

### NOTE TO PARENTS from Ps Luke Aiasacca

Thank you for the privilege of ministering to your family through Kidmania Online. Today's Kidmania Online episode was *A Soft, Teachable Heart*.

This parent info sheet can be used by you at home to support your Kidmania experience WITH your children and help them to get the most out of it.

The 'main ideas' section of this parent info sheet has been designed especially for you to enter into meaningful discussion with your children.

To help your children really share what is in their hearts and minds with you, and so YOU can actively build faith and wisdom into them, when it comes to the 'Ask' points, take care to not rush them... give them time to think and respond and really show them you are listening and that you understand.

We are here to support you! If you have any questions you would like to discuss please contact your location Kidmania co-ordinator or email me at [luke.aiasacca@enjoy.church](mailto:luke.aiasacca@enjoy.church)

God bless you!

### Family Ice Breaker – Soft and Moldable Races

This is a fun way to introduce what you will be talking about as a family.

Today we saw and Roman and Scarlet complete to form the best snowmen they could in a minute, with hard play dough, and then soft play dough.

*You might like to buy, or make some play dough at home, to have this race.*

We also saw Rachel and Ryan compete to blow the first bubble-gum bubble.

*You might like to buy some bubble-gum, to have this race at home.*

And, we saw Irae and Seth do a drawing challenge, where they each taught each other how to draw a picture - the learner copied the teacher by paying close attention to how the drawing felt on their back, and not by what they could see.

*You might like to tape paper to each other's backs and see how closely you can copy the drawings, by feel and not by sight.*

Do one, do two, or do them all - whatever you do - have fun!

### Today's Scripture References - Read, repeat & recite (during mealtimes)

#### Jeremiah 18:3-6 (NIV)

"So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from clay was flawed in his hands, so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. Then the word of the Lord came to me: O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does? says the Lord. Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand."

#### Psalms 86:11 (NIV)

"Teach me your ways, O Lord that I may live according to your truth!"

#### Romans 8:28 (NIV)

"In all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

#### Philippians 1:6 (NIV)

"...being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion."





## The MAIN IDEAS for Family Discussion

### Discussion introduction:

**Say:** Play dough and clay is made to form objects with your hands. Just as Roman and Scarlet could not shape hard play dough, God cannot re-shape and transform a hard heart.

**Ask:** Have you ever formed something with play dough?

**If YES, ask:** What did you make? Was your playdough soft or hard? Was it easy, or difficult?

**Ask:** Just with your bare hands, do you think you could mold a soft piece of clay into something? Why/why not?

**Ask:** Just with your bare hands, do you think you could mold a rock into something? Why/why not?

**Say:** Bubble gum is made to chew, and to blow bubbles with. Just like Rachel and Ryan could not blow bubbles until the bubble gum was soft (so that air could be breathed into it and expand it), you can't do what you were made to do if your heart is not soft for God to breathe His spirit into it and grow you.

**Ask:** Would you like to be soft like this?

**Say:** Let's pretend you are a creator, and you lovingly formed something out of play dough, like a person or an animal, and you were able to breathe life into them, and they actually came to life. Now, imagine that you told your creature WHY you had made it; (1) to know you, and (2) for a special plan. Now, imagine that it said, "No! I want to be, and do, something else!"

**Ask:** What do you think about that?

**Say:** Sometimes we (the created) can be like that in our attitude towards God (our creator). Sometimes we don't like how God has made us, and we don't want to do as He has said. It's a bit like not wanting to do what our parents say, even though we know they love us, and that what they want us to do is very good for us.

### Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 18:3-6 [ turn the page over to Today's Scripture References ]

**Say:** Like clay is in the hands of the potter, so are we like the clay in God's hands. Just like the potter wants to shape the clay into what he sees best, God wants to shape your life into what he sees best. God is the potter. He shaped us before we were born, and He wants to continue to mold/shape us, so we can really enjoy the wonderful life He has prepared for us.

**Ask:** Who is the potter? [ God is ]

**Ask:** Who is the clay? [ I am / we are ]

**Say:** God is not a big, mean, tough God who does not care about how we think and feel. He doesn't want to force us to do anything. He wants us to see how GOOD He is, and because of that invite Him to help, heal, strengthen, and direct us. We can do this because He knows best.

**Ask:** Do you ever think you would be happier making your own plan? Why/Why not?

**Say:** We are not like God. We are not wiser than God is, and we do not love better than God does. We don't know if our plans would be good, and how they would work with other people's plans. We can't see our mistakes before we make them, and we don't know how to fix them. If we are not happy with His plans for us now, then we would never have been happy with our own plans. It is better to trust a perfect God with His plans. He will help us to be the best we can be, using everything that is good, as well as everything that has hurt us, to make us stronger, and wiser. We are becoming more like Jesus while we are on our way to Heaven, where we will be happy forever.

**Ask:** Are you glad God always forgives us, and always has a plan to help us when we do the wrong thing, and when we make mistakes?

**Ask:** Are you looking forward to Heaven, where you'll be able to ask God all your questions about what you didn't understand about your life?

**If YES, ask:** What would you ask Him?

**Ask:** Are you willing to choose to trust God with your life, and your questions, until then?



## The MAIN IDEAS for Family Discussion (continued)

**Scripture Reading: Psalm 86:11** [ turn the page over to Today's Scripture References ]

**Say:** Just like Irae and Seth could not draw the same drawing as was drawn upon their back without being very sensitive to the text touching them on their back, we need to pay close attention to God and what He is teaching us.

**Ask:** Can you think of a time that God taught you something through the Bible?

**Ask:** Can you think of a time that God taught you something through something you have seen or heard (entertainment or in a conversation)?

**Say:** Let's keep our hearts and minds open. Let's keep our eyes and ears open. Let's be interested in what God is saying and doing for us. Let's always be inviting Him to do things in us, and all around us. That's what it means to be teachable.

**Scripture Reading: Romans 8:28 & Philippians 1:6** [ Today's Scripture References ]

**Say:** God is not finished with you yet. There is still a work that God wants to do in you to help you be who He wants you to be... and to do what He wants you to do.

**Say:** God will use every situation to shape you and grow you to become more like Jesus, even the things that happen that aren't very nice and don't seem to make sense. There aren't many things we can control, but one thing we can control is our own heart. Our heart is our responsibility.

**Ask:** Can you think of a time that God taught you something through a good experience?

**Ask:** Can you think of a time that God taught you something through a bad experience (like a mistake you made or something that happened to you)?

**Ask:** Can you think of a time that God taught you something through someone else's experience (whether good or bad)?

**Say:** Thinking again about God being like a potter and us being like clay, and needing to have a soft heart, rather than a hard heart...

**Ask:** Can you think of some things that a hard heart would do?

[ we are looking for responses like: holds on to hurt, does not want to pray, won't listen to godly advice, is not sorry when wrong, wants to fight, is mean, etc. ]

**Ask:** Can you think of some things that a soft heart would do?

[ we are looking for responses like: is willing to forgive, wants to talk to God, asks for godly advice, asks for forgiveness when wrong, wants real peace, is kind, etc. ]

### Sum up:

**Say:** Let's make a decision that we will have soft hearts towards God, so that He can do the work that only He can do in our hearts, and in our minds.

**Say: Say after me:** God made me, and He has great plans for me.

**Say: Say after me:** God is not finished with me yet.

**Say: Say after me:** God will use every good and bad thing to make me like Jesus.

**Say: Say after me:** Nothing is wasted.

**Say: Say after me:** A soft heart is teachable.

**Say: Say after me:** My heart is my responsibility.

### Let's Pray!

Dear Heavenly Father... Thank You that You know and love me. Help me to want You to make me all I can be. Help me to invite You into my heart, and my mind. Help me to trust You when it is really hard to. Help me to forgive when I am hurt. Help me to be kind. Help me to love You and others the way I should. Help me to be soft and teachable, to become more like Jesus

...in the name of Jesus, Amen!

