

BIBLE STORY

GENESIS 37-45

God is with Joseph when he is taken to Egypt.

SAY THIS

**WHO HAS A PLAN FOR YOU?
GOD HAS A PLAN FOR YOU.**

DO THIS



MORNING TIME

When you go into your child's room this month say, "Good morning, [child's name]! How's my awesome [boy/girl]? I'm so glad God's plan was to give you to me!" Give child a big hug.



DRIVE TIME

Each time you drive, talk about your plan. Say, "The plan today is to go to the [grocery store, park, church, etc.]." Talk about how God has plans for us too, and God's plan is always best.



CUDDLE TIME

Cuddle up with your child this month and pray, "Dear God, help me trust Your plan, even when it's hard. I want [child's name] to be able to learn how to trust You by watching me. I love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."



BATH TIME

Add a cup that's easy to scoop and pour and a plastic bowl to bath time this month. Encourage your child to fill the bowl with water. Tell your child that Joseph filled barns with food so they would have enough food to eat when it stopped growing.

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THINGS YOU'LL NEVER REGRET AS A PARENT

By Carey Nieuwhof

We will all have regrets as parents, but the flip side is also true. We will all have things we'll never regret doing. If you think about doing things you'll never regret, you can actually do them more often. Here are four things you'll never regret as a parent:

1. TAKING FAMILY VACATIONS

It can be so hard to find both time and money to get away, but it's one of the best things you can do as a family. While staycations are decent, a vacation moves everyone out of their native environment and into new experiences together. If you don't have a ton of money, go camping or borrow someone's house for the weekend. Moments away will become some of your family's fondest memories.

2. INCORPORATING GOD INTO THE RHYTHM OF FAMILY LIFE

Yep, life is busy. And talking about God can be . . . well, awkward. But making God a natural part of the conversation when your kids are young, makes it easier when they're older. In the baby and toddler years, start with morning and bedtime stories and prayers. In the elementary years, mealtime is a great time to talk about God and life.

3. SETTING BOUNDARIES

So much of the conflict between parents and kids happens because boundaries

aren't clear. Boundaries and limits are something we both crave and resist. We think freedom resides in having no boundaries and limits, until we have none. Then we crave them. Kids are masters at pushing the boundaries. If you can set and agree on boundaries ahead of time, life becomes so much simpler. Then you have a solution to a problem before it arises.

4. PUTTING EACH OTHER BEFORE THE KIDS

If you're married, it's as important for your child to know you love each other as it is for your child to know you love them. Modeling a healthy marriage is a wonderful gift to give them. So, go on a date. Hire a sitter or enlist the grandparents, and get away. Also, your kids will eventually move out (really . . . no lies!) and all you will have left is each other. It works way better when you still like each other.

This list could be way longer, think about something you do as a family that you know you will never regret. Now, keep doing it!

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