



# parenting CHRISTIAN kids



**The Woodlands Community  
Presbyterian Church**

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## Remind Kids They're Made in God's Image

### POWERSOURCE

#### ASK GOD:

1. To help your children view themselves as God's beloved creations.
2. To guard kids from harmful messages about their bodies.
3. To heal any of your body-image issues so you can be a positive role model.

This month we'll explore how children view their physical bodies—and how parents can encourage positive body image through God's eyes.

Children as young as 5 are becoming critical of their build and appearance. Media, music, ads, toys, social media, and peer pressure all contribute to the problem of low self-esteem and poor body-image issues.

What kids see and hear at home matters, too. They notice parents' negative comments and attitudes about *their* bodies, which may give kids the impression that our value is based solely on physical appearance and attributes.

The good news is that children pick up on our *positive* comments and attitudes, too. Parents can go a long way toward promoting healthy body image by taking these steps:

- ° Emphasize that God created our bodies and even calls them his temple (1 Corinthians 6:19).
- ° Together, read Bible verses about Jesus' love and acceptance (Matthew 6:26; Mark 10:13-16).
- ° Accept *yourself*. Don't obsess over pounds and calories.
- ° Model healthy eating. Show kids how to make wise food choices and how to listen to hunger signals.
- ° Give honest compliments and celebrate God-given strengths.
- ° Teach children to persevere, and pray with them for guidance.

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## TEACHABLE MOMENTS

### Honest Images

Hand out Silly Putty and have family members mold it on their noses to create a new look. When everyone is done, look in a mirror together.

Ask: **What was it like to create a new nose for yourself? How do these noses create a different image of your face? What are other ways we portray a “false image” of who we are inside?**

Read aloud 1 Samuel 16:7. Ask: **Why does God care about what’s in our hearts? Why do you think it matters to God if we’re honest about who we are or if we portray a false image?**

Say: **Building crazy new noses is fun. But it’s easy to create a false image of ourselves in other ways. God wants us to be honest about who we really are, both to others and to ourselves. After all, God made each of us and values us all equally.**

Close in prayer, thanking God for making each one of you unique and special.

## Where’s Your Worth?

Self-esteem is directly related to children’s beliefs about themselves. Beliefs based on other people’s praise may vary from day to day, but God’s views remain constant. Therefore, for children to have a Christian self-concept, they must see themselves from God’s viewpoint—as sinners in need of a Savior but also as deeply loved and valued individuals. More than anything, our kids need to be in a relationship with Jesus—and that, above all else, will define who they are. As children grasp that their worth isn’t rooted in how they perform or look, but in their relationship with Jesus and what he says about them, they’ll develop unshakable, positive self-esteem. And their feelings about themselves won’t be subject to whether or not they receive praise for everything they do.

**Search the Source** Read and discuss Bible passages about beauty (1 Samuel 16:7; Proverbs 31:30; 1 Peter 3:3-4) and strength (Isaiah 41:10; Ephesians 6:10-11; Philippians 4:13; 1 Timothy 4:8).

**Body Blessings** Brainstorm ways you were each helped today because of how someone else used his or her body. Thank one another for using God’s gift of your bodies to serve. Then think of ways you can pass the same kind of blessing on to someone else.

**Unique Creations** Make clay sculptures of things that are important to each of you. Discuss why you cherish and care for that item. Remind children that Jesus cherishes and cares for us—and wants us to care for our bodies.

**Branch Out!** Encourage kids to try new things. New experiences, like playing a new sport, help affirm kids’ bodies in unexpected ways. Also look for activities that diversify children’s experiences, fortify emotional strength, develop talents and interests, and widen circles of peers and mentors. Your children’s ministry is a good place to start.

**Wonderfully Made** Remind older kids of how wonderfully God has made them. Read aloud Psalm 139:13-16. Discuss messages that today’s society communicates about beauty and body image. Then describe what God sees in each person. Together, create a poster that communicates our worth and image in Jesus. Hang the poster near a mirror as a reminder of how much God values each of us.

**Hopping-Popping Bodies** With younger kids, draw a large gingerbread-cookie-type person and then draw arrows from different parts of the body to the outer edge of the paper. From the head, write words that describe what you all like to learn about. From the hands, write things you like to do. From the feet, places you like to go. From the stomach, food you like to eat, and so on.

**Circle of Thanks** Form a circle, link arms, and say in unison, “I am fearfully and wonderfully made!” Then raise your hands and close in a prayer of thanks for the wonderful bodies God has given you. End with a group “amen”!

“I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid.”

—John 14:27

# MEDIA MADNESS



## MOVIE

**Title:** *The Emoji Movie*

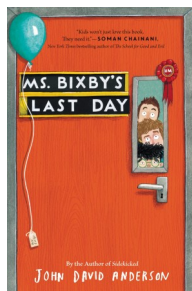
**Genre:** Animation, Adventure, Comedy

**Rating:** Not yet rated

**Cast:** Anna Faris, T.J. Miller, Sofia Vergara, James Corden

**Synopsis:** Everyone's favorite emojis live in Textopolis, a secret world inside smartphones. They each have only one facial expression, except for Gene, who was born without a "filter." To try to become like all the other emojis, Gene goes on an "app-venture" with two friends. They must save their world before it's permanently deleted.

**Our Take:** Young viewers will likely be attracted by these colorful, familiar characters. But the film will probably contain rude language and potty humor (thanks to the poop emoji). Talk with kids about ways to express emotions.



## BOOK

**Title:** *Ms. Bixby's Last Day*

**Author:** John David Anderson

**Synopsis:** This book, geared toward children ages 8 to 12, explores the variety of teachers that children might have. Ms. Bixby, one of the "good ones," has to leave school because she has cancer. As some students throw her a special farewell party, they discover their own bravery and strengths.

**Our Take:** This relatable book will make readers laugh and cry. Children whose teachers have been sick will especially be able to relate to the story. Readers will discover the impact they can have on other people's lives. They'll also explore what makes them each special. Talk with kids about how they can show people honor.

## Games, Sites & Apps

### Has-Been Heroes

In this game for the new Nintendo Switch, a group of forgotten champions goes on an epic quest to take the king's twin daughters to Princess Academy. The game features action and strategy, as players unlock magical spells to defeat enemies. Rated 10+.

### ReadingBear.org

This free site helps beginning readers learn phonics, vocabulary, and other concepts. Fifty presentations show children how to sound out words, and videos illustrate sample sentences. This self-paced, low-pressure program can supplement kids' learning. Ages 4+.

### Under Leaves

With this \$1.99 iPhone app, players uncover animals—and food for them—in six peaceful nature settings. The illustrations and sounds are soothing, and reading isn't required (the app only uses numbers). The app is designed for children ages 5 and under.

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This page is designed to help educate parents and isn't meant to endorse any movie, music, or product. Our goal is to help you make informed decisions about what your children watch, read, listen to, and play.



## CULTURE & TRENDS

**Stop Fidgeting?** Fidget spinners and boxes have soared in popularity partly because of claims that they help children who have ADHD, autism, and anxiety. But scientists say parents shouldn't pin their hopes on these distracting toys—and that actual fidgeting is probably more effective. (*time.com*)

**Fangirls of the Force** Because the "Star Wars" fan base is increasingly female, new material is being aimed specifically at girls. *Forces of Destiny*, a series highlighting heroines, debuts in the form of animated shorts on Disney YouTube this month. New toys, books, and apparel are also being marketed to girls. (*Entertainment Weekly*)

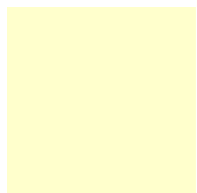
## QUICK STATS




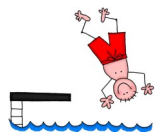

**On the Go** Up to 55% of children eat meals in cars at least once per week. (*First for Women magazine survey*)

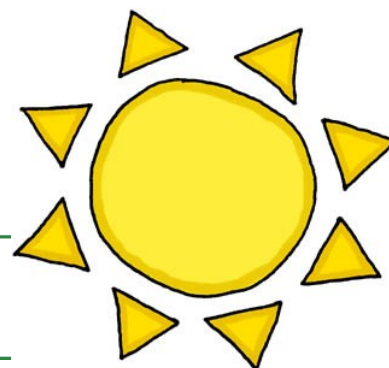
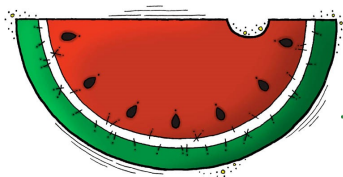
**Youngsters on YouTube** In a recent study of children's digital behavior, 81% of 6- to 12-year-olds said they use YouTube. (*LA Times*)





**World Changers?** Only 16% of kids in grades 5 through 12 believe they'll "invent something that changes the world." (*gallup.com*)





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Susan out 7/1-7/8 
2 11 am Worship No children's SS	3 Star Spangled Salute Concert CW Pavilion 8 pm, doors open 6:30	4 	5	6	7	8
9 9:45 Sunday School Peru Hygiene Kits 11 am Worship	10 VBS Prep week 9:30-12	11 VBS Blast Off Brunch & Training 9:30-12 childcare reservations at sduncan@wcpc-tx.org	12 VBS Prep week 9:30-12	13 VBS Prep week 9:30-12	14 VBS Prep week 9:30-12	15
16 9:45 Sunday School 11 am Worship 12:15 -3 VBS Prep	17 	18	19	20	21 	22
23 11am VBS Sun day Worship <b>All Church Pool Party at Shadowbend Pool 6-8 pm</b>	24 	25	26	27	28	29 <b>PNO Camp Fun!</b> 5-8 pm in CHEB rooms 307-9 rsvp by 7/25 at sduncan@wcpc-tx.org
30 9:45 Sunday School 11 am Worship, <b>Cupcakes for Copperwood</b>	31					



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
No children's SS in August & Labor Day  SS Kick off Celebration Sept. 10th in FH		1	2	3	4 	5
9 am <b>Under 18 Team MTG</b> childcare in CHEB 307-9  11 am Worship	7 Servin Safari 6th-8th graders	8 Servin Safari 6th-8th graders	9 Servin' Safari Copperwood Party 6th-8th	10	11	12
11 am Worship <sup>13</sup> Backpack Blessing  	14	15	16 CISD starts back  	17 John Cooper starts	18	19
20 9:30-11 Parent SS Orientation & Brunch FH childcare in CHEB 307-9 11 am Worship & Noisy Offering	21	22	23 WAM begins 4:15 chimes 4:45 choirs 5:30 dinner FH	24	24  Youth Galveston Beach Retreat 8/24-27	26 <b>PNO Community Helpers</b> 5-8 pm in CHEB rooms 307-9 rsvp by 7/25 at <a href="mailto:sduncan@wcpc-tx.org">sduncan@wcpc-tx.org</a>
27 9:45 children in FH for Mission activities, CP Training in 302  11 am Worship Barefoot Sunday	28  ELP Visitation Week	29	30 WAM begins 4:15 chimes 4:45 choirs 5:30 dinner FH	31		

No children's Sunday school in August, childcare for worship & meetings on Sundays starts at 9:15 in CHEB 307-9. **SS** starts Sept 17th, after the Labor Day weekend and the Kick Off Celebration, Sept 10th in Fellowship Hall.



## Parent Night Out July 29th

Join us for **Camp Fun** from 5-8 pm on **Saturday July 29th** in the CHEB Nursery rooms 307-309. We will be serving pizza and a fruit or vegetable side for dinner. *You may also bring a sack lunch for any non-pizza eaters.* You and your spouse or friends go have some time off and let your children have some fun with their friends. We will play games outside, make a summer craft and watch *Race for Your Life, Charlie Brown!*

Suggested donation:  
\$20 a child/\$40 family

RSVP to [sduncan@wcpc-tx.org](mailto:sduncan@wcpc-tx.org)

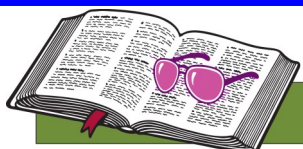


## PNO August 26th

Join us for **Community Helpers** from 5-8 pm on **Saturday August 26th** in the CHEB Nursery rooms 307-309. We will be serving pizza and a fruit or vegetable side for dinner. *You may also bring a sack lunch for any non-pizza eaters.* We will play games outside, make a summer craft and watch *Disney's Planes, Fire & Rescue and The Incredibles!*



## Sunday School



Summer Worship  
Schedule

9:45am Sunday  
School (July)

11:00 am Worship



**VBS Volunteers: Child Protection Training** offered online or **July 11th after the VBS Blast Off Brunch & Volunteer Meeting at 9:30** in room 302. Contact Susan for online directions



VBS Work & Planning Meetings:

**July 10th-14th** all starting at 9:30 am in room 203. Childcare available in room 101 by reservation ahead to Susan.

**July 11th** ALL Volunteer's requested at the VBS Blast Off Brunch & Meeting 9:30-12 in the Fellowship Hall.

Please reserve childcare with Susan  
[sduncan@wcpc-tx.org](mailto:sduncan@wcpc-tx.org)

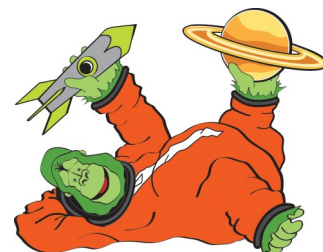


Children's Sunday School Rotation Bible Topic for July: Study of Creation Care using Children's Illustrated Ministry Curriculum.

9:45 am every Sunday in July in Room 105 and in the Children's Education Building. **No Sunday School in August.**



Needed: Kool-Aid Burst bottles rinsed well!



Galactic Blast starts Monday July 17 through Friday, July 21st in the sanctuary for the opening skits at 9 am. Pickup is at 12 noon also in the sanctuary.

**Children's Ministry Mission Statement:** To nurture all to experience the unique joy of being a "child" of God.

... You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign to your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorpost of your house and on your gates.

Deuteronomy 6:4-8



# End of Summer Get-Together



POOL  
PARTY!



## Church-wide End of VBS

## Pool Party!

**Who: Babies, Toddlers, Preschool, School Age, Tweens, Jr. & Sr. High Youth, Adults, and Prime Timers! Everyone in the church from 0-100 years!**

**When: Sunday July 23<sup>rd</sup> 6-8 pm**

**Where: Shadowbend Pool on Lake Woodlands Drive**



Bring snacks to share:

Family Last name starting with A– K bring fruit or sweets,  
all finger foods

L-Z bring chips, savory snacks all finger foods

Also both groups bring a large bottle of water,  
soda, tea, or lemonade to share!