

# Οικοσ ('ΟΥ-kohs=Family)

Winter 2008

**GRACE YOUTH & FAMILY  
MINISTRY**

Intentionally integrating Christ  
into the daily life of the family

## Creative Devotional Ideas

**Excerpted from HomeWord: 52 Family Devotional Ideas** Many Christian parents really do want to have family devotional times with their children. Some just need help with some resources and encouragement. Some of these ideas work better with teens and some with younger children. We've tried to include ideas that are appropriate for all ages. Have fun!

### CAMERA, LIGHTS, ACTION!

It's one thing to read a Bible story together, but it's another thing to see that story come to life. The next time you're tempted to just read the story—don't! Assign your children to various characters in the "script" to and have them act out the story while you read it aloud. Depending on their ages, a little poetic license must be granted. Allow them to come up with their own dramatic interpretations of how the story would have been lived out. The results are sure to be both hilarious and insightful.

### FAMILY TRUST WALK

Remember this youth ministry classic? Why not do it as a family? Pair off and blind fold one person in each pair. Have the other person lead them around the house using their voice—no touching—to guide them. After a tour of the house, have each person share about their experience and how it relates to their relationship with God and trusting Him.

### MEMORIZATION MADNESS

At the beginning of the year, find a handful of verses that you'd like to memorize as a family. Write them out of pieces of blank paper, note card or sections of poster board. Find a place to post the verses, preferably in a place where everyone will see them (e.g., the kitchen or dining room). Routinely introduce a new verse, as well as review past verses. You can make a game of it by initially posting them in "hidden" places for the family to try and find. You can also add incentives for memorizing the verse the fastest, knowing the most verses, etc.

## Breakfast with Dad

The vocation of father is one of the highest calls of a man. This monthly event, with fathers and children of all ages, is designed to encourage fathers at Grace in that role. The second Saturday of each month fathers and children meet in the West Wing for break-



fast, a short presentation to encourage and equip fathers, and some discussion time between father and child all within an hour.

This has come out of some fathers here at Grace attending the program "All Pro Dad", started by Coach Tony Dungy. "All Pro Dad" suggests

10 ways to be a better Dad:

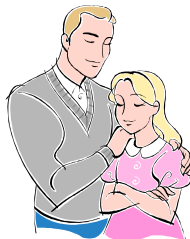
1. Love Your Wife.
2. Spend time with your children.
3. Be a Role Model.
4. Understand Your Children.
5. Show Affection.
6. Enjoy Your Children.

7. Eat Together As A Family.

8. Discipline With a Gentle Spirit.
9. Pray and Worship Together.
10. Realize You're a Father Forever.

In the coming months we will be tackle these topics with our children. For additional info and encouragement go to

[www.allprodad.com](http://www.allprodad.com)



## Youth Take the Reins!

The Sr High Youth have been meeting over the past few months to help further develop the youth ministry program here at Grace. Their leadership has helped plan Sr Hi activities

through Summer '08. They are also working on developing a type of mentoring program to promote relationships among their peers, as well as encouraging the Jr Hi in their Catechism in-

struction. Look forward to their creative leadership in the future!

Those serving on this team are: Matt Whitlock (Publicity), Rachel Bergsieker, & Alex Harris (Bulletin

Boards), Sarah Bergsieker & Bekah harris (Community Life), Sarah Peters (Photography), Ivana Armstrong, and Kaitlin Jines. Please encourage and thank them!

**YOUTH:  
WHAT DO YOU  
APPRECIATE  
MOST ABOUT  
YOUR PARENTS?**

**ASK/  
TELL  
THEM  
TODAY!**

**PARENTS:  
WHAT ARE YOU  
PROUD OF  
IN YOUR  
CHILDREN?**

**ALL YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES (GRADES 7-12)**

**Youth Meetings**

Our youth meetings are where youth get connected to peers, have some fun, and grow in their faith! If you're not there, we are missing out on what you would add to the group! Come join us this week!

The Sr Youth are studying the book of John. The theme

verse from John is, "But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." John 20:31

The Jr Youth will be studying some Christian apologetics along with Church season topics.

**Youth Sunday School Info**

Thank you to Angie Meyer & Tammy Mocas for teaching the Jr Hi Sunday School Class October-December!

As of this printing The Jr Hi are still in need of a teacher for

January-February, when they will be doing a study on (Suffering Servants in the Bible

Tim will continue teaching the Sr Hi class, beginning a study on the Psalms in January.



**Sign up TODAY to Work at Grazianos February 16**

Yep it's that time again! AND Because, we want to know our reservation capacity, we need everyone to sign

up for jobs ASAP! ALL YOUTH ARE NEEDED. Job sign up sheet is on the bulletin board NOW.



**PARENTS, WE NEED YOU, TOO!** Look on the work sign up list as well, OR talk to Tim.

**SENIOR HI YOUTH (GRADES 9-12)**

**Indoor Rock-Climbing December 29**

Challenge yourself! Be an encouragement for someone else! Build greater relationships through teamwork! That's what will happen Sat., Dec. 29. We meet at the church @ 9:30AM to go



indoor rock-climbing in Bloomington. We will be trained and climb 10:30AM - 12:30PM, stopping for lunch on the way home and returning by about 2:30.

**Indy Day January 19**

Come spend the day together seeing sites of Indy. What will we be doing? Some possibilities are Indiana Museum of Art, Shopping, and a dinner theater. However, specifics are yet to be determined.

Therefore, total cost is unsure at this point as well. The goal is \$40 or less. One thing is sure, it will be a great time with some great photo ops, and certainly quotable quotes from many! Sign up beginning Dec. 30.



**WHEN ASKED WHY SHE DECIDED TO GIVE TO THE LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTER RATHER THAN GOING OUT TO EAT, A 7 YEAR OLD GRACE MEMBER SAID, "I GUESS MY HEART WAS JUST BIGGER THAN MY STOMACH TODAY."**

**Youth Room Beautification January 2-5, 2008**

Thanks to the diligent work of Rachel Bergsieker and Sarah Peters, the youth will be painting the youth room over Christmas break. The two Sr Hi youth made a proposal to present to the Trustees. The trustees were constructively critical, had some good questions and approved the request.

Now, tools are needed. If you have any painting tools we could use, please give them to Tim ASAP with your name clearly labeled on each tool you would like returned. Over the next couple weeks, we will set up the schedule for work to be done, so keep an eye open for it, and sign up.

**JUNIOR YOUTH**

**Game Night**

**December 15, 7-9PM**

How does playing Wii on the big screen sound? Video and "board" games will be



the activity for the evening. Be sure to join us Saturday night at the church. Bring a friend and a snack to share! Pizza and drinks will be provided.

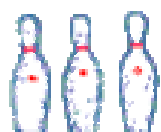
**Duckpin Bowling Jan. 12**

What is Duckpin bowling? Simply, it's bowling on a smaller scale. However, you describe it, it's fun!

And if you're there it will be even better.

Cost will be about \$10 plus money for lunch. We

will meet at 9:45AM and go to Fountain Square in Indy, having lunch before we return about 2:30. Sign up and bring a friend!



**"WHEN YOU'RE IN THE DARKNESS, YOU CAN'T FOCUS ON TRYING TO GET TO THE LIGHT, YOU CAN ONLY FOCUS ON THE DARKNESS AROUND YOU."**

**-RACHEL BERGSIEKER, AT "BREAKING BARRIERS" FALL RETREAT AT CAMP CEDARBROOK, NOVEMBER 9, 2007**

# DECEMBER 2007

GREEN = Family BLUE = Jr Youth RED = Sr Youth

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31					1
2 4PM Jr Youth Mtg 630 RIOT	3	4	5 5:45-6:45 Conf 6-7 Advent Dinner 7 Advent Worship	6	7	8 9-10 Breakfast w/Dad 11-5 Gift Wrapping @ Fair Oaks
9 4PM Youth Leadership Team 630 RIOT	10	11	12 5:45-6:45 Conf 6-7 Advent Dinner 7 Advent Worship	13	14	15 7-9PM JrHi Game Night
16 4PM Jr Youth Mtg 630 RIOT	17	18	19 5:45-6:45 Conf 6-7 Advent Dinner 7 Advent Worship	20	21	22
23	24	25 Christmas	26	27	28	29 930 Sr Hi Youth Rock-Climbing

# JANUARY 2008

GREEN = Family BLUE = Jr Youth RED = Sr Youth

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
			<b>P A I N T I N G T H E Y O U T H R O O M</b>			
6 4PM Jr Youth Mtg 630 RIOT	7	8	9	10	11 Happy Birthday Ted Albertson	12 9-10 Breakfast w/Dad 1030 Jr Hi Bowling
13 630 RIOT	14	15	16	17 Happy Birthday Ben Jines	18	19 Sr Hi Indy Day + Dinner/Theater TIME TBA
20 4PM Jr Youth Mtg 630 RIOT	21	22	23	24	25 Happy Birthday Luke Carr	26
27 Happy Birthday Audrey Whitlock 4 Youth Ldrshp Team 630 RIOT	28	29	30	31		

# FEBRUARY 2008

GREEN = Family BLUE = Jr Youth RED = Sr Youth

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Super Bowl at the Moses' Home TIME TBA	4	5 Happy Birthday Eric Keaton	6 Ash Wednesday	7	8	9 Happy Birthday Ben Otte 9-10 Breakfast w/Dad
10 4PM Jr Youth Mtg 630 RIOT	11	12	13 545-7 Conf. 6-7 Lent Dinner (host TBD) 7 Worship	14	15 Grazianos Set up 5-9pm	16 Grazianos
17	18	19	20 545-7 Conf. 6-7 Lent Dinner (host TBD) 7 Worship	21	22	23
24 4PM Jr Youth Mtg 630 RIOT	25	26	27 545-7 Conf. 6-7 Lent Dinner (yth families host) 7 Worship	28	29	

## For more info, contact:

### Grace Youth & Family Ministry

Grace Lutheran Church  
3201 Central Ave.  
Columbus, IN 47203  
[www.gracecolumbus.org](http://www.gracecolumbus.org)

Phone: 812-372-4859  
Fax: 812-372-4862  
Email: [tmoses@gracecolumbus.org](mailto:tmoses@gracecolumbus.org)



*"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."*

*1 Peter 3:18*

### PRAYERS

#### REQUESTS

- † Provision of Youth Sunday School teachers for January-February AND March-May
- † Spiritual leadership in our homes
- † Breakfast with Dad program and participation
- † Memory work for Confirmation Students and their families
- † Growing relationships among youth

#### THANKS

- † T.P. Night sharing of Suicide Prevention with Becky Alexander from Quinco

**Where this discipline of the tongue is practiced right from the beginning, each individual will make a matchless discovery. He will be able to cease from constantly scrutinizing the other person, judging him, condemning him, putting him in his particular place where he can gain ascendancy over him and thus doing violence to him as a person. Now he can allow the brother to exist as a completely free person, as God made him to be. His view expands and, to his amazement, for the first time he sees, shining above his brethren, the richness of God's creative glory. God did not make this person as I would have made him. He did not give him to me as a brother for me to dominate and control, but in order that I might find above him the creator. Now the other person, in the freedom with which he was created, becomes the occasion of joy, whereas before he was only a nuisance and an affliction. God does not will that I should fashion the other person according to the image that seems good to me, that is, in my own image; rather in his very freedom from me God made this person in his image.**

**Dietrich Bonheffer,  
*Life Together* p. 93**