STICKY FAITH EVERY DAY

Week 8: Made New

Family Ideas

MADE NEW

3 No. 25 (1)

Sticky Faith Every Day Family Ideas

Ideas for Engaging Your Whole Family In being MADS MEW

Congratulations – you've finished this 8-week "Sticky Faith Every Day" series. Our hope has been that you've noticed much more about silence, rest, your brokenness, submitting to God, simplifying your life, lamenting pain in your life and this world, loss, and ultimately about NEW LIFE.

But this journey is not over. It's just beginning. There are probably at least one or two changes you notice in your family's life since you started this journey, but it's also likely you sense how much further you still have to go. Be encouraged by Paul's words to the church in Philippi when he says to "be certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns." (Philippians 1:6)

As your family reflects on these past 8 weeks, consider these questions for discussion and commitment for new rhythms in your life:

- What surprised you about this series?
- What did you notice in each other these weeks? (e.g., You were more present during the Unplug week. You grew in patience so much these last 40 days. You were more emotional during this season. I noticed you didn't watch as much TV.) Spend some time encouraging each other.
- What has God made new in your life and family these last 40 days?
- What ongoing spiritual practices and rhythms is God prompting you to continue in the future?
- If you experienced this series during Lent, talk about the traditions your family has throughout the year. You likely have some family Christmas and birthday traditions, but Lent and Easter traditions are much less common. Did you start any this year that you want to continue as a ritual for years to come? As you've completed Lent and Easter this year, are there any rituals or traditions you'd like to start next year?

Seal these 8 weeks of "noticing" with a note to each of your family members (or if the size of your family makes this daunting, every person can write a note to one family member). We're sure there have been moments – days! – in the journey when you wanted to give up, felt discouraged, or wondered if God was making anything new in your life. If you're feeling that way, your family probably is too. Take some time in the next couple of weeks to notice how God is making your family new. Write your family members a note so you can adequately express yourself and allow them to remember what you notice. Use this note only to encourage and bless your family members, not to challenge or criticize them. If you want to get really creative, purchase them a small, inexpensive item that symbolizes these changes and encourages them on the Philippians 1:6 path.

As God continues to work in your life until Christ returns, remember that God's in the business of making things new. All the time. Every day. Be encouraged by these words from 1 John 3:1-3:

"See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because they don't know him. Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as he is pure."

May you know the depth of your factions iclos for you and your family if of may you wait in edge: expectation for the day when we are fully made new