



WEEK THREE

JEREMIAH 31:3

God loves us all the time.

SAY THIS

**WHAT IS WITH YOU
WHEREVER YOU GO?
GOD'S WORD IS WITH ME
WHEREVER I GO.**

DO THIS



CUDDLE TIME

Cuddle up with your child this month and pray, "Dear God, Your Word says in Psalm 5:3 that 'In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice' (NIV). We want to thank You for listening to us when we talk to You. I pray [child's name] will grow up talking to you, believing that you hear everything [he/she] says. In Jesus' name, amen."

REMEMBER THIS

"I have hidden your word in my heart."
Psalm 119:11, NIV

BASIC TRUTH

**GOD MADE ME. GOD LOVES ME.
JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.**

PASSING DOWN A FAITH-FILLED LIFE, NOT A TRIAL-FREE LIFE

By Courtney DeFeo

Do you remember the first time your child was in harm's way? I remember the time my oldest kicked a bright, bouncy ball and then fell, landing on her head on the concrete. I remember when my youngest got her feelings hurt by a friend and cried real tears, not whiny tears.

I've watched my kids hurt many times, and it stinks.

My knee-jerk reaction is to protect, hover, block, or tackle—basically do anything to prevent my children from feeling pain.

The same goes with their faith. I want them to fall in love with Jesus and never walk away, while at the same time never experience hardship. And then I realize I love them too much to desire a trial-free life. Because I remember my biggest moments of personal and spiritual growth were during my trials.

Bringing faith to life in our home is a great privilege. I'm encouraged that we don't have to have a perfect life to pass down a faith-filled life. God has got this. Our role is to simply teach our kids what we already know and to continue learning and sharing more day by day as we grow.

You can make a difference even if you're only one second ahead of your children in your own journey to know Jesus Christ better.

Admitting when you are afraid lets your kids know fear isn't failure and that God understands.

Saying you're sorry when you make a mistake can teach your kids about forgiveness.

Responding with "I don't know" when they ask hard questions teaches them it's okay to be uncertain.

Suggesting you learn more together teaches them how to discover more about what they believe.

And trusting God to lead our kids through tough times allows our kids to learn to trust God on their own.

Is anyone with me? Let's slowly unpeel our grip and let God be God. It's hard to imagine, but He loves our kids even more than we do.

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