

Spring 2014



magazine

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Dylan Franklin



When not coordinating ministry opportunities for Kids at Second, Dylan spends her time with her daughters (left to right) Joyner, McKenzie, Avery, and Lucy Rose.

# Welcome

Cold weather makes me cranky. As silly as it sounds, it's just the truth. Once October hits, my family says, "mom's getting cranky." I pray and plead with the Lord to please take it away. In this weather, I just feel like I am always tense and shivering. I put on layer upon layer of clothes, but for seemingly very little in return. Not to mention that Memphis isn't a cold weather town—most activities that are fun and family-oriented are outdoors. So I sit inside day after day.

This year has been exceptionally cold (for Memphis standards, at least). What's odd is that through this winter my sweet Jesus has shown me some things—mainly to calm down and enjoy. *Enjoy what? There's nothing to enjoy.* Exactly. Enjoy the nothing! Enjoy that when your family is at home, you're huddled together around a fire. Enjoy that when no one is around, you don't feel like you should be in the yard working. Enjoy that when it's you and your husband, you can have time to talk together. Enjoy the hot chocolate, the noise, the board games, the quiet, and the conversation.

Our culture will try and fight you on this idea. They will say that time spent this way is unproductive or pointless. It's not! The Lord told us to "be still and know that I am Lord." He thought it was important. So many times I think that I don't have any time to just be still and enjoy, but the Lord has shown me that it's right in front of me. And you know what I've discovered? I've learned that you see things differently when you are still and focused—whether it's a 2-year-old singing, trees blowing in the wind, a rambling 16-year-old, or our sweet Lord. It's amazing.

So as spring approaches, and brings with it the chaos of the end of the school year and the frantic scheduling of summer activities, make the effort to slow down and enjoy all the blessings God has bestowed on you and your family. Don't allow the busyness of life to rob you of the joy that can be found in the smallest of things! Take the time to be still and rest in the knowledge of God's unwavering love for you and His sovereignty over all things.

Dylan Franklin,  
Director of Children's Ministry

## DID YOU KNOW?

PDO Registration is underway Email [sha.deme@2pc.org](mailto:sha.deme@2pc.org) to learn more.

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# Kidmission Indonesia

## SNAP SHOTS



During this year's KidMission, Mitchell, Lisa and Lauren Moore taught children JK - 5th grade about life, culture, and mission in Indonesia.

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# Volunteer Spotlight

## Interview with Nancy Foster, Sunday School Teacher



Nancy Foster

*Which area of 2PC Kids do you volunteer with?*

I teach kindergarten Sunday School every other month.

*How long have you been volunteering and why did you choose this area?*

I taught second grade Sunday School for several years when my own daughters were in that grade. Then, I volunteered in the nursery once a month for several years. I taught junior kindergarten Sunday School for two years and this is my third year to teach kindergarten. I enjoy teaching kindergarten because the every-other-month schedule allows me to still be a part of my adult Sunday School class.

*What have you gained or learned by volunteering?*

Besides the joy of teaching the Bible to young people, I have loved working with a dear friend as well as meeting and working with other teachers I did not know before. I have enjoyed getting to know younger families in the church and especially being able to teach more than one child from some of these families.

*Do you have a funny story or memorable moment from volunteering?*

One 5-year-old boy gave my co-teacher the thumbs up when he was leaving class and said the craft and story had been good—it was a sweet and unexpected compliment. Another time when I was using a puppet to tell part of a story, two boys whispered to each other that they could see my lips moving and that the puppet was not really talking.

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### DID YOU KNOW?

The last  
Kids Konnection  
is April 9.

**WANT TO VOLUNTEER WITH KIDS AT SECOND?**

Visit [2pc.org/getinvolved/kids](http://2pc.org/getinvolved/kids)  
or contact Dylan Franklin at [dylan.franklin@2pc.org](mailto:dylan.franklin@2pc.org).

# Family Devotion

## Studying the Bible as a Family

by Larry Fowler, Thriving Family Magazine



Larry Fowler is executive director of global networking for Awana and KidzMatter. Larry travels the country connecting with churches and helping them build dynamic ministries to children, youth and families.

How can we make this a priority every day? I think one of the clearest models for studying Scripture as a family is found in the pages of Scripture itself. God, through His servant Moses, gives families a pattern from which to organize family study of God's Word:

*You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. – Deuteronomy 6:7-9*

### When you sit...

Think about the phrase “when you sit in your house” for a moment, and consider how it might relate to Bible study in a modern home:

It is planned. Taking the time to study Scripture probably wasn't easy in the time of Moses—and they didn't even have the distraction of television. Likewise, spiritual training isn't going to get done nowadays unless you set aside time to study together as a family. As your kids get older, help them carve out regular, daily time to read God's Word. Your goal is to teach them to study Scripture on their own.

It is structured. Planning time for study leads to the need for an orderly approach. Is it a chapter of Scripture a day, along with questions to answer, or a thematic approach using a Bible reading guide? Is it memorizing a series of key Scripture verses together as a family? For older kids, are you providing age-appropriate materials that foster independent study?

It includes mealtimes. Guiding conversation around the truths of God's Word, especially with young children, is a great way to make the most of mealtime. Focus on questions that guide basic worldview, talking about how biblical truths influences their lives. As kids get older, give them

*Continued*

opportunities to share their experiences about how scriptural truth relates to their life at school and to the views of their friends.

### When you walk...

Today we might also read this as, “When in the car.” What we communicate in the times between the events of life is the complement to what we communicate at home:

It’s unplanned and unstructured. Whatever is happening around you, there are always teachable moments. An impressive sunset or thundercloud, the actions of someone nearby, an overheard song or newscast—are all opportunities to link biblical truth to life. Help the Word of God become relevant to the world your children are processing. As kids get older, move from teachable moments to “talkable” moments—times when you give them opportunity to discuss their opinions on how biblical principles might be applied to difficult life scenarios.

It includes real-life events. I recently told my grandchildren a story about how a mechanic had given me too much money back after I’d paid him. In fact, I’d gotten nearly \$15 extra back! “Wasn’t that cool?” I asked. My grandkids certainly didn’t think it was cool. “You should have given it back,” they said. “Why?” asked their mom. “That’s like stealing,” the kids responded. “And God says we shouldn’t steal.”

They got it. And I assured my family that I did give the money back.

### When you lie down, and when you rise...

I don’t imagine homes were very big in Moses’ day, and it would have been easier for the whole family to talk together as they were falling asleep. But the principle of review and reflection at the end of the day is just as critical today. Recite encouraging Scripture verses and pray together with your kids when you say goodnight. Then, in the morning, do the same to prepare for the new day.

### You shall bind them as a sign on your hand . . . write them on the doorposts of your house...

Remember those WWJD (What Would Jesus Do?) bracelets? They were designed with the idea that continual exposure to truth helps influence our decisions. We can do the same thing by keeping Scripture before our kids’ eyes at home.

*Continued*

Learn more about  
discipleship in the home,  
by visiting the  
Downline Institute at  
downlineministries.com

Just as we heed the signs that help our society function, we need to treat God's Word like important information, worth hanging in prominent locations. Plaques and Scripture memory notes placed strategically around the home provide a continuous reminder of the purpose and foundation of your family.

### Truth and relevance: We need them both

What I love about the pattern in Deuteronomy 6 is the appeal to balance. Structured teaching times are not enough because, on their own, they become an academic exercise with little application to life. Children can excel at Bible quizzes and have the answer in Sunday school but still be unsure how Scripture should guide them at soccer practice. But neither can parents only be spontaneous, as they are likely to miss core truths.

Teaching kids biblical principles is a challenging undertaking. But your willingness to teach God's Word is the first and most important step. The famous Christian educator Henrietta Mears said, "Not your responsibility, but your response to God's ability counts."

Just be diligent. And God will use you.

This article appeared in the October/November 2013 issue of Thriving Family magazine and was titled "The Word and Life." Portions of this article were adapted from Rock Solid Kids. Copyright © 2013 by Larry Fowler. Used by permission. ThrivingFamily.com.

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2PC  
**TREASURE  
ISLAND**

VBS June 2-6

## There is still time to find your place on Treasure Island.

Second Presbyterian Church is calling for volunteers to serve our kids through Vacation Bible School, June 2-6.

There are a number of different ways you can contribute to this fun week. By committing to help out now, you guarantee we will be ready for another great VBS this summer!

Childcare will be available for volunteers' children (0-2 years old).

**REGISTER TO SERVE**

*VBS registration will begin online April 1*



# On Mission

## Interview with Catey Nelson

This past summer, Catey Nelson, an 8th grader, went with 3Degrees on a mission trip to Dallas, and to Tulsa the summer before. Through these trips, she and her team were able to minister by cleaning streets, working in a food bank, and getting to know the children they served in those cities.

*How did you feel about the trip this past summer before you went? During? After?*

Before I went I was really nervous but excited. Through the trip I really enjoyed getting to serve and had fun with what we did. Once we were back, I felt really glad and grateful that I had had the opportunity to go.

*What is something you learned from your experience?*

I really learned how much joy there is in serving. Before I went on my first mission trip I wasn't really sure how much I would like it, but I could not be happier that I went.

*What would you say to other kids at Second about participating in missions?*

I would tell them how much joy serving brings, both to yourself and the people you serve. I would also tell them that even if you're not old enough to go on a mission trip yet, you don't have to serve in another city. You can serve right here in Memphis!

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Catey Nelson, top left





# Kids Music



## Discovery at Camp Wise'n Up

Join cast and crew Wednesday, April 30 at 6:30pm as they discover wisdom found in Proverbs! The 2PC Childrens Choir will present a musical look at this book of the Bible.



## Adventures in Art

Do your kids have a flair for the dramatic, an eye for the arts, or an ear for music? This summer, Rhythm U will provide a chance for them to develop their creativity and skills in these areas, and have fun in the process! For children entering 2nd-6th grade, Rhythm U is July 21-25, from 9:00am - 1:00pm, at Second Presbyterian.

The cost for the week is \$40, including a pizza lunch on Friday and a Rhythm U t-shirt. Please pack a sack lunch for Monday - Thursday. On Friday, July 25, family and friends are invited to join the students for a showcase of what they learned throughout the week!

Registration will begin online June 2, at [2pc.org](http://2pc.org)



Summer session begins June 2nd and runs for six weeks. Private lessons are offered in the following disciplines: voice, piano, pipe organ, flute, guitar, banjo, mandolin, viola, violin, cello, and trombone. For information regarding registration and costs, visit [2pc.org/worship](http://2pc.org/worship).

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# Easter Egg Hunt



**April 19, 2014**

**10:00 a.m. • Poplar Football Field**

Bring friends and neighbors to our annual egg hunt, for children 3rd grade and under. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

You can help by bringing a dozen plastic eggs filled with stickers, small toys or wrapped candy (no chocolate or peanuts, please) to drop-off points by the Nursery, Children's Ministry Office, and the D Building, through April 16.

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**at Second**

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Special thanks to Catherine Burns for many of the photographs in this issue of KIDS magazine.