



Parent Connection

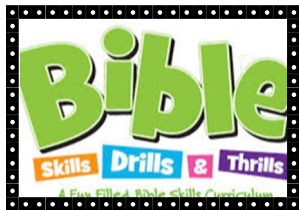
By Tonya Lawson

May 14, 2017



This week at church:

Wednesday at 6:30



Today's lesson...

Jesus showed us an illustration in our lesson today. You've heard the Bible refer to sheep repeatedly, and in John 10, He explains this illustration.

In Bible times, most people had a flock of sheep, so this was a familiar topic. Every night, the shepherd would bring his sheep into what was often high walls built of stones. He would count each one as they entered, then lay across the doorway to protect them from thieves or wild animals.

The sheep knew their

shepherd. They trusted him and followed him. If someone else tried to lead them, they wouldn't follow. Likewise, Jesus was protective and trustworthy. If we follow Him, He will keep us safe. Further, Jesus the Shepherd was willing to die for His sheep. He loved His sheep and wanted them to live with Him forever.

Jesus warned His disciples about being influenced by thieves and robbers. These represented religious leaders such as scribes and Pharisees who would steal, kill and destroy.

John 10

Then, Jesus predicted His death and resurrection. Out of love for us, and because it was God's plan all along, Jesus would willingly give His life on the cross for their sins and rise again three days later.

Do you know Jesus as your Savior? If you died tonight, do you know without question that you would go to Heaven? If not, confess your sins (the bad things you've done) to Him today, ask Him to forgive you, and commit to follow Him and live your life for Him.

Teach Your Kids to Forgive

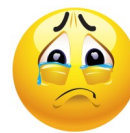
Forgiveness was a tough concept for me to understand when I accepted Christ as my Savior because of my upbringing. I knew God loved me and sent His Son to die for me. I knew I had sinned and needed to repent of that sin. But the connection between being separated from God because of my sin and being redeemed through Jesus' forgiveness was lost on me.

Later on, God put a man in my life who understood forgiveness and exemplified that in His daily walk. This man is now my husband.

When we had kids, forgiveness was our top priority. We wanted our kids to understand forgiveness perfectly and know how to forgive so that if and when they accepted God's gift of salvation, they would not struggle the way I did.

Today, my kids forgive so easily it surprises me sometimes. There are people who have treated them very wrong, but after some time, they forgave them effortlessly. In fact, they forgive those who have offended them much easier than my husband

and I do. It's hard when someone hurts your babies.



Teach your kids to forgive so they will easily understand forgiveness

through Jesus Christ. Show it by example. Don't hold grudges, and when you really want to be "done" with someone, keep the door open for reconciliation. A relationship with Christ is the most important relationship a child can have. Do everything you can to help your child understand and embrace that.

Family Activity

Each week, we have an activity for families to do together. Our main objective is to help equip you as you become confident in your role as spiritual leader to your child. If you ever need support in training your child in the way he/she should go, don't hesitate to ask us or contact Tonya Lawson, Director of Children's Ministries, at tonya@fbc.net.

Note: God not only gives the responsibility of spiritual training to you, the parents, but also your child's grandparents. Feel encouraged to include your child's grandparents in the Family Activity. In fact, if you include your child's grandparents, your child will get another buck. That means they can earn a possible four bucks/week (Attend Children's Church—1 buck, bring Bible—1 buck, do Parent Connection Family Activity—1 buck, include grandparents on Family Activity—1 buck)! Btw, telephone conversations or Skyping about the Family Activity with grandparents count as inclusion.

Make a Door Hanger

As a family, read John 3:16 and Romans 6:23. Then, have your child write one of these verses on the attached door hanger. Let them decorate it however they like and hang it on their bedroom doorknob. Lastly, tell them to read this verse every time they go into their bedroom and remember that Jesus is the door to eternal life.

If your child asks questions about how to get to Heaven, feel free to contact me if you need any help discussing this with them.

Tonya Lawson
Children's Minister
tonya@fbc.net

If your child brings this back to Children's Church, they will get an extra ticket for the treasure box drawing.

Our family did this activity together.

Our child's grandparents were included.

Print Parent's Name (one name is fine)

Parent Signature

Child's Name