

The **body** of Christ

1 Corinthians 12:27

April 3—Main Point The Church Needs You!

ASK If you played the drums in a band and chose not to come to a concert, what would happen to the band? *They wouldn't be able to keep rhythm* If you were the only quarterback a football team had and you chose not to come to a game, what would happen to the team? *They wouldn't be able to play*

SAY It's the same with church! Just like a drummer and quarterback have special roles to play in a band or on a team, each of us has a special role to play at church.

READ 1 Corinthians 12:27. What does the Bible say the church is like? A body, the body of Christ! Can you imagine if your eyes one day just decided not to show up and work? What if you woke up one morning and your hands didn't really want to be a part of your body anymore and chose not to work? That's what the Bible says it would be like if you chose not to be a part of the church.

SAY Just like God made eyes to see and hands to touch and pick things up, God has created each of us with special gifts and talents and personalities. He wants each of us to use those for the church!

ASK What gifts or talents do you have? How can you use those for the church or to help someone in the church?

PRAY together as a family for God to use each of your gifts in a special way to help others in the church.

April 10—Main Point You Need the Church!

ASK If you were the only person in the entire world, what would you do? *Allow answers* It might be kind of cool for a bit, but after awhile you'd need others.

ASK Why would you need others? *Lonely, company, don't know how to do everything* When God first made people, He knew we needed to have relationships and community with each other. God made us to connect with other people, especially to connect with other people who believe in Him, the church!

READ 1 Corinthians 12:17-18 to find out why we need each other. The Bible compares the church to a body and if we are not connected to the church, it's like an eye trying to live outside of the body.

SAY The church needs you for your special gifts and abilities, but you need the church for the special gifts and abilities that other people have. You can't do it all on your own.

SAY Other people in church help us when we're in trouble, pray with us, worship God with us, remind us of what the Bible says and help us to live for God. We can't do it on our own, we need the church around us to help.

PRAY together as a family to thank God for your church family. Take extra time to thank Him for special people and friends you have at church.

April 17—Main Point
Remember Jesus: Communion

Look through a family photo album, talk about the good memories from that trip, day or age.

ASK Why do we take and keep pictures? *To help us remember those times*

SAY In the Bible people did things to help them remember what God had done for them. They built monuments and altars. Jesus has asked us to do something special to remember Him and what He did for us on the cross.

READ 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 to see what Jesus asked us to do. Jesus started what we call communion. The bread helps us remember Jesus' body was broken so we can be healed from sickness and sin. The juice helps us remember Jesus bled on the cross to pay the price for our sins.

You can take communion now as a family or wait until Sunday. At the end of service, kids will join their families to take communion.

SAY When we take communion, we should remember Jesus paid for our sins on the cross.

PRAY together as a family.

April 22—Good Friday
Facing Tough Times: Pray

Bring an egg with you to the table.

ASK What do we use eggs for? Can we use the egg uncracked to bake cookies?

SAY If we don't crack open the egg, we can't use it! Just like God created this egg for a special purpose, God created us with special purposes in mind. And, sometimes we go through tough times where it feels like our lives are being cracked.

SAY Jesus went through a tough time when he felt like he was being cracked right before he died on the cross. But Jesus knew God had a plan for him and the tough times Jesus was facing were preparing him for God's big plan.

READ Matthew 27:36-44, pay attention to Jesus' prayers. When Jesus was talking about a cup, he didn't mean an actual cup, he meant the hard things he was going through. It's alright to pray for God to help us out of tough times, but we also need to know, like Jesus did, that sometimes those tough times are preparing us for God's big plan for our lives. And we need to pray, like Jesus did, for God's will or plan to be done in our lives no matter what.

PRAY together as a family for tough times you're going through and that God's will or plan will be done for each family member.

April 24—Easter
Freedom from Sin's Trap

ASK How does a mousetrap work? *Something the mouse wants is put on the trap, when the mouse goes to get it, something snaps shut and traps the mouse.*

SAY Mice aren't the only ones that have traps set out for them though. Satan, God's enemy, sets sin traps up for us all over. He tempts us to lie, steal or disobey and the temptation looks good. But we don't realize, if we give into temptation we'll get, SNAP, trapped by sin. We want to get out, but like the mouse, we're not strong enough!

SAY The only way to get out of the trap of sin is to let God rescue us. We have to rely on Him to get us out of the trap and to help us stay out of it.

ASK What are some ways we can stick with God and stay out of the trap of sin? *Pray, read the Bible, go to church, worship Him, hang out with people who help us.*

READ Romans 6:23 to learn the price of sin and the gift of God. When Jesus died on the cross and rose again, he gave us a way out of the trap of sin. We get out of the trap by asking for His help and forgiveness and making Him number one in our lives. No matter how hard we try, we can't get free or stay out of trap of sin without God's help.

PRAY as a family for God to set you free from the trap of sin and for Him to help you from getting trapped again.