

Kindergarten - 3rd Grade Parent Page

October's Godly Play Stories

October 2 The Ark and the Tent

The people of God loved the Ten Best Ways so much that they made a special gold box to take with them wherever they traveled. They needed a way to get ready to come close to something so special. They created a tabernacle and a pattern for worship. Adults, especially, have difficulty with this story since only the priest can go near the ark. The story is a sharp contrast to Advent when we are all invited to come near to the Christ child, and it makes the ripping of the veil even more appreciated.

At Home: Wonder with your children about how your family can get ready to come close to God. Discuss how to make Sunday mornings more sacred before you arrive at church. Sometimes we rush in and arrive late which makes it hard to get settled for worship.

October 9 The Ark and The Temple

The wandering Israelites experienced their God as nomadic and free in the desert, walking with them in unconfined, holy time. When the People of God came into the Promised Land, they settled down and their experience of God changed. Eventually Solomon, David's son, was instructed on how to build a house for God, the temple. The temple reflected a new way of thinking about the experience of God's presence.

At Home: Read I Kings 8:1-12. Have your children (and adults) close their eyes as you read it. Either talk about what they pictured in their minds or give everyone a piece of paper and draw what they saw. Another night, read I Kings 8:23, 27-28. Wonder together about times you feel closest to God.

October 16 The Story of King David

David was anointed king by Samuel when he was just a boy, but he would not become the king until King Saul was killed. As a boy he was known for his music and

his courage. Later, he became a great soldier in Saul's army. As king, David continued to fight important battles and made some great mistakes, but was repentant. He established the kingdom of Israel that lasted for 400 years and made the city of Jerusalem another city of David, like Bethlehem.

At Home: King David was called a man of war, but he was also known for being a man of music and poetry. Read Psalm 55. As a family, discuss the emotions David was feeling and his hope in God.

October 23 Prophets

The People of God have been led out of slavery, ruled their own country, were defeated, carried off into exile, and returned to rebuild the temple and Jerusalem. God was with them all the way, but they had not always been with God. A prophet's job was to show the people, the king and the priests when they turned away from God. In Godly Play, we say prophets are people that come so close to God and God comes so close to them that they know what God wants them to say or do.

At Home: Read Isaiah 58:10-11. First, share with your family that these are the Words of God spoken to the People of God by Isaiah. Tell them to listen as you read. After you read ask what words they heard. Wonder together if these words are for us too.

October 30 Jonah

This story of Jonah shows 'the backward prophet' doing everything wrong. Yet, everything comes out all right except his own relationship with God. The story leaves us with many questions, and we are left to finish the story for ourselves. What happened to Jonah next?

At Home: This story is known by most of our children already. Ask your kids to tell you the story of Jonah. Maybe they want to make their own story pieces with your help. Wonder together about what their favorite part of the story is.

Parent Training and Equipping

Join us on Saturday, November 5 for Training and Equipping for parents. We will offer two different classes from 9 am - noon and one class from 9 am – 11 am at our building. Below are the classes that will be offered.

1) **The Communion Sacrament** -*Intended Audience: Parents of 4 year olds and up*

2) **Worshipping and Serving as a Family** - *Intended Audience: Parents of children ages 5 – 11 years*

3) **Social Media*** *Intended Audience: All parents*

*This session is scheduled to end at 11 am.

For more detailed descriptions of these classes, visit

cground.org. All participants can register for the desired class via [this link](#). Childcare is available for newborn – 11 years if you register by October 26. General registration closes on November 1.

Questions? Email vanessa@cground.org.

Fall Fun!

You can engage your child and the rest of your family in some fall fun that will have a piece of each family member in it! Here is what you will need:

- paper plate
- construction paper in red, orange, yellow, brown and green
- washable paint in red, orange, yellow, brown and green
- glue
- 1 to 2 bunches of fake fall colored leaves
- Ribbon
- Scissors

Complete the following:

- 1) Cut a circle out of the middle of your paper plate creating a paper plate ring. This will be the base of your wreath.
- 2) Using a brush, place red paint on one hand and make handprints on the orange, yellow, brown and green paper. Paint the other hand brown then make hand prints on the red, orange, yellow and green paper. Wash the paint off to get cleaned up to make more hand prints. Continue painting

hand with paint and making handprints with each of the remaining colors making sure to not make hand prints on paper of the same color. For example no red handprints on red paper.

- 3) Cut out handprints.
- 4) Pull leaves off of the bunches of fake leaves so they are ready to be glued to the wreath
- 5) Tie a ribbon around the ring and make a loop. The ribbon will most likely get covered up as the leaves and handprint leaves get glued to the ring but the loop will remain as a way to hang the wreath when finished.
- 6) Glue 7—10 fake leaves around the wreath. Tip: Placing the paper plate ring around the bottom of an overturned bowl helps keep the ring elevated from the table helping the leaves stay on the ring better while gluing and while the glue dries. Once the glue is dry the wreath can be

- removed over turned bowl and the leaves will stay attached.
- 7) Glue handprint “leaves” to the wreath. Use at least one handprint of each color although more is always fine. The fake leaves are attached to the ring first to create and background color while the handprints “leaves” are glued on top to make sure that they stand out the most.
- 8) Let the wreath set until all the glue is dried completely.
- 9) Hang on Wall and enjoy!

