

BELIEVE

LESSON TWENTY-ONE

Follow-up *(As a family discuss the assignment for the lesson Financial Well-being.)*

1. What are some of the things we're doing to live within our budget?
2. What steps are we taking to save some of our money?

Concept

Believing in God means that we believe there is a God. We believe that He exists, even though we haven't seen Him. We agree that there is abundant evidence of a "master plan" for this world and its people.

God loves us and He wants us to be happy. Believing this gives us faith that God cares about us individually and as a family. We trust that God will help us when we turn to Him.

Families can experience peace and happiness when they use the truths found in scriptures and religious readings in their everyday lives. These truths can give life meaning, and they can give families direction. Scriptural truths can give people greater understanding of God's ways and a perspective of the "master plan." God has set forth rules and provided a path for us to follow. If we will live by His rules and walk down His path, we can have peace and enjoy greater happiness.

Discovering what God's plan is for us is one of life's great adventures. Living in harmony with that plan is one of life's greatest challenges.

Family Survey Review

Statement #21. **We rely upon God.**

- What does relying on God mean?
- How do we feel about the statement, "God loves us and He wants us to be happy."

Story

One evening a father and his four-year old son, Phillip, had taken a ride in the country. They ran out of gas. After they had obtained some gas at a nearby farm house, the father and son were walking back to their car. The father was carrying the gas can. Phillip was playing as they walked,

throwing rocks at the telephone poles, and picking flowers. Then, all of a sudden, it got dark. Sometimes night comes all at once in the country. Philip came over, put his little hand in his father's and said, "Take my hand, Daddy. I might get lost."

There is a hand reaching to us from the heart of the universe. If we will lay our hand in the hand of God and walk with Him, we will never, ever get lost.

Discussion

1. Do we believe there is a God who knows us individually and has a "master plan" for people on Earth?
2. How can we learn more about Him and how His plan could improve our lives?
3. Should we pray together as a family? When?
4. What is spirituality? (*Example answer: Spirituality is allowing God to guide your life and living by His teachings and commandments.*)

Activity

As individuals and as a family, we should try to live the higher law of showing unconditional love to our fellow men. If we do this, one of the blessings that will follow is a greater desire to serve others. We are God's hands on Earth.

The activity for this lesson is to choose a person or a family we can serve, and do an act of kindness for them. Let's decide what to do, then plan the activity. If we can serve others without them knowing it, all the better!

Assignment

Read the story below, and do one or more of the Solution Suggestions listed on the following page.

BELIEF

Sir Isaac Newton, the British scientist, once had a skillful mechanic make him a miniature replica of our solar system, with balls representing the planets, geared together by cogs and belts so as to move in harmony when cranked. Later, Newton was visited by a scientist friend who did not believe in God.

As Newton sat reading in his study with his mechanism on a large table near him, his friend stepped in. Scientist that he was, he recognized at a glance what was before him. Stepping up to it he slowly turned the crank, and with undisguised admiration watched the heavenly bodies all move in their relative speed in their orbits. Standing off a few feet he exclaimed, "My! What an exquisite

thing this is! Who made it?” Without looking up from his book, Newton answered, “Nobody.”

Quickly turning to Newton, the man said, “Evidently you did not understand the question. I asked who made this?” Looking up now Newton solemnly assured him that nobody made it, but that the aggregation of matter so much admired had just happened to assume the form it was in. But the astonished scientist replied with some heat, “You must think I am a fool! Of course somebody made it! He is a genius, and I’d like to know who he is!”

Laying aside his book, Newton arose and laid a hand on his friend’s shoulder. “This thing is but a puny imitation of a much grander system whose laws you know. I am not able to convince you that this mere toy is without a designer and maker; yet you profess to believe that the great original, from which the design is taken, has come into being without either designer or maker! Now tell me by what sort of reasoning do you reach such an incongruous conclusion?”

SOLUTION SUGGESTIONS

1. Pray together as a family.
2. Together as a family, spend a few moments reading scriptures or religious readings.
3. Learn about meditation, and individually try this as a form of worship.
4. Each family member spend some time alone in nature thinking about God and the purpose of life.
5. Gather together and sing or listen to beautiful songs which tell of God and His goodness.
6. Learn about a specific spiritual subject.
7. Attend a church meeting as a family.
8. Do an anonymous act of kindness or service for another family.
9. During the next month each family member share a spiritual thought or feeling with a friend.
10. For only three minutes make a list of as many of your blessings as you can. Talk about how much your family has to be grateful for, and how you can share a part of who you are or what you have with someone less fortunate.