



WEEK FOUR

EXODUS 32:1-35

Golden Calf

SAY THIS

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

DO THIS



BED TIME

At the heart of Easter is Jesus, God's Son, who lived on Earth and then chose to give up His life in our place. Because Jesus is alive, it means that everything He said is true. If you've made a choice to follow Jesus, pray together and thank God for giving you new life with Him. If you're still not sure, pray and ask that God would show you the truth of Easter and who Jesus is.

REMEMBER THIS

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

Psalm 27:14, NIV

LIFE APP

PATIENCE – Waiting until later for what you want now

HOW TO INVITE OTHERS TO INVEST IN YOUR KIDS LIFE

by Nina Schmigdoll

Parenting is a tough, that's why you should never try to do it alone. That's why it's important to Widen the Circle for your kids. Widening the Circle means pursuing strategic relationships with your kids, finding people who will say the same things you are saying, and who will offer another layer of support. But how do you do it? How do you invite others in? You have to be intentional, and sometimes you have to face the awkward and get outside your comfort zone. Here are few ways you can start today!

Make the invitation! Invite a college student over to have dinner with your family. Compliment the grandmother who brought her famous recipe to the pot-luck and invite her to come teach your daughter (or son) to make it. When planning your child's birthday party, ask a couple of teens to come and help run games. Just start somewhere and see what happens!

Take the hint. When someone offers to babysit to give you a night out, don't hesitate to take them up on the offer. If someone shares having the same interest as your child, take that as a clue for a way they could connect. Consider that some people might already want to connect with your family and may be dropping hints of their own.

Realize it's not just about you. Parents have a bad habit of feeling sheepish accepting help from people who extend it. But, remember, you have something to share too. Family life offers a great comfort to someone who is single or an empty nester. Invite someone to share your home-cooked meal. Be available to lend a listening ear about a job change or hurdles in a young marriage.

Be an investor yourself. Even as a parent, you have the opportunity to be an influencer in the life of young people outside of your family. Though you may have your hands full with your own kids, take advantage of opportunities to invest in a young person who might share your own interests. They need someone to invest in them too!

Taking deliberate and sometimes uncomfortable steps to invite healthy influencers into the lives of your children will not only give your kids a sense of belonging, but it will allow opportunities for growth in ways that you aren't able to offer on your own.

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