

ACTS 17:16-34

Paul tells the people in Athens about the God who made everything, and how He gave us His Son, Jesus.

**SAY THIS:**

Who can believe in Jesus?  
**YOU CAN BELIEVE IN JESUS.**

 **DO THIS:**



**MORNING TIME**

When you go into your child’s room, say, “Good morning! (Pick your child up and hold them at the window.) I see a tree God made. I see a flower God made. I see a bird God made. I see the sun God made. (Look at your child.) And I see a person God made. You! God made you!” (Give your child a big hug.)



**DRIVE TIME**

As you drive, take turns saying, “God made (name something you see through the window).” End your drive by saying, “God made the whole world and everything in it!”



**CUDDLE TIME**

Cuddle with your child this month and pray, “Dear God, I ask that [child’s name] grows up believing that You made the whole world and everything in it. I ask that [he/she] believes in You as their Creator. I ask that [he/she] believes that You love [him/her] so much that You gave us your only Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. In Jesus’ name, amen.”



**BATH TIME**

Add 5-10 star shapes and a plastic cup to bath time this month. (Cut stars out of new yellow kitchen sponges or use plastic toy stars.) Encourage your child to line the stars up along the edge of the tub, count the stars, and let the stars float as they “catch” them with a cup. As you play with the stars, say, “God made the stars and everything in the world. That means God made you!”

**BASIC TRUTH:**

**JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.**

**AN OPEN LETTER TO THE FUTURE THERAPIST OF MY CHILDREN**

By Jon Acuff

Dear therapist who, may one day be counseling my children,

There are two things I need to say right out of the gate:

1. I tried my best.
2. I hope you have a sound machine.

The second point is more of a personal preference rather than a revelation. Having gone to counseling myself, I appreciate when a therapist has some sort of sound machine that makes you feel like you’re at the beach. Gentle electronic waves lapping against the shore tend to help you forget you’re actually in a strip mall off the highway. The second point is easy to address. The first point is a little more detailed.

I did try my best as a parent, but I know my kids are going to have many, many things to tell you about someday. They will sit on a couch and regale you with stories from their childhoods. Some will make you laugh. We put a high price on humor in our family, and laughter often filled the halls of our home.

Some stories will be gross. Ask them about the time we thought a squirrel had died within our walls. Turns out it was a year-old ostrich egg that had cracked undetected in a decorative bowl. The smell was like getting punched in the face by a vengeful bird from another continent.

Other stories will not be as funny, and you will quickly discover something I had to

admit a few years into the adventure of parenting. I am not perfect. I tried to be for the first few years. I promise I did. But all too often . . .

I was impatient with my kids. I lost my temper over things that didn’t really matter.

I discouraged when I should have encouraged, or encouraged when I should have been more realistic.

I gave them bad advice. I took some things too seriously and others too casually.

I chased after my work instead of after them. I was on the road traveling for business, trying to be somebody when I already was somebody . . . A dad. A father. And in this case, a launch pad for some therapist’s new boat.

Tell my kids I love them. That I’m so proud I got to be their dad. Tell them parenting involves a lot of mistakes, and forgiveness, and messiness, and laughter. Tell them I’ll pick up the bill for your work—which I assume might be high, depending on the quality of sound machine you’ve got.

Sincerely,

A not-so-perfect parent.



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### Say This

Who made you? *God made you.*

### Luke 12:7

People are so important to God, He even knows how many hairs are on each of their heads.

### Do This



#### Morning Time

When you go into your child's room, say, "Where's my (brown) haired, (black) eyed cutie?" Pretend to look for (him, her) and say, "There (he, she) is!" Pick your child up, hug them, and say, "I love how God made you!"



#### Drive Time

As you drive, play a game where you call out a body part and your child points to it. Say, "God made your eyes!" Then your child points to their eyes. Say, "God made your hair!" Then your child points to their hair. Continue as long as your child is having fun. End by saying, "God made you, and that means you are VERY important - like super duper special to Him."



#### Cuddle Time

Cuddle with your child this month and pray, "Dear God, thank You for making (name of child). (He, she) is SO special. I love how You made (his, her) (name all your kinds of things about your child). I pray every time (he, she) looks in the mirror, they will see someone who is important because You made them and love them. In Jesus' name, amen."



#### Bath Time

Teach your child how to wash their hair during bath time. When it gets soapy, show them how to make shapes with their hair. (stick up straight, big ball on top, horns like a cow, etc.) Talk about how God made their hair (color, curly, straight, thick, etc.), and that makes their hair special. Say, "Everything about you is SO important to God, He even knows exactly how many hairs are on your head!"

**When kids begin to understand they are made in the image of God, they tend to look at the world and themselves in a different way.**

For blog posts and parenting resources, visit [TheParentCue.org](http://TheParentCue.org)

<p>SEPTEMBER 2020</p>	<p><b>Toddler</b> DAILY CUES</p>	<p>YOU GOT THIS!</p>
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**Say This**

Who has a plan for you?  
*God has a plan for you.*

**Genesis 37-45**

Joseph continues to trust God’s plan throughout hardships, and God uses him to save many people.

**Do This**



**Morning Time**

When you go into your child’s room, say, “Good morning! I see someone God loves, and (his, her) name is . . . (say your child’s name as you pick them up or tickle their tummy).”



**Cuddle Time**

Cuddle with your child this month and pray, “Dear God, thank You that Your plan was for us to be a family. Thank You for (name the people in your immediate family). Help us to be kind to one another. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”



**Drive Time**

As you drive or take a walk, say to your child, “Do you remember how Joseph was a helper in the Bible story? Let’s look for helpers outside. If you see someone helping, say, ‘helper!’”



**Bath Time**

Add a plastic bowl and a measuring cup to bath time. Tell your child to use the measuring cup to scoop and pour the water into the bowl, like Joseph scooped and poured the grain.

Just like learning to walk, talk, self-feed, and potty-train, preschoolers can learn the skill of making and keeping friends.

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