

NazKidzNewz

Manhattan Church of the Nazarene

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February is a great month to emphasize LOVE. We feel loved by our parents, grandparents, friends, pets, teachers, and of course everyone at church. But the most important thing to know that GOD loves US. Look up I John 4:10 and see what it says about God's love.

You will find the word "love" a lot of times in this newsletter. Count the number of times you see *love (loved or loves)*, and write it on a piece of paper and bring it to Pastor Linda next Sunday. If you are correct, you get some candy. I love these kind of games.



February and September are Alabaster Months in the Nazarene Church.



The Alabaster Offering provides funds for property and buildings around the world. Alabaster funds help provide land for most Work & Witness projects. The entire offering goes toward the construction of churches, schools, medical facilities, and homes for missionaries and national workers. This is one way we can show them how much we love our missionaries and national workers.

All Kidz will receive an Alabaster Box on February 7 so you can collect coins. You will love doing this. The cool thing about Alabaster Offering is that God uses our small offerings and makes something BIG out of them. And remember, God loves a cheerful giver. So don't think any amount you put in your box is too big or too small. Every penny counts.

Alabaster funds will also be used to help the Nazarene churches in Haiti to be rebuilt.

Valentines for Soldiers

February 7 we will be showing our soldiers how much we love them by making them valentines. They loved it last year when we sent them cards and candy.



Do you love doughnuts? Me too!! We will have Krispy Kreme Doughnuts to eat while we make our Valentines!

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THE FUN!!



the Parent Link

Encourage Kids to Lovingly Obey

February brings lots of talk about love, but love is more evident through our actions than through our words. Children show love and respect by obeying parents, and Christians show love and respect by obeying God's commands. God gave us his laws because He loves us, and following them helps mold us into His faithful followers.

Love is at the "heart" of all God's commandments, including His two greatest: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind" and "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27).



The problem is that love and obedience aren't as easy as they sound. That's because we're all sinners who have put ourselves ahead of others. Having a loving relationship with Jesus Christ is the only way we can be equipped to obey God and other people. Only through knowing Jesus and His love does the law lose its sin-causing power over us. Here are some ways to share that message with your children:

- While sharing that disobedience is serious and has consequences, also emphasize that God offers us His forgiveness—and we should do the same for other people who hurt us.
- As you read and discuss the Bible with children, reflect the bulk of Scripture: God's relationship with His people, who are constantly breaking His rules but then being restored by a loving God.

Date Night
Feb. 19
6 - 9 p.m.
Don't Forget!!

Thou Shalt Remember

- In a survey of 1,000 children in Britain, 28% of kids ages 11 to 16 couldn't name even one of the Ten Commandments. Only 6% of children could name all 10. (Christian.org.uk)
- Americans didn't fare any better. Out of 1,000 Americans, more people knew the ingredients of a Big Mac and the names of the *Brady Bunch* children than knew the Ten Commandments. The most-recalled commandment was "You shall not kill."
(ChristianPost.com)



Ask God:

1. To help your children express their love for God by obeying His commands.
2. To strengthen your children's trust in God's goodness.
3. To give your children obedient attitudes toward authority.

Parenting Insights

In *With All Their Heart*, Christine Yount Jones shares some of "the sweet rewards of saying yes to God" and lovingly obeying His commands.

1. **The result of obedience is joy.** Obeying God isn't a burden. Instead, it's uplifting to work in harmony with God rather than fight against Him.
2. **Obedience brings a promise of blessings.** Although we don't obey just to gain God's favor, His Word promises blessings for our reverent obedience (for example, see Deuteronomy 11:13-15).
3. **Obedience demonstrates our love.** Convey to children that consequences aren't the sole point of rules. Instead, we should obey as a loving response to God, who loves us each unconditionally—and forgives us when we disobey.

OpenTheBook

**“Oh, how I love your instructions! I think about them all day long. Your commands make me wiser than my enemies, for they are my constant guide.”
Psalm 119:97-98**

We often think of rules and laws as necessary evils. But each of God’s commands has a purpose, whether it’s to keep us safe or to bring him glory. These laws guide our steps each day, like a trusted, well-worn road map.

Teachable Moments

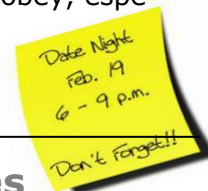
1. **The Right Path**—Hide a Bible and make an easy map so your children can find the Bible in a few minutes. Give children the map and tell them to search for something special you’ve hidden. When children find the Bible, tell them that God’s Word shows us what we need to do to follow Him on the right path. Then read some “directions” and have children tell you if they’re from the Bible or not. For example, “Love your enemies” (yes!); “Lie only if you have to” (no!).
2. **Simon Says**—With younger children, play Simon Says, giving everyone a chance to be Simon. Then discuss what it’s like to give directions and be “obeyed.” Also talk about what makes following instructions easy or difficult.



“So commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these words of mine. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are **ON THE ROAD, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up.” Deuteronomy 11:18-19, NLT**

Talking about and following God’s commands help children learn about obedience (read the Scripture in the photo above). Start a conversation with these questions:

1. How do rules help us? Why is it important to have rules in a family, in school, and in society?
2. What makes you want to obey God? What makes you want to obey your parents or teachers?
3. Why is it sometimes hard to obey? What helps you obey, especially when it’s tempting not to?
4. What good things happen when you obey?



Family Experience: Faith Adventures

Many people in the Bible struggled with doubt. Use these experiences from Group’s *Hands-On Bible* to explore faith.

- **What You Know**—Read aloud John 20:24-31 to meet a doubting disciple. Then say: “When you have doubts, it’s helpful to separate what you *know* from what you *feel*. For example, you may doubt that God loves you because you didn’t make the soccer team. You feel alone and unloved. But the Bible says that God loves you and that He’ll take care of you. Because the Bible says it, you know it’s true, even if it doesn’t feel that way right now.”



Together, divide a sheet of poster board into two columns. Label one “What I Feel” and the other “What I Know.” List some feelings, and across from each feeling, write a Bible verse in response. For example, across from “loneliness” you can write “God is with me. Matthew 28:20.” Use a Bible index to help you find relevant passages.

- **Childlike Faith**—Say: “When you were littler, you trusted your parents about everything. Jesus says everyone should have faith like little kids—even grown-ups! We *all* need Jesus, *all* the time.” Read aloud Luke 18:15-17. Then make something to remind you that Jesus wants you to trust Him the same way little kids trust their parents. Have each family member draw a heart on a piece of construction paper. Write “Jesus” inside it. To the left, tape a picture of when you were little. To the right, tape a recent picture of yourself. Decorate and hang the paper as a reminder of your faith.



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Sunday Feb. 14

Elmo Give Away



If you love Elmo you won't want to miss the big give-away on Sunday February 14.

- E**ncouraging
- L**oving
- M**aking Friends
- O**h so much fun.



"Do to others as you would have them do to you." Luke 6:31

Bible Quiz

Here is an opportunity to see the Quiz Kidz LIVE in Manhattan.

The next quiz is on Saturday, February 20 and will be held in Manhattan. I love watching the kidz quiz!! Let's show our quiz team how much we appreciate all of their hard work by attending the quiz. It begins at 10:00 a.m.

Attention ALL parents: Please call the church or let Lindsey Crawford know if you would LOVE to provide food for the quiz. We will be feeding everyone lunch . . . and we all know how kids love to eat!!

Congratulations to Autumn, Austin, and Kaiton!!

