Winnie the Pooh)

Look at the answers below and see if you got it right. Why do you think these would be good characters to get advice from? They all have something in common. Wisdom!

Obviously you can't actually ask these wise characters for advice, but you can do something even better: you can find friends who will help you trust Jesus. Their wisdom can help you make wise choices!

**LISTEN** to wise people and become wise!

*Answers: Doc Hudson, Aslan, Judy Hopps, Charlotte the Spider, Baymax*

## READ PROVERBS 27:17

DAY 4

You can't make a knife sharper by rubbing the blade against a marshmallow or a piece of bread. So you have to sharpen it by rubbing the blade against another knife or another piece of metal. When you do that, the knife will once again be sharp and be up for the task it was created to do!

When you hang out with friends who help you trust Jesus they will be able to sharpen you. They make you better. And you can do that for friends too.

Spending time with those friends who trust Jesus will help make you stronger so that you can live out what God wants for you: to tell others about Him! Who are two or three people that you know can spend more time with because they trust in Jesus and encourage you to do so as well? \_\_\_\_\_

Make a plan for spending time with them this week!

**KNOW** that spending time with friends who trust Jesus will make you stronger!

FIND FRIENDS WHO  
HELP YOU TRUST  
**JESUS.**