

Family Connect:

April 26

John 5:19-47

Pray as you begin . . .

READ the passage from The Message. Have an adult read the entire section as though you are the author. Take care to use inflection and passion as you read. Practice a few times before reading to the kids.

Depending on the age of your children, either read the scripture in its entirety or just read vs. 19-23.

For older children: zero in on a truth from this passage and talk about it.

For younger children: Have someone stand up as DAD and someone else as SON. Have them point or stand near the one that is being talked about in vs. 19-23. Help them see that Jesus does everything the Father does.

SHARE with each other the answers to these questions:

- In what ways do you look like your mom or dad. Look at photos of similar ages if you have them available.
- Do you see any mannerisms that are similar between family members?

SONG: If You're Happy and You Know It

Let the kids pick the action (funny noise, unusual motion, more than 3) Talk about how knowing Jesus can lead to true happiness.

MEMORIZE: John 5:24

"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life,"

FAMILY ACTIVITY: Pick one or do all of them! Use them to springboard to what fits for your family!

PLAY MIRROR MIRROR: Pick a partner and stand facing each other. Choose one person to do a variety of motions and the other person "mirrors" them as though they are the mirror. After a time, switch.

JUMP the GAP: Either inside or outside, set a gap too long for your kids to jump over. Let them run and try but there is just no way they can make it. Use something to bridge the gap (dad, a beam, stepping stones) so they can easily cross over. Use the memory verse to explain that Christ has made it possible to cross over from spiritual death to spiritual life. Only Christ can bridge the gap.

MEMORY VERSE: Make a poster of the memory verse. As the week goes on, let kids take turns covering up a word with a sticky note. By the end of the week everyone should have it memorized.

Pray as you end . . .