

# GLKIDS FAMILY GROUP CHAT

Week of 10/4/20

Hi Gracelife Family,

No matter the phase of gathering that we are in GraceLife's vision to gather, grow, and go has not and will not change. Therefore we want continue to encourage growth within Gracelife's families. Growth often comes through conversation therefore this "Family Group Chat" will provide weekly conversational helpers and other material related to the sermons as a resource for your family. GraceLife provides this same type of resource for the community group leaders during the fall and spring and to the congregation during community group breaks to be used if so desired to facilitate growth within the community or individually. My goal was to replicate this model to help equip parents as they focus on discipleship and spiritual growth within the home.

Please keep in mind that anytime Gracelife offers a resource, we like to emphasize that it is optional. For this particular resource, if it is used, the conversation should lead so if you don't get to all of this, it's okay. The Holy Spirit is working in your conversations - follow him. Because this is a family discussion this could be used in whatever way works best for your family; once a week, throughout the week, or maybe not at all.

If you decided to use this we would love to see your children doing any of the activities or challenges that are suggested. If you feel comfortable, share pictures of your children completing these on either Facebook or Instagram by tagging Gracelife.

*Courtney Wampler  
GLK Early Childhood Coordinator*



# GLKIDS

## FAMILY GROUP CHAT

### Fruitfulness : Mark 4:1-20

#### Introduction

Read Mark 4:1-20 or watch the video "Parable of the Farmer" below.

Talk to your children about the elements of the story:

Sower - Jesus/faithful preacher or minister of the Gospel; Seed - Word of God; Field - World; Soil - Human Heart (hard heart, devil snatches; shallow heart, temporary enthusiasm; divided heart, smothered/choked; good heart, fruitful)

Activity - take a nature walk: look at where plants grow and where they don't, birds eating, and places where weeds have taken over.

#### Divided Hearts

It's hard for the Word to get planted in our hearts when it is competing against other things...kind of like tug of war

Activity - play tug of war.

What's on the other end of the rope:

- Cares of this World:  
Ask Children: What are some things you worry about? How do these things keep God's word from taking root in your heart?

God's word is trustworthy no matter what is going on around us.

- Deceitfulness of Riches:  
Read the stories of Zacchaeus and The Rich Young Ruler (Luke 19:1-10; Matthew 19:16-22)  
Ask Children: what are some of the differences that they notice.

Consider starting a giving jar, where your children put loose change in and once a month that is given to the church or local charity.

- Desires for Other Things:  
The world distracts us  
Ask Children: what are some of your goals or things that you enjoy? How can those things get in the way of your relationship with God?

Matthew 6:33 - Discuss Priorities.

#### For Young Children:

Activity Suggestions:

- Plant some seeds
- Pick some flowers
- Go to a pick your own farm to harvest some fruit/veggies

Talk with your children about how God is like a Farmer or Gardener - he plants the seed in our hearts and he cares for us as the seed grows: John 15.

#### Parable of the Sower

Videos:

[Parable of the Farmer](#) - Saddleback Kids

Songs

[Parable of the Sower](#) - cover by Nicole Bennett

[I Wanna be Mud](#) - Big Fish Little Fish

[Good Fruit](#) - Rain for Roots

[Seed Sower](#) - Trace Creek Baptist Church



# GLKIDS FAMILY GROUP CHAT

**October Memory Verse: John 14:15-21**

## Verse:

15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. 18 "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19 Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20 In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21 Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

Elementary (1st -th grade): All Verses

Little Learners (4.5 year old - kindergarten): John 14:15-17

Toddlers (2.5 years old to 4.5 years old): John 14:15

## Tips and Tricks

We are introducing a new verse, so the activities will focus on repetition:

Locate It:

Find the verse in the Bible and mark it with a book mark then underline it. Once they have memorized it allow them to highlight it so that they know it has been hidden in their heart.

Listen to it:

Once the verse is located read it aloud several times. Have the children take turns reading the verse to each other and they can make it fun by singing it or changing their voice tone.

Get Creative:

Have your children write the verse on construction paper and then decorate. Hang the verse in a place that is easily visible throughout the day - challenge children to stop and read the verse so loud the whole house can hear at least once a day.

## Memory Verse Resources

Illustrated readings:

[John 14:15-21](#)

Songs:

[John 14:15](#) - Jumpstart 3

[John 14:15-17 \(NLT\)](#) - Sing Through the Bible

[John 15:15-18 \(NKJV\)](#) - Esther Mui

About the Holy Spirit:

[There are 3 persons in 1 God](#)

[The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit](#) -

Moody Bible Institute

Book: [The Ology](#) - Ancient Truths Ever New by Marty Machowski

## Challenge

Once your child has memorized their part of the verses you can contact Courtney to schedule a time for your child to recite the verse to her - they will win a prize!!

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