



# Raising Up SPIRITUAL CHAMPIONS

## HARDWORKING: Solving Problems

Also in this newsletter:

- Connect Your Kids to God • Family Fun • Easy Bonus Activity

**TIP:**  
Display this newsletter at home, and use the activities as desired throughout the week.



### Questions to Go at bedtime, mealtime or car time

- What do you do when a problem you are working on stumps you?
- What advice would you give others who told you they were having problems getting all their chores done?
- Who do you go to for advice?

### Verse to Chew on

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you" (Psalm 32:8, NIV).

- With your kids, pick out the verbs in this verse. Talk about how God wants to be active in your lives.
- Share times that God helped you when you weren't sure what to do.

### Character Builder: Hardworking

Kids begin to solve problems when they are babies. If they are trying to reach an object and something is in their way, they push it out of the way. As they grow, they continue to learn ways to solve problems. Sometimes kids can get discouraged when they are working on a project or task. Encourage them to use different strategies when they are tempted to quit.

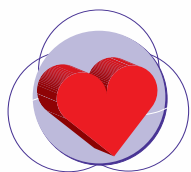
- **Get more information.** If homework seems too difficult, you might need to back up and review or get more information to complete the assignment.
- **Try a different approach.** If you keep running into roadblocks and can't get past a certain point in the project, or a task seems like too much work, ask, "What is another way I could do this?" For example, if you're mowing the lawn or vacuuming your room, picking up your toys first can keep you from having to go over things twice.
- **Ask someone to help you think of other ideas.** Getting a new perspective or brainstorming can loosen up a logjam and help you to keep going.

### Be a consultant

Take on the role of a consultant when your kids are working on a task or project. It can be tempting to solve their problems or do their work for them just to get it done. Valuable learning takes place when kids work things out themselves.

### Preschool focus

Encourage kids to use words instead of misbehavior to tell you when a job is too hard so you can help them make it easier. Show them how racing to pick up toys, moving like robots or singing a song while cleaning up can make work fun.



## Connect Your Kids to God

What can I say when I pray?

Prayer is talking to your friend Jesus. Talk to Him like you talk to a friend.

Sometimes you may want to read a Bible verse and make it your prayer. For example, “Thank You, God, for creating me. Help me to do the good works You have prepared for me” (see Ephesians 2:10); or you can pray for others: “I pray that my family will have wisdom so we can know You better” (see Ephesians 1:17).

Make a psalm your prayer: “Praise the Lord, O my soul. I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live” (Psalm 146:1–2, *NIV*).

## You Can Do It!

Pray Scripture for your kids—at bedtime or the start of a new day:

“I pray . . . that you . . . may . . . grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ . . . that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God” (Ephesians 3:16–19, *NIV*).

## Family Fun

Be on the lookout for brain-teasers and enjoy them with your family. Get started with these:

- Tina’s mom has four daughters: Amber, Anne, and Ashley. What is the name of the fourth daughter? (Answer: Tina)
- If 3 kids can clean 2 rooms in 20 minutes, how many kids do you need to clean 5 similar rooms in 50 minutes? (Answer: Three kids)
- What is the day after the day before today? (Answer: Today)
- Two fathers and two sons went fishing. Each one caught a fish. All together they caught three fish. How is that possible? (Answer: Only three people went: a grandpa, a dad and a son)

Visit [www.raisingupspiritualchampions.com](http://www.raisingupspiritualchampions.com) for more Family Fun.

## Did You Know?

If you will “trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him” then He will keep you on track. —Proverbs 3:5–6, *NIV*

## Easy Bonus Activity

- Make a list of all the tasks and chores that your kids do in a week’s time.
- Ask them to rank them in order of their difficulty and define what makes some easier or harder.
- Brainstorm ways to get through the more difficult ones.

## Preschool Focus

Make an obstacle course in the house or yard and let your young child go through it. Ask her what she had to do to get through the difficult areas. Let her make a course for you to go through. Let her give you ideas on how to get through it.