



In the Presence of God!
15.11.20

kidmania™

NOTE TO PARENTS from Ps Luke Aiasecca

Thank you for the privilege of ministering to your family through Kidmania Online. Today's Kidmania Online episode was *in the Presence of God!*

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. This week the questions build one on another.

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.aiasecca@enjoy.church

God bless you!

Family Ice Breaker - It's your time!

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

Today we watched as Rico prepared a delicious slow cooked lamb recipe, and spent time with Jesus while he waited for it to cook.

You might like to make a time to be with your kids in the kitchen to prepare a treat together to have during or after the Kidmania Online episode.

You could prepare something special like a roast/slow cooked main meal, or you could do something simple like threading fruit pieces onto skewers. You could make popcorn, hot chocolate, or homemade lemonade (just water, sugar, and some freshly squeezed lemon juice). As you do, spend the time talking with them about THEIR favorite subject. Then, during the week, do something to clearly demonstrate that you heard every word they had said, and understood them; because you were giving them your FULL ATTENTION.

Whatever you do, have fun!

Main Scripture today - Luke 10:38-42 - Mary and Martha

Scripture Memory Verses - to read and memorise at meal times

[use any version you like; we have used a combination of versions/translations/paraphrases to help your child best understand the meaning of the passages and apply it to their lives NOW]

Psalm 46:10

Be still and know (recognize, and understand) that I am God...

James 4:8

Come near to God, and He will come near to you...

Jeremiah 29:13

You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart.

Isaiah 26:3

God will keep in perfect and constant peace the one whose mind is steadfast (that is, committed and focused on Him - in both inclination and character) because he trusts and takes refuge in God (with hope and confident expectation).

The Main Ideas for Family Discussion

Discussion introduction:

Say: Today we learned about being in the Presence of God, as we looked into the true Bible story of Mary and Martha.

Scripture: Luke 10:38-42

Say: In Luke 10:38-42 we can read the true Bible story of Mary and Martha, and some of their time with Jesus. It says: **Now, while they (Jesus and His disciples) were on their way (going village to village), Jesus entered a village called Bethany, and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who seated herself at the Lord's feet and was continually listening to His teaching. But Martha was very busy and distracted with all of her serving responsibilities; and she approached Him and said, "Lord, is it of no concern to You that my sister has left me to do the serving alone? Tell her to help me and do her part." But the Lord replied to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered and anxious about so many things; but only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part (that which is to her advantage), which will not be taken away from her."**

Going deeper - unpacking the WORD

Ask: What was Mary doing? [sitting at Jesus' feet, listening to Him]

Ask: What was Martha doing? [serving, household responsibilities]

Say: **Martha was very busy and distracted with all of her serving responsibilities...**

Ask: Have you ever felt busy, like Martha, because you had so many things to do?

If YES, ask: What are the things that keep you busy? [playdates, being a good friend, homework, reading, sport/training, being with Mum and Dad with their busyness, shopping, cleaning your room, chores, helping at church, Bible study/family devotion time, etc.]

Say: It is easy to get busy doing all the very important things that we know we need to do.

Ask: Do you think it is easy to get distracted and forget the most important thing to do?

If YES, ask: What is the MOST important and 'necessary' thing to do?

Say: Spending time with Jesus is the MOST important thing to do. Jesus said to Martha **...only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part (that which is to her advantage).**

Say: It would have been normal for Mary to be helping her sister. So, Martha expected her to. Mary not wanting to help with the work, and instead choosing to sit at Jesus' feet, might seem very selfish and unfair to Martha.

Ask: Was it? Why/why not? [Let your child express their opinion here.]

Ask: Is Mary just being LAZY, or is she making a choice between GOOD and BEST?

Ask: What do you think Jesus meant when He said that only one thing was NECESSARY?

Say: Hearing the truth from Jesus is the MOST IMPORTANT and MOST NECESSARY thing in life. Other things are important, but none of them as important and as needed as hearing the Gospel (good news about Jesus and salvation).

Ask: Have you heard the truth about Jesus and salvation?

***If YES, ask:** Did you make a decision to follow Jesus? **If YES, say:** That's great!

Say: Jesus doesn't want anyone to miss the opportunity/chance to hear the good news about Him and receive salvation, and all the teachings from God. That's why He said He would not take it away from Mary by telling her to go and do HER PART in helping her sister.

Life application opportunity:

If your child answered NO to the question with an * ask: Would you like to follow Jesus? Would you like to invite Him into your heart, and ask Him to help you to follow Him as your Lord and Savior? [If YES pray a short prayer with them. If NO, keep them in YOUR prayers.]

...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

Ask: What do you think Jesus meant when He said that Mary had chosen the GOOD PART (that which is to her advantage)?

Say: Mary had chosen to do what was better for HERSELF in that moment, and not what her sister wanted her to do.

Ask: Does that mean that Mary should never have to help her sister? [No! Most of the time it would be good for Mary to help her sister Martha, just not when she should be doing something else for, or with, the Lord.]

Ask: Does that mean that what Martha was doing (serving) while Jesus was there was wrong? [No! She was serving Jesus at that time. Those things needed doing. How would everyone sit down to a meal if it is not prepared?]

Say: **“Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered and anxious about so many things...”**

Say: Jesus saying her name twice here was a loving response. He was very gentle, and kind, and understanding. Jesus saw Martha’s heart (she wanted to do well for Him) and her effort (serving Him, and those with Him). He appreciated her serving Him, but did not want her to be stressed about it.

Say: **Jesus entered a village called Bethany, and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home.**

Say: Martha had welcomed Jesus and some of His disciples into her home. She had recognized that Jesus was a very good teacher (Rabbi). She was honoring Him. She was serving Him. She was not ignoring Him and putting other things ahead of Him. Her serving was a form of obedience and worship to God. And as the one hosting Jesus, she would receive some special attention from Jesus while He was there. It was a great honor and blessing to host. People in her village would also admire and respect her for it.

Ask: How would you have felt if Jesus came to your house?

Ask: What do you think you would have done for Him?

Ask: Would you have wanted to sit at his feet, or do a really good job of preparing a nice meal and some cool drinks? [some kids will be easily able to say one or the other but some will want to do both. This can be a personality based answer, not just a spiritual answer. Some love to do, some love to be, and many love to do both at different times.]

Say: Martha wanted to do both, which is really why she was upset with her sister. She wanted to make sure that everything with the food and the house was just right...but at the same time she wanted to sit at Jesus’ feet like Mary was doing. She was unhappy because she could not do both at the same time. She thought that if her sister had been helping her they both would have been able to sit down with Jesus sooner.

Ask: Have you noticed that 2 people doing one job helps the job to get done faster?

Say: In this case Jesus knew that Martha was the type of woman who would never have sat down because she would have always found another thing to do...and if Mary had been helping with the jobs, the jobs would not end in time for her to sit down at His feet.

Ask: Isn’t it wonderful that Jesus knew what was in their hearts?

Say: Jesus also knew that Martha would MOST enjoy her time with Jesus later, when all the activities of the day were over, and everyone was just enjoying their time together. Jesus was not upset with Martha, and He did not tell Martha she was wrong. Jesus spoke kindly to Martha only saying that He would not take away from Mary what was BEST for Mary at that time; which was to sit with Jesus.

Ask: Did you know Jesus knew so much about Mary and Martha, and what each needed?

Ask: Did you know He knows what we each need too?

Say: Jesus knew that it was to Martha’s advantage at that time to keep serving. She would not have been able to focus on what Jesus was saying while she was thinking about all the



...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

things she had to do. Jesus was very kind to Martha in saying to her that He knew she was distracted, bothered and anxious. He did not condemn her/tell her off. He just knew about it. And he knew that even while she was serving Jesus with hard work, it was not supposed to be a burden/too hard, and very stressful for her. It was supposed to be more of a joy. He wanted it to be more joyful for her. When we are serving the Lord, our busyness can be fun.

Ask: Do you like to do things for those you love?

If YES, ask: Who do you like to do things for? What do you do? How does it make you feel? How do you feel knowing that God sees all the good and kind things you do for others?

Say: There is a time that is right for being busy serving, and there is a time that is right for being still and learning with Jesus. Each of us need to figure out when it is.

Ask: Have you noticed that when you are in Kidmania you are being served by your leaders?

Say: They have already had their quiet time with Jesus, and have come to serve you in looking after you, having fun with you, having praise and worship with you, and in teaching you about Jesus. They serve you in one service, and sit in another service with all the other adults, being served. We all take turns, serving each other, and Jesus loves it all. He wants us to be able to have times for each. He is with us when we are serving others, and He is with us when we are sitting and being served by others, and He is with us when we are sitting alone with Him. Being in the presence of Jesus in all these ways is great!

Ask: When your parents give you their full attention and really look at you and listen to you; how does that make you feel? [loved? understood? valued? Important? special? cared for?]

Ask: When you give someone else your full attention and really look at them and listen to them; how do you think that makes them feel? [the same?]

Say: God loves having our full attention too. He loves it when we know we have His full attention too.

Sum up:

Say: Say after me:

- * Jesus is with me when I serve Him and others!
- * Jesus is with me when I sit with Him!
- * Jesus is always with me!

Life Application:

Ask: Will you try to remember that Jesus is with you all the time?

Ask: Will you make some special time this week to talk with Jesus (pray)?

Ask: Will you make some special time this week to read the Bible?

Ask: Will you make some special time this week to serve Jesus by serving others? [discuss how this can be; can they help you in how you serve God? Can you find an opportunity for them to show God's love to someone with an act of service? This is not an opportunity to give your kids chores 😊]

Let's Pray!

Dear Heavenly Father... Thank You that You are such a great God who loves to spend time with us, and that You are always with us. Help us to be wise to know when and how we should spend our time with You, whether serving You, or whether spending time in praise and worship, or in the WORD (the Bible), or praying (talking with You). Help us to know which is the BEST thing. Thank You ...in Jesus' name, Amen!

Looking forward to next week!

Say: Today we looked at the importance of spending time with Jesus, and being in the presence of God. Next week we are going to look into the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

