



Week Three *endeavor*

In two parts

A note from Jessica, Niños Ministry Director: as a parent, I am very excited for this point in the endeavor. If you are anything like me, I am always looking for ways to help make the Gospel tangible for my children. As I prepare this devotion, my heart is overjoyed with the privilege it is to guide my children in the practice of sacrifice. I don't anticipate it to be easy, rather a struggle for me as they choose to give things of value (that I purchased or they saved for). Still my prayer for you and for me is that we get to witness what it is to have faith like a child as they consider what their gift will

be. On that same note, please do not be guilty into giving some thing that may not be a good choice for your family, for whatever reason. This is why it is crucial that this stuff happens under the leading of you, their parents. You get to choose, influence, support and nudge as the Spirit is leading you to lead them. I pray this is a sweet, sweet, moment for y'all.

endeavor Supplies:

- Bible
- Illustrated Map of ABQ
- *sun*CLINGS
- *sun*STICKERS
- Water Bottle (1 per child)

- Pen/pencil
- 3 pieces of paper
- Printed Commitment Cards - (available at www.northchurchabq.com/firstlight)

What has Jesus shared and given to us, that we can share and give to others?

"What Jesus has shared and given us, we boldly share and give to others."

Family Endeavor

PART I: Family Discussion and Reflection (30-40 min)

The point of Part I is to spend some time reflecting, as a family, how God has been good to you and what Jesus has given up for you. Plan to complete Part II at a separate time during the week.

Let's begin with the question: What has Jesus shared with us or given us as family?

1. Quickly **Brainstorm** a list of people, things, experiences that God has graciously given you? *Don't draw this portion out too long as it is just establishing some schema (background knowledge) for what is to come - have a parent or older child record the list to post somewhere around the house - you can even add to it throughout the week.*
2. Next, have each child ask their family, **"what do you think are some of my talents?"** Again, have parent or older child record the list, for all, to reference in Part II
3. Now, ask every member of the family to **take 5 minutes to gather** five of their favorite treasures (things/toys). When everyone gets back together, talk about why they are special.
4. **What has Jesus shared with the church or given the church?** This question has so many answers. Take some time to read over some of the following scriptures together that reminds us what Jesus has given. We want kids to understand that everything we have is a gift from God. This is an important truth to establish before Part II. If kids are losing interest, just focus on bolded scriptures.

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James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Matthew 7:11 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

Psalms 107:8-9 Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man! For he satisfies the longing soul and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

Nehemiah 9:20 You gave your good Spirit to instruct them and did not withhold your manna from their mouths and gave them water for their thirst.

Nahum 1:7 The LORD is good, a stronghold in a day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ephesians 2:8-10 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Romans 11:29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

A Note to Parents: Just as we are asking members to consider God's generosity in their lives, we are likewise asking the kids to consider the very same thing.

- How has Jesus been good to you?
- What has he done for you?
- Ultimately, did God spare anything when it came to the Salvation of his people?

Let this be a time you worship God and thank him for all the ways your family has been blessed. Thank him for the gift of Jesus and allow that to stir your spirit and draw you to give with that same willingness and generosity.

- What is that for your kids?
- What is that for you?

What was asked of Jesus was **sacrificial at its core**. Spend some time considering with your children what it is they could give up that would be a loving sacrifice.

Quick Note: We will be capturing video snippets for a compilation video to be used for the end of our First Light Endeavor. Let's have fun with this! Please document with videos/images and **#FirstLightABQ** on social media or upload to **First Light Folder** by Monday, November 18th.

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PART II: Response and Prepare (15-20 min)

The point of Part II is to respond and prepare for Kids Commitment Sunday.

Considering your responses from Part I,

Ask your children to choose something of value to them that they would consider giving/entrusting to the church.

- We want them to learn to begin to exercise generosity in their lives, just like Jesus has done for us.
- We fully recognize that there will be some tension, some pain, and by God's grace, growth.
- We want it to challenge them and to sting - just a bit because, if we are honest, there is always pain with true sacrifice (a dying of ourselves, our wants, our desires).
- Remember, it cost Jesus, EVERYTHING and we recognize this is no small thing.

On Sunday, November 15th, we will ask kids (during Ninos) to bring what it is they are giving out of their generosity.

- We hope their decisions will be based on your family discussions.
- It can be a **treasure** they value, **money** they have earned, or even **time** to serve the church in a practical way.
- These decisions should be made under the leading of your family -- the church is just where it is expressed.
- Downloadable cards will be linked near this lesson on the FIRSTLIGHT website.
- Card is to be completed at home or at church and given on Sunday noting their generosity (the treasure can accompany the card if it is a physical item).

Please send generosity gift (and/or card) with your child to church on Sunday (15th). We will be spending time worshipping Jesus together as we celebrate the generosity of our children.

Final reflections: thoughts to ponder and discuss as the Spirit leads you

1. What does it look like when we share what we have been given *individually*?
2. What does it look like when we share what we have been given *together* (as the church)?
3. How can I share what Jesus has given and shared with me to others?

**Reminder to place a sunCLING on your map and sunSTICKER on your child's water bottle as a reminder of your acts of service and a way you are shining your lights.*