



# Raising UP SPIRITUAL CHAMPIONS

**HONEST:** upright in All your Ways

Also in this newsletter:

- Connect Your Kids to God • Family Fun • Easy Bonus Activity

**TIP:**  
Display this newsletter at home, and use the activities as desired throughout the week.



## Questions to Go at bedtime, mealtime or car time

- What does it mean to cheat? Is it ever okay to cheat?
- Why do you feel bad when you steal or cheat or lie?
- How would you feel if someone took something that belonged to you?

## Verse to Chew on

“Do not steal. Do not lie. Do not deceive one another” (Leviticus 19:11, NIV).

- Help your kids find this verse in a Bible and read it aloud.
- This verse tells you what *not to do*. What would it say if it told what you *should do*? Ask each person to tell an answer.

## Character Builder: Honest

Honesty is more than just telling the truth. It means having ethics in your thoughts, words and actions. It means having integrity, being fair, being free from deception and keeping your word. When you are upright in all of your ways, you have an honest character. You will spend all of your kids’ growing-up years developing this trait them. How?

- **Invite God to work** in your lives. When you pray with your kids, let them hear you ask God to make you and them more like Him in all ways.
- **Be aware** of the pull that the philosophy of the world has for your kids. Speak out and teach your kids God’s ways. When you see something dishonest in your kids or in examples outside of your home, stop and talk about it. Correct the behavior. Make your kids accountable.
- **Talk about times** when you see upright behavior. Train your kids to see the difference between God’s ways and the world’s ways. Tell them the benefits of God’s ways and the disappointments of following the world’s ways.

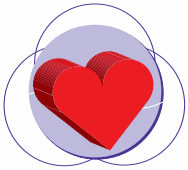
## Look for the Good

Try to spend more time noticing and affirming right behavior in your kids than finding faults. It’s easy to point out only the wrongs. Most kids will be motivated to do more good when you notice them doing it already.

## Preschool Focus

Teach your young children to sing “Jesus Loves Me,” and sing it often. It gives the foundation for knowing God:

- God loves you, and His ways are best for you.
- You can depend on the Bible.
- God forgives and helps you.



## Connect Your Kids to God

How can I become more like Christ?

You are God's special child. He loves you, and He lives in you when you invite Him into your life. Ask Him to help you grow as a Christian. He will help you to become more like Him.

The Bible tells lots of things that that God will help you do: be patient, love others, don't argue, obey your parents, think of others before yourself, pray instead of worrying, be kind, keep your language clean, be thankful, keep doing good.

Remember, God is for you. He is always at work in you to transform you into the person He created you to be. He has good plans for you.

## You Can Do It!

- Choose an instruction from the Bible, for example, "don't argue" (see James 4:1-2).
- Talk about ways to act. For "don't argue" you might think of alternate actions like taking turns, negotiating, being patient, using kind words and tone of voice.
- Set a date (after a few days) to talk about what kinds of changes you saw and how you felt about what you experienced.

## Family Fun

Humor is great for the mind and body. "A happy heart makes the face cheerful" (Proverbs 15:13, *NIV*). Here are some ideas with comics you can use in your family to make life more fun.

- Cut out newspaper comics to share with each other. Stick them on the refrigerator or tape them in a notebook. Or, find your favorites in books of comics from the library or a used bookstore.
- Draw your own comics about funny things that happen in your family or things you see.
- As a family, put together a funnies book and share it with someone who is recovering from an illness or injury or is going through a sad time.

Visit [www.raisingupspiritualchampions.com](http://www.raisingupspiritualchampions.com) for more Family Fun.

## Did You Know?

God's plan is for parents to integrate His ways into everyday life: "Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."—Deuteronomy 6:7, *NIV*

## Easy Bonus Activity

Make a document expressing your family's desire to be honest in all ways. Start with the verse: "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15, *NIV*). Each person adds a sentence and signs the document. Post it in a visible place.

## Preschool Focus

Lay several small family items on the table. Talk about who owns each one. Take turns closing your eyes while someone removes one item. Try to guess which one is missing. After the game say, "It was fun to play with these things with permission. It would be wrong to take something that belonged to someone else."