

# Family Devotional

From August 7, 2016

**Play:** Red Light, Green light- Choose a caller and then have everyone else stand on one side of the room or yard. When the caller says "Green Light", people starting moving towards the other side of the room, but they must stop when the caller says "Red Light". If they fail to stop once red light has been called, they have to return to the starting positions. The first person to make it to the opposite side of the room or yard wins. You can add rules or challenges based on the age of your group and space available. After you are finished playing for as long as the group is enjoying, read the following verses.

**Read:** Mark 10:13-16

**Reflect:**

- Who in this story was giving children the red light?
- Why do you think they thought this was the right thing to do?
- Who in this story gave children the green light?
- Why did this person say it was important to welcome children?

The Bible doesn't tell us a lot about Jesus as a young boy, but let's see what we can learn from His example in this next passage.

**Read:** Luke 2:45-52

- Where did Jesus' parents find him?
- What was Jesus doing?
- Did the people Jesus was with give Him the green light or a red light?
- What did they receive by listening to Jesus?
- What does this passage tell us about how Jesus was acting?
- What can you learn from Jesus' example?

Now you may be saying, "but I'm not Jesus so what would I have to say?" You being you is enough! God made each person unique and we can all help each other understand aspects of God's character in a deeper way, no matter how young or old we are. Sometimes this doesn't even require words. Think of how a baby holds its arms up to its father and completely trusts him to take care of everything. We are reminded that this is how we are called to respond to our Heavenly Father.

There will be times though when Jesus, through the Holy Spirit in you, gives you something to share with others. Don't be afraid, even if those you are sharing with are older than you!

**Remember:** As a family work on memorizing/mediate on 1 Timothy 4:12 this week.

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity."

*Ideas:* Write this passage down and hang it on the refrigerator. Say it together as a family during meal time each day. Write it on a chalk or white board and erase a couple of words each day until you can say it by memory.

**Respond:** "Dear Jesus, thank you for giving us the green light and welcoming all your children to climb up in your lap! Help us remember we are never too young or too old to point others to you. Give us the boldness we need to be an example to others..... Amen!"