

wednesday night faith connections

Home Activities for All Ages – April 22, 2020

Check out some of the activities you can do at home this week!

Earth Day Activities



Read the Story of Creation in Genesis 1

The Family Activity section has a link to a free copy of the book of Genesis you can download. Use the link in the Family activity section to hear the author read the book, *When God Made the World*.

Make Pet Rocks

Find a rock. Wash it clean. Decorate it with pens or paint to make it into something that God created. Thank God for making rocks! Thank God for the creatures that inspired you to decorate your rock.

Reduce, Reuse, or Recycle?

Brain storm different ways we care for God's creation and decide whether each action is reduce, reuse, or recycling. Need more information about reduce, reuse, recycle or examples of how to do these things? Check [here](#).

Art Activity

Make a list of ways we can help the Earth. Then use paper, markers or crayons to draw one of the ideas.

Earth Day Walk

Make it a prayer walk and thank God for the gift of creation you notice on your walk. Take photographs or draw pictures of what you discover.

Pray for the Earth

Write or draw a prayer for the earth. Thank God for the gifts of creation. Ask God to show you how you can be a caretaker of the earth.



Little Wonders, Ages 5 and younger

This week's Bible story is from Luke 24:13-35.

Tell the children the story, "The Road to Emmaus" (*Deep Blue Bible Storybook—pp. 392-394*).

- Download the Deep Blue Bible Storybook App here: <https://www.deepbluekids.com/free-stuff/free-app-for-deep-blue-bible-storybook>

Watch the Deep Blue Adventure video for Session 8 on amplifymedia.com.

In today's Bible story, Jesus joined Cleopas and his friend as they were walking to Emmaus. They were sad and confused that the women did not find Jesus in the tomb.

SAY: The two men weren't sure what was true and what wasn't about the story they heard. They didn't know if Jesus was alive or not. It's OK if we don't know the answer. We can ask others to help find the answer. That's what Jesus wants us to do.

PRAY: Thank you, God, for the help Jesus gives us when we are confused. Amen.

Road Art

SAY: Our Bible story today is about Jesus and his two friends walking and talking on the way to Emmaus. They walked about seven miles on a road made of dirt.

- Use a piece of paper, cardboard, or sandpaper and some colored chalk or crayons. Use your imaginations and draw the road to Emmaus with the chalk.
- Find or draw three toy figures of people to act out the road to Emmaus.

SAY: The road to Emmaus was dirty and dusty. It probably wasn't easy to walk on. The men were so busy talking, they may not have noticed how dirty the road was or who else was on it.

ASK: How do you think the men felt when a stranger appeared and talked with them?

Loving God, Loving Neighbor

Share the Good News! Print and color the Alleluia Poster and hang it on a window or door of your home. Find the instructions in the list of Family Activities.



Wonder Kids, Grades K-5

Read Luke 24: 13-35

Watch the Deep Blue Adventure video for Session 8 on amplifymedia.com.

In today's Bible story, the men walking on the road did not know they were walking with Jesus. They realized it was him by his actions. Sometimes our actions are more important than our words.

ASK: Why do actions speak louder than words? What important actions does Jesus teach us to do?

SAY: Jesus teaches us so much. We can remember Jesus when we are kind and loving toward others.

PRAY: Dear God, help us to believe in you and your Son, Jesus. Amen.

Blessing – Affirmation of our Faith

Say together an affirmation of our faith. This is a reminder of who we are called to be as Christians.

- Have one person be the leader, and the rest of the family repeat each line.

I believe in God, who loves me and wants me to love others.

God is the Creator of all things.

I believe in Jesus, who shows me God's love.

He hoped for a world where everyone could live in peace.

I believe in the Holy Spirit—a Spirit that we cannot see but feel.

The Holy Spirit helps me know God is everywhere.

God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit teach me that I can be the Church, reminding everyone of God's power and grace. Amen.

Adapted from Deep Blue Connects Loving God, Loving God, Loving Neighbor, Spring 2020 Middle Elementary Session 8



Praise, Pray, and Blessing

Sing together a favorite praise song or hymn. Maybe a song you remember from Wednesday Night Worship, VBS, or

summer camp. Teach it to your family if not everyone knows the song.

Stand or sit in a circle. Share prayer requests with each other.

Teach each other the American Sign Language for 'Jesus' 'lives' and 'loves.'

One at a time, turn to each other and say and sign, "Jesus lives, and Jesus loves (name).

Pray: Thank you, God, for showing us your love and power by making Jesus alive again! Amen.



Adapted from Bible Story Basics, Spring 2020 Session 7

Wednesday Youth, Grades 6-12



Our Wednesday Night Youth Group video lesson is our final in our ongoing series for the year on our study called "To God Alone." Watch the video here - https://youtu.be/EcF_MXvx-il. This week's lesson focuses on "Glory to God Alone." We are praying for all of the youth with all of their losses at this time and with the news of not returning to school for this season. As always please let us know any specific prayer requests and keep connecting with us! We also hope to see you on our Friday night Youth Zoom Hangout. Contact Amy Ferguson for more information.

Suggested Activities for All Ages:

Note: Prior to starting any activity, be sure to sanitize hands and all supplies used. Be sure to practice safe physical distancing.

- Did you know that **Creation Care is a Spiritual Practice**? We honor God when we love, nurture, and are good stewards of God's creation. Make a list of some ways that you can practice taking care of the earth. Begin with one item on your list. As you incorporate that one way of taking care of the earth into your daily life, pray about how you are honoring God as you are taking care of the earth. Thank God for the gift of creation and our amazing world and the privilege we have to be caretakers of God's world. Learn more about this spiritual practice here - <https://faithumchurch.wordpress.com/2020/04/18/faith-and-the-environment-creation-waits/>
- **Plant Something!** Inspired by an article written by John S. that you can find on our Worship by Wire website, go plant something in celebration of Christ's Resurrection. John encourages us all to "...plant something, if only one seed, wherever you call home! Perhaps your seed will grow into something good to eat, a beautiful Flower to feed the pollinators of our food, or a tree. What better way to Celebrate Resurrection?"
- **Look for Easter**, look for signs of new life and resurrection! We also call these **God Sightings**, looking for our good God in the world! Share the God Sightings you find with us. <https://www.myfaithunited.org/god-sightings-looking-for-hope-during-the-pandemic/>
- Listen to the story, *When God Made the World*, read by the author, Matthew Paul Turner. <https://www.facebook.com/matthewpaulturner/videos/178262193389479/>
- Download this free copy of the Book of Genesis from the Common English Deep Blue Kids Bible. Read the story of creation in Genesis 1. Reflect on Genesis 1:31, "God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good." Prayerfully consider how God is calling you to be a caretaker of God's creation. <https://www.commonenglishbible.com/files/uploads/DeepBlueKidsBiblesampleGenesis-3.pdf>
- Make **cards for Hartville Migrant Ministry migrant workers**. Because we will not be meeting in person for our Wednesday Night Faith Connection spring mission project to pack Welcome Bags for Hartville Migrant Ministry, make cards to welcome the migrant workers. Mail your card to the church and we will deliver them with the monetary donations to help provide 12 Welcome Bags!
- **Pray the LORD'S PRAYER** each day at noon. Create a video of your family praying the Lord's Prayer that we could share as encouragement for others. Let me know if you are interested!
- **Participate in a church-wide Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Mosaic Coloring Project!** We are looking for 26 more persons (all ages) to participate in a church-wide Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Mosaic Coloring Project. You would need to be able to print out an 8 ½ X 11 paper, color it and mail (or email if you can scan) back to Kathy Schmucker at the church. You will have about 2 weeks to complete before we need them. Please let Kathy know if you are interested! Please share with your groups and invite others to participate! This will be a fun way to participate in a church activity together, even though we are physically apart!
- Use, individually or as a family, the worship and devotional resources you will receive connected with Sunday's video worship service and Wednesday Night Faith Connections and Sunday School. Share with others! Visit our website for updated resources: <https://www.myfaithunited.org/worship-by-wire/>
- Share pictures or videos of some of the activities you and your family are doing while practicing physical distancing with church staff. What you share may inspire someone else!

