



**PARENT
CUE**

MAY

2 1/2-7 years

**SMALL
TALK**

MEMORY VERSE

“Be kind and loving to each other.”

Ephesians 4:32, NCV

KEY QUESTION

Who can help others?

BASIC TRUTH

God Made Me

BOTTOM LINE

I can help others.

MAY 2013

**WEEK 1 | 5 MAY
ACTS 2:42-47**

The early church met together to pray, eat, worship and help each other in any way they could.

**WEEK 2 | 12 MAY
2 KINGS 4:8-17**

A woman helps Elisha by making a special room for him.

**WEEK 3 | 19 MAY
NEHEMIAH 1-6**

Nehemiah leads his people in rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem.

**WEEK 4 | 26 MAY
EXODUS 17:8-13**

Aaron and Hur help Moses by holding up his weak arms during the Israelites battle against the Amalekites.





PLAY TIME

God made your child to help and they love doing it. Folding clothes, washing dishes, dusting, sweeping . . . Oh! And cooking! They love cooking! Now, they may not do it just like you would, but they do enjoy helping. Make helping the focus this month and let your child do as much as possible. Praise him for being such a wonderful helper!



PARENT TIME

They cry. They eat. They play. They sleep. They cry. They eat. They play. They sleep. It's almost a mantra isn't it? Get them fed. Get them bathed. Get them to nap. The days become all about those things that HAVE to get done. They become less about what you WANT to get done. They become more about accomplishing a goal and less about enjoying a moment.

- Watching the block slide around the floor for hours just to see what it can do.
- Banging on a pot and making music in the kitchen.
- Splashing in the tub while you pour and pour and pour some more.
- Snuggling on the couch and reading the same book over and over.

Those moments are what keep our parent hearts soft and supple. They are what remind us why we had babies in the first place. They are what keep us vulnerable and open to the whispers of our heavenly Father. Because as much as you love that precious little person you're snuggling, He loves you more. When our hearts become hardened to the ones we love, they become hardened to Him.

We often worry about the hearts of our children, but are we worrying about our own? Listen in to Carey Nieuwhof's strategies for combating a hardened heart in this month's Parent Link Live found at www.OrangeParents.org.



CAR TIME

Think of ways your child can be a helper as you drive from place to place. Maybe he can carry groceries, or close the car door or hold something for you. Make helping others the theme of every outing together and praise him for helping others each time he does it. "Yes! God made you to help others and you're doing it!"



BATH TIME

Nehemiah helped build a wall in the Bible story. Can you stack bath toys on the edge of the tub? Encourage your child. Tell him God made him to be a helper just like Nehemiah.



CUDDLE TIME

"Dear God, sometimes it's hard to help others. Sometimes we just don't feel like it. We know we can help even when it's hard though because You're always with us helping us. Thank You for being our strength. We love You, God. In Jesus name, amen."



PATIENCE

Waiting until later for what you
want now.

MEMORY VERSE

"Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't
lose hope. Wait for the Lord."

Psalm 27:14, NIV

MAY 2013

WEEK 1: 5 May

Esau's Birthright

Genesis 25:24-34

BOTTOM LINE:

When you think you can't wait, think
twice.

WEEK 2: 12 May

The Golden Calf

Exodus 32:1-35

BOTTOM LINE:

When you think you can't wait, don't
forget what's true.

WEEK 3: 19 May

Hannah Prays for a Baby

1 Samuel 1:6-2:1

BOTTOM LINE:

When you think you can't wait, tell God
about it.

WEEK 4: 26 May

Proverbs Principle

Proverbs 14:29

BOTTOM LINE:

When you think you can't wait, don't
lose your cool.





MEAL TIME

WEEK 1: 5 May

Ask a kid: What is something you want to achieve that is going to take patience?

Ask a parent: Tell about a time when your patience was rewarded.

WEEK 2: 12 May

Ask a kid: What is something that you have to wait a long time for?

Ask a parent: What are some things that you think are worth waiting for?

WEEK 3: 19 May

Ask a kid: Tell about a time when you weren't patient.

Ask a parent: What are the things that tend to trigger you to lose patience?

WEEK 4: 26 May

Ask a kid: What are some things that make you lose your cool?

Ask a parent: How can we protect ourselves against impatience?



PARENT TIME

Have you lately found yourself just going through the motions of dance recitals, winning ball games, and family trips?

Taking pictures and smiling, but not really feeling the joy of the moment?

When we find it hard to celebrate the highs and mourn the lows of life, it might be a sign that our hearts have grown hard. The Bible talks about hardness of

heart as a condition that people on the other side of God develop. Pharaoh had it. Israel did on occasion. And the Pharisees specialized in it.

So how can we fight for our own hearts? This month's Parent Link Live podcast gives 5 suggestions for getting your heart beating again. Download this podcast on www.OrangeParents.org.