

SEPTEMBER 2022

Hello children and youth leaders,

Let me share a piece of scripture with you that has really resonated with me and encouraged me over the course of the summer and really the last year. My prayer is that it will encourage you as well.

You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb.

You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. (Psalm 139:13-16)

Whether you are limping into the fall after a busy summer of ministry or come into the fall energized after a period of rest, it is important to remember that God has you. God created you for a purpose that has kingdom consequences. So, this fall keep your eyes open for opportunities to share with young people the hope you have in God, the one who created you, knit you together in your mother's womb.

Now if you are struggling this fall with your identity in Christ, I challenge you to explore some spiritual disciplines that will help you in your journey. A resource that has been helpful for me is Ruth Haley Barton's Sacred Rhythms which can be purchased on Amazon.

For those of you who have clicked on looking for a resource to help your ministry, why not try a Lego Family Night?

PUT IT IN PRACTICE (LEGO FAMILY NIGHT)

Everybody loves Lego, why not hold a Lego family night at the corps (your church). At tables, provide families with Lego and instructions to build (you can find free Lego designs/instructions by clicking here). Once families have completed their Lego creations take the opportunity to share with them. Say something like:

Intentionality and following instructions are important in creating a Lego design, especially if you want your Lego creation to look like the picture provide and/or do what it is supposed to do. Did you know that the Bible says that each and every one of us was intentionally made by God in our mother's womb (Psalm 139)? Just think about how many pieces those instructions would have! God is pretty amazing - the best builder in fact, and he put each of us together, exactly how he wanted us to be, all of the pieces in the right places. What is even more remarkable is that God had a plan for each of you before you were even born, he had a design in mind, he made you unique - your hair colour, height, size, and even the things you are passionate about and good at, all of that was created intentionally by God. So that means, you were all created special with a purpose by the creator of the Universe, God! So, as we clean up our Lego remember that God made you, you, and He does not make mistakes!

Augment your family night with other Lego themed things:

- Build your own sandwiches
- Showing the Lego Movie on the large screen in your sanctuary
- Lego hard candy (can be bought at Bulk Barn)

Thank you for your passion for Children and Youth ministry; the impact you have each and every week has a lasting effect on those you serve.

Peace and Blessings,

Jason Dockeray (Captain)
Territorial Children & Youth Secretary
Assistant Secretary for Candidates

