



# Raising Up SPIRITUAL CHAMPIONS

**RESPONSIBLE:** Skilled and Gifted

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 skills and abilities do you think God has given you?
- What skills would you like to learn as you grow up?
- How do you think God wants you to use your abilities and skills for Him?

## Verse to Chew on

“Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord” (Romans 12:11, *NIV*).

- Read this Bible verse together. Who do you know who is excited about his or her relationship with Jesus? What makes that person that way?
- Talk about how your family shows enthusiasm about living for God.

## Character Builder: Responsible

Tell your kids that God has given them abilities and that they are responsible for using them to help others. Talk about the variety of skills and abilities they might have. Here are some from the Old Testament. What others can you think of?

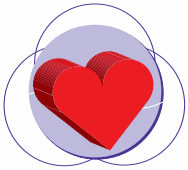
- When God’s people were building the Tabernacle, God told Moses that he had chosen a man to help Moses and “filled him with the Spirit of God, with **skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts** to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze . . . to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship” (Exodus 31:3-5, *NIV*).
- One man was “in charge of the **singing**; that was his responsibility because he was skillful at it” (1 Chronicles 15:22, *NIV*). Others “were skilled in playing **musical instruments**” (1 Chronicles 34:12, *NIV*).
- Some are gifted in speaking or writing: “My **tongue** is the pen of a **skillful writer**” (Psalm 45:1, *NIV*). Some have leadership, organization, or administration skills: “David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with **skillful hands he led them**” (Psalm 78:72, *NIV*).

## Pray for Blessing

Moses blessed the tribes before his death. For one tribe he prayed, “Bless all his skills, O Lord, and be pleased with the work of his hands” (Deuteronomy 33:11, *NIV*). Make this a prayer for your kids.

## Preschool Focus

Use toy instruments, or make some of your own, and play them along with a music CD of praise songs to worship the Lord together. Tell your kids that God helps them learn new things and they can use their abilities to show love to God and other people.



## Connect Your Kids to God

How can I show God how much I love Him?

Jesus said we show that we love Him when we obey Him. “Solomon showed his love for the Lord by walking according to the statutes of his father David” (1 Kings 3:3, *NIV*), which were the commands of God.

You can say the words, “I love you” but not act like it. Your actions show your love—and He likes to hear you say the words, too.

## You Can Do It!

Much of what your kids understand about God is patterned after their relationship with you. Teach them the biblical God-child relationship through your parent-child relationship, when possible, with words like these:

- “I love you because you are my child.”
- “You show you love me when you obey me.”
- “I like to hear you say, ‘I love you.’”
- “I forgive you.”

## Family Fun

Try some of these simple activities for family fun.

- **Warmer/Colder.** Hide an item in the room. Let others try to find it. As they get closer, say, “You’re getting warmer/hotter.” When they move away, say, “You’re getting colder.”
- **I Spy.** Kids never seem to get tired of the old “I spy with my little eye . . .” game. Give one clue, e.g., “. . . something green.” When everyone has had a chance to guess, give another clue, e.g., “It’s round.” Continue until someone guesses. This can be played while waiting in a line at the store, traveling, at bedtime or at meals.

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

## Did You Know?

“Slowness to anger makes for deep understanding; a quick-tempered person stockpiles stupidity.” —Proverbs 14:29, *The Message*

## Easy Bonus Activity

Tell your kids about skills and abilities you have and how you use them. Look at various occupations and identify what skills are needed for them. Help your kids identify what they are good in and help them build on those.

## Preschool Focus

Provide toy tools, hats and articles of clothing. Let your kids dress up as different people. Affirm them in those roles, e.g., “You have a strong body and can hold up heavy hoses to put out fires” or “You are a good mommy, reading books to your babies.”