

A WORD ABOUT “TELL THE NEXT GENERATION” SHEETS



The responsibility (as well as the privilege) of nurturing the faith of children rests most heavily on parents (see Deuteronomy 6:5-9). As parents, you will have the most opportunity for “teachable moments:” situations which arise in everyday life which can be opportunities to apply the truth of God. We believe faith nurturing is not merely a classroom experience, but rather a consistent weaving of spiritual truth with everyday life. In order for us to partner together in nurturing the faith of children, take home sheets are provided.

The *Tell the Next Generation* sheets contain the scripture used in the lesson taught to your child that day, the memory verse, the key themes, and ideas for your follow-up:

Scripture and Key Themes: It is very difficult to pass on Biblical truth with heart and passion if it is not first in our own hearts. Therefore, scripture and key themes are provided so that you can dwell on the lesson and ask God to make the truth live in you.

Memory Verse: Memorizing scripture is of vital importance in spiritual growth. When the Word is memorized, it is with us as an ever-present counselor and an effective weapon against the attacks of the enemy. It could be a great encouragement to your child if you memorize the scripture with your child each week.

Ideas for Parent Follow-up: Each week we are encouraging parents to help your child with the memory verse and to review previous verses. We would also like to encourage you to appropriately share from your hearts what God has taught you from dwelling on the scripture and themes.

Prayer: Without the work of the Holy Spirit in your child's heart, these lessons will merely add information to your child's store of Biblical knowledge. While it is crucial to increase Biblical knowledge as “faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ” (Romans 10:17 NASB), faith grows by the incentive of God in a person's heart (John 6:44). Therefore, join us in prayer for your child to grow in faith.

Encouragement: We would suggest that you encourage your child to complete the children's take home sheet (*Growing in Faith*). Spiritual growth requires work. It is critically important to teach children diligence and good habits when they are young in order to encourage a lifetime of spiritual growth.