



November 29, 2020

"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
1 Thessalonians 5:18

FBCG Kids

Hands-on Faith—Family Devotions

Follow Jesus' Patterns

Scripture: *Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:2)*

Play: Look around and find as many patterns as you can. At home you may see patterns on your floors or sofa cushions. While driving or walking, you may spot patterns on buildings or roads.

Talk: Patterns are not found only in things we see. Our behavior can also reflect patterns. When we often repeat a behavior, whether good or bad, it becomes a pattern. If we refuse to forgive those who mistreat us, for example, then we are forming a bad pattern. The Bible teaches us not to follow the bad patterns of this world (Romans 12:2). Instead we should try to follow Jesus' pattern. He taught us how to act so that others would see that we're trying to love like

Jesus. What behaviors help others see Jesus in you?

Pray: Ask God to help you change bad patterns in your behavior to be more like Jesus.
— Naomi Cassata

Excellence of Character

Scripture: *Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. (Psalm 139:23)*

Play: Take turns hiding behind a door. The person hiding can wear any expression he wants — silly, sad, angry. But when another family member opens the door, the hider must quickly put on a big smile. Then, see if other family members can guess what the person's expression looked like before it changed.

Talk: You try to look and act your best in front of others, but what about when no one's watching? Your goodness is not determined by

how you appear to others, but by who you really are on the inside. Psalm 44:21 says God knows the secrets of the heart. He knows what you think, do and say — even when you're alone. God is always with you, and He helps you stay strong and make good decisions.

Pray: Thank God that you can trust Him, even when things seem to be going wrong, because His goodness and His love for you never change.
— Jeanne Gowen Dennis

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Calendar Events:

Announcements and Resources

Thank you to all who participated in the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. As of Monday, November 23, we turned in 575 shoeboxes for FBCG.



Resource:

We are entering the Advent season. Louie Giglio has written Waiting Here for You. Beginning on Monday, November 30, through December 24, on the weekdays, Louie Giglio will be leading listeners through the Waiting Here for You

devotional on thejoyfm radio station. This can be accessed through the internet thejoyfm.com; through a smart speaker; or thejoyfm app.



Advent—Week 1

The first candle of Advent is the Candle of Hope, also known as the “Prophecy Candle”. This candle assures us that we can have hope that God will fulfill the prophecies declared in the Old Testament about Jesus. Hope doesn’t disappoint us (Romans 5:5).

The Old Testament prophets anticipated the arrival of the Messiah to come and save us from the sin in the world (Isaiah 9:6-7), We are waiting for the return of our Savior.

The purple color of the candle represents repentance and fasting as we wait for the Lord’s coming. Purple also is the color used for royalty throughout the Bible.

Scriptures to Read for

Week 1: Isaiah 1:1, John 1:14, Matthew 1:22, Matthew 2:6, Micah 5:2, Luke 2:8, Acts 5:31, Isaiah 7:14, 2 Corinthians 9:15, Jeremiah 29:11, Romans 6:23.

“I am the Lord’s servant,” said Mary.” Luke 1:38.

Gift vs Giving (of Yourself)

From the time we’re young, we inspire to greatness! As children, we tell our parents that one day we will be the best doctor or astronaut or dancer they’ve ever seen! As parents, we then brag to others as we tell them how great our kids are with all their endeavors.

There’s nothing wrong with striving to use God-given talents and skills in the very best ways possible. But proper attitude is key! We’re reminded of this in Philippians 2:3-4, where we read: “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”

Even though many people ascribe to Mary greatness for being the mother of Jesus,

Mary’s attitude going into her pregnancy with the Christ child was one of humility in servanthood to God—giving her total being to the Lord without hesitation.

As we look toward Christmas Day this year, how can we change our focus from achieving greatness in the eyes of others to serving one another out of the blessings to God has already given us?

FAMILY ADVENTURE:

This month, try a few of these “giving” activities to those in our community:

- Take some easy-to-heat meals to an elderly neighbor.
- Collect colorful, fun hats and gloves for a homeless shelter (adults and child sizes).
- Donate food items to the local Food Bank.
- Create Christmas cards for Widows, Shut-ins, or others.

From the LifeWay Kids Ministry 101 blog.

There is a **Prayer Wall** on the church website. The Prayer Wall is a place to post a prayer need or to pray for the needs that were posted.

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Mission Moment ...

Charlotte Digges Moon (December 12, 1840—December 24, 1912) is a person that we hear and teach about each fall. She is known as “Lottie” Moon. Lottie Moon was a Southern Baptist missionary to China with

the Foreign Mission Board (currently named International Mission Board). Lottie spent 39 years (1873—1912) living and serving in China. She is said to have laid a foundation for the Women’s Missionary Union through the work as a teacher and evangelism. Lottie Moon was from Virginia. She was one of seven children. Her parents valued education, allowing Lottie Moon to continue her education and being one of the first women

to receive a Master degrees. She learned multiple languages. One of Lottie’s sister had gone to China to teach in a boys school. Lottie joined her sister. Her sister returned home due to health reasons, but Lottie stayed. She discovered she had a passion for the work here. Each year, in the fall, the Southern Baptist have the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. 100% of this offering goes to the field for projects to aid the missionaries in their work. This

is a blessing. This allows for “extras” at times. The sky is the limit on what these funds can allow the missionaries to do.

While serving in Venezuela, we use these funds to take fresh bread and fruit to the boys detention center, to an orphanage and to an indigenous community each month. In Japan, we gave Jesus Mangas to each student.

THANK YOU for giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

