

MARKED

Confirmation Parent Connect

November 16

PRACTICING FAITH RITUALS

God gave us seasons not only in nature but also in faith. The Church year tells the story of Jesus through rhythms—Advent, Lent, Easter, and beyond—and families can live that story together. Lighting Advent candles, writing thankful notes at Thanksgiving, or serving others during Lent all help kids see that time itself belongs to God. These seasonal rituals teach anticipation, gratitude, and reflection in ways words alone cannot. They root our families in something larger than our schedules—a holy pattern that connects us to believers across generations. You might create your own family traditions too: lighting a candle and saying one thing you're grateful for each Sunday night, or taking a walk together during Advent to notice signs of hope and beauty. Every season offers a new way to notice God's renewing presence. These traditions remind children that faith isn't a holiday event but a year-round relationship with a God who walks through every season with us.

NEW CREATION

This week, our students explored two key parts of following Jesus: Compassion and Justice. Compassion means noticing the needs of others and responding with care, and justice means working with God and others to make things right. Students read Acts 2:37–47 and saw how the early church lived this out through generosity, shared meals, prayer, and helping anyone in need. They were reminded that faith isn't only what we believe—it shows up in how we treat people. Following Jesus means choosing love, courage, and kindness in everyday life.

FAMILY DEVO

Read Together:

"They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need... They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts."

—Acts 2:45–46

Devotional Thought (read aloud):

In the early church, people didn't just talk about God's love—they lived it. They noticed needs, shared what they had, and made sure no one was left out. That's compassion. And when they worked together to make life better for others, that was justice. God's kingdom grows when we choose kindness, fairness, and love in everyday moments. Compassion starts with seeing people the way Jesus sees them, and justice grows when we act with courage to make things right.

Talk About It:

- Who around us might need compassion right now?
- What's a small way we can make something "right" this week?
- How does helping others connect to following Jesus?

Closing Prayer:

Dear God,
Open our eyes to see the needs around us. Make our hearts soft with compassion. Give us courage to work for what's right. Let our family reflect Your love and fairness. Amen.

