DEVOTIONS for THE FAMILY

Each edition of *connect!* focuses on several themes throughout the following weeks. These themes should help your family grow closer to God while focusing on important issues in the Christian life. The last week of devotions serves as a bridge into the next issue of *connect!*

Unit Theme: Obedience

The weeks of September 2, 9, 16, and 23 focus on the theme of obedience. Your family will learn about obedience by studying how God guides and speaks to His followers. Your family will also look at God's justice and forgiveness as part of what it means to be obedient. Jesus' obedience to God the Father is the emphasis of the final week. Jesus is our ultimate example of obedience.

Unit Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 13:4

Unit Theme: Prayer

The weeks of September 30 and October 7, 14, 21, and 28 focus on prayer. Your family will learn about praise, confession, giving thanks, and making requests of God in prayer. Family members will be encouraged to make prayer a regular part of their Christian journey.

Unit Bible Verse: Psalm 17:6

Unit Theme: God's Prophets

The weeks of November 4, 11, and 18 focus on God's prophets. The prophets were God's messengers to His people. Your family will learn about God's call of the prophets and the messages they gave to the people. You will also learn about false prophets who tried to lead God's people in wrong ways. The last week of this unit focuses on the prophetic messages concerning the Messiah. It will help you as your family begins Advent celebrations.

Unit Bible Verse: Jeremiah 7:23

Unit Theme: Jesus the Christ

The week of November 25 bridges to the new theme. It leads to the weeks of December 2, 9, 16, and 23 to focus on Jesus the Christ. Your family will learn about the coming of Jesus as a baby into our world. Your family will also take part in an Advent celebration. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of Jesus. Jesus is "Immanuel," God with us.

Unit Bible Verse: Matthew 1:21a

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