



# CONFERENCE SUNDAY

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## Practicing Scripture

*"These words...must always be on your minds. Recite them to your children!"* *Duet 6:6-7 (CEB)*

**Our pockets carry the things that are most important to us, the things that we cannot do without. What we *carry* in our pockets is determined by what we *put into* them. When we put Scripture into our *mind* pockets, scripture will be there to pull out when we are awake at night or when we are afraid.<sup>1</sup> With Scripture in our minds, we become more like Jesus.**

**1. Singing scriptures helps us to remember them. Try this one from Matthew 19:14 (*Sing the Story #47*).**

Let the children come to me.  
Let the children come.  
Never hinder them. Never stop them.  
Let the children come.

**Or this one from Philippians 4:4**

Rejoice in the Lord always  
and again I say rejoice  
(clap/clap...repeat)  
Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say rejoice.  
(clap/clap...repeat)

**2. Memorize scriptures as a family.**

Pick a verse for a week or a month and memorize the scripture together. You could make it into a fun competition.

**3. Read Bible stories** with your children and talk about them. Bedtime is an excellent time for this ritual.

<sup>1</sup>Mary Klassen, "Biblical Story Telling, Biblical Spirituality class, March 3, 2011.

**4. Tell Bible stories in your own words.**

Help the children dress up and role play the stories so that the stories become part of them.

**5. Illustrate a story or idea from scripture**

with pencil drawings, crayons, play dough, fabric, or other creative art supplies.

**6. Outdoor activities offer ways to walk with scripture.**

Try a nature walk as a family, using verses from **Psalm 24**. Think about the earth and everything in it as God's creation while you "ooh" and "ah" over nature discoveries. Consider **Matthew 6:25-34** and remember God's care for us is even greater than for birds and flowers!<sup>2</sup>

**7. Check out this website for more ideas on nurturing faith formation:**

<http://www.faithformationlearningexchange.net/children.html>

*Created by Sharon Witmer Yoder 2017; Updated 2020.*

<sup>2</sup> April Yamasaki, *Sacred Pauses: Spiritual Practices for Personal Renewal* (Harrisonburg: Herald Press, 2013), 72.