



LESSON 5

I WILL USE MY WORDS TO ENCOURAGE OTHERS!

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Our Bible Verse this week is Ephesians 4:29. This verse explains that we should use words of encouragement instead of foul language.

In our Bible Story, Daniel uses his words well. He speaks wisely, he prays, he praises God, he tells people what God says, and his words encourage others. Read Daniel 2:1-48 with your child.

WORD WELL

Sit down with your whole family and write encouraging words to each other on small slips of paper. Make a "Word Well" for each family member. Put all the encouraging words about each family member in his or her container. Then when a family member slips up and says something hurtful or discouraging, have him or her draw a slip of paper from the container of the person hurt. Then have him or her apologize for what was said and read the encouraging words from the slip of paper.

LIFT 'EM UP

Have each family member trace the shape of his or her hands onto a piece of paper. Have them put their names on the traced-out hands and decorate them. Put the paper hands up in a place where everyone will see them each day. Tell your family that encouraging people with words is like lifting them up when they are down. Tell them to try to use encouraging words at least once each day. At the end of each day have your family write on smaller strips of paper the names of people they encouraged that day. Have them attach the names to the paper hands. Challenge your family to fill up the hands with the names of people that have been encouraged by their words. Each day spend time talking as a family about the effect of your encouraging words on the people your family has "lifted up."