

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Take this home with you and do it with your family during the week!

Read Genesis 6:9-22 or “A New Beginning” form The Jesus Story Book Bible.

One beautiful autumn afternoon Danielle and her younger sister Katie went to the local pumpkin patch. This pumpkin patch had a large maze, with walls made of hay bales over six feet tall. Katie ran in right away and started trying to find her way to the end. Her older sister Danielle climbed up on the large wooden platform over looking the whole pumpkin patch. From there she could see everything, including her sister. Danielle could see Katie was starting to get upset and frustrated. “Katie... Katie” Danielle called.

Katie was darting in and out of the twist and turns of the maze and was almost in tears fearing she would never escape. What was fun and exciting at first was getting scary. Katie finally stopped in her tracks not sure which way to go next. That was when she heard her name. Danielle was calling to her, but she couldn’t see where she was.

“Katie, I’m up here. I can see you and tell you which way to go,” Danielle offered.

“Yes Please!” Katie replied, hope building once again. Danielle called out ‘lefts’ and ‘rights’, ‘as needed to navigate Katie through the maze. As Katie neared the end Danielle climbed down from the platform to meet her. Katie ran to her and gave her sister a big hug.

“Let’s go get some hot cider!” Danielle suggested. As the girls sipped their cider Danielle said, “You know what, I think in life people are a lot like you were in the maze, running around not really knowing where to go. I know I can feel like that.”

“How do you figure out what to do?” Katie asked.

“Just like you did.” Danielle responded. “When you paused you could finally hear me calling to you, and then you could follow my directions.”

“But you aren’t always there to tell me what to do,” Katie responded.

“No, I’m not. But who is?” Danielle answered.

Katie thought for a second and then smiled, “God!”

“You got it! He’s always there to show us what way to go next, we just have to take time to ask and listen. You couldn’t hear me when you were running around, but when you stopped to rest you could hear my voice. It’s the same way with God. He’s always speaking to us, but we have to take time to rest and listen. Why do you think it was easier for me to give you directions?” Danielle questioned.

“Because you were up high and could see the whole maze.”

“You’re right! God knows the full picture of our lives, so there are times that he might tell us to go one way or do something that doesn’t make sense to us, but we have to trust him, because he can see what’s coming.”

“Oh, like Noah! God told Noah to build a boat even though he lived in the dessert and no one had ever seen rain. It didn’t make any sense to Noah, but he trusted God and built it anyway.” Katie said.

“Exactly! Why did God choose Noah to build the ark?” Danielle asked.

“Because Noah was friends with God. He took time to talk and listened to God.” Katie responded

Danielle smiled at her sister, “Want to go do the maze again?”

“Yes,” Katie replied. “Together this time!”

Discuss: What keeps us from taking time to rest and listen to God?

What are some ways we can remind ourselves to stop and listen to God throughout our day?

Pray: Dear Jesus, thank You for showing us which way to go. Help us take time to rest and listen to You. Show us how to be like Noah and trust You more, even when You ask us to do things that don’t make sense to us..... Amen!

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The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, for ever.
Amen.

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker
of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only son, our Lord.
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born
of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He
descended into hell; the third day He rose
from the dead; He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty; from thence He shall come
to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the Holy Catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the
body, and the life
everlasting. Amen.



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