



# parenting CHRISTIAN kids



## Worship at RLC

**Saturday @ 5:00**  
Traditional, relaxed

**Sunday @ 8:00**  
Contemplative w/  
Communion

**Sunday @ 9:00**  
Traditional

**Sunday @ 11:00**  
Praise and Worship

[www.rosevillelutheran.org](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org)

## Help Kids Develop a “Thinking Faith”

### POWERSOURCE

#### ASK JESUS:

1. To help your children trust God, not themselves, for answers.
2. To help you be a faithful example of how to learn, evaluate, and problem-solve.
3. To guide your kids to make wise, God-honoring decisions.

You’ve likely heard the buzz (in some form) about “21<sup>st</sup>-century learning.” Instead of just memorizing facts, children are now learning how to think, critique, and synthesize (combine and apply) information. Collaboration and problem-solving are also key.

These learning strategies can help kids grow in their Christian faith, too. Teaching abstract concepts to younger children can be challenging, but experts say certain techniques help preschool- and elementary-age kids move beyond concrete thinking.

For example, sensory experiences, movement, interaction, and personal involvement all make concepts more real to young learners. Children hang new information onto previous bits of knowledge called “mental hooks.” Kids

need hands-on experience to build on those hooks. That’s why, rather than just call God a divine being, we also say he’s a father, friend, and provider. We “hang” God onto hooks kids can grasp.

Then as children’s cognitive abilities develop, they’re able to use “mental operations”—letting them think more abstractly about relationships or patterns of objects without the actual objects present. Asking kids solid, higher-level questions further enhances their critical thinking about faith issues.

As author Josh McDowell notes, “I needed to teach my kids to think, to think logically, to come to their conclusions. Because if there is always Dad’s answer, then they couldn’t develop convictions. ... We need to put our children on a quest for truth.”



## TEACHABLE MOMENTS

### The gift of abundance!

We encourage families to worship together at Roseville Lutheran Church. We welcome kids in church! In Cornerstone on Sunday mornings we ask that if kids attend church with their family, to give an offering and bring it up front when offering is collected, putting it in the basket near the altar. This act of kids joyfully running to the front of the church to add their coins or dollars to the basket is a powerful message to everyone present. The message of sharing what we have joyfully is what we want all to learn!

Talk to your child about what God has blessed you and your family with. The food on your table, the warm blankets you have on your bed, warm, clean water in their bath or shower.

Talk to your child about how God wants us to share what we have with others. What can you do as a family to share what you have? Can you donate things you aren't using to others? Can you add food to the local food shelf? Can you bring a dollar and put it in the offering basket up front by the altar at church?

Kids don't learn about sharing on their own. They need examples from us to follow. If they see us share what we have, they can learn the lifelong lesson of sharing out of the abundance God gives each of us.

Raising generous kids will in turn produce generous adults. Sharing what we have with others is a win-win.

Take time to thank God in prayer with your child for your blessings.

## Living and Learning

As children grow and learn, they must solve problems along the way. Here's how that happens—and how you can help as a parent.

**Birth to Age 2** Young children are sensory-oriented and learn by imitating. Offer choices and model different basic problem-solving techniques.

**Ages 3 to 5** Preschoolers are multisensory, solving as they touch and do. Allow time and space for problem-solving. Praise children's efforts.

**Ages 6 to 8** Kids this age begin to learn in specific ways (visual, auditory, tactile, etc.), which also affects how they tackle problems.

**Ages 9 to 12** Preteens observe how peers solve problems. They want to be independent but may lack confidence. Tell kids you trust their abilities. Let them know failure is okay. Also be available to discuss problems.

**Mobile Learners** Researchers agree that some of the most productive mental processing occurs when children are active and involved. So get up and discuss Jesus and faith while doing other activities as a family.

**The "I Can't" Jar** When children say they can't do something, write down the problem and pray about it together. When the obstacle has been overcome, put the slip of paper in a jar as a reminder of what Jesus helps us accomplish.

**Apply Always** While reading the Bible together, ask questions with specific applications; for example, "How can we serve our neighbors today?" and "What's one thing you can do this week to show love?"

**Calm & Collected** Model for children how to react to bad or scary news. Don't use worst-case scenarios or exaggerate risks to make a point. Instead, provide accurate, age-appropriate information. Brainstorm solutions together to empower kids and to give them a sense of control.

**Wise Guys (and Gals)** Ask family members what they'd wish for if they were granted one wish. Then read aloud 1 Kings 3:5-9. Make

booklets out of folded paper, stapling the folded edge. Fill them with wise sayings (or drawings) you can teach one another—anything from "Treat others the way you want to be treated" to "Don't shake a bottle of soda before opening it." Browse through Proverbs for ideas. Add pages and ideas throughout the school year.

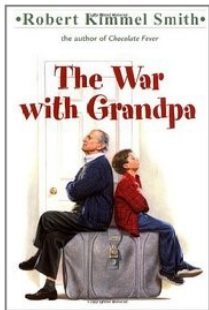
**Twenty Questions** Encourage interruptions and pause often while sharing biblical concepts with your kids. Let them share their thoughts and ask questions. You'll discover whether they have adequate "mental hooks" (see page one) on which to hang new information.

**Be Strengthened** Read aloud Isaiah 40:31. Say: "If we trust in God, he will give us new strength." As a reminder to trust God when problems arise, take turns trying a cool trick. Stand in a doorway and press the backs of your hands against the door frame as hard as you can. Count to 25, then step away, relax your arms, and see what happens. Say: "You found new strength! When you stopped pressing so hard, your arms wanted to fly up. God renews our strength when we're tired and when life gets tough. Always trust God!"

"I pray that...you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives."

—Philippians 1:9-10

# MEDIA MADNESS



## MOVIE

**Title:** *The War With Grandpa*

**Genre:** Family, Comedy, Drama

**Rating:** Not yet rated

**Cast:** Robert De Niro, Oakes Fegley, Christopher Walken, Uma Thurman

**Synopsis:** When Peter's grandfather becomes a widower, he moves into his grandson's beloved bedroom. Peter plots outrageous schemes to try to get his space back, but Grandpa is very resourceful and has a few tricks up his own sleeve.

**Our Take:** This film, based on a novel by Robert Kimmel Smith, explores the challenges of family life and change. Although the situation is played for laughs, the movie can lead to important discussions about respecting our elders, selflessness, and personal space.



## TV

**Title:** *Raven's Home*

**Network:** Disney

**Synopsis:** Raven-Symoné has returned to television, this time as a busy divorced mother of preteen twins. The title character, who starred in *That's So Raven* 10 years ago, joins forces with her best friend to raise their kids. Raven's son has inherited her psychic gift and must learn to cope with that power.

**Our Take:** Be warned that part of the plot line revolves about visions and clairvoyance. The sitcom addresses a range of preteen troubles and explores different family structures and parenting styles. Preview the show to determine whether it's a fit for your family. Geared toward ages 8 and up.

## Games, Sites & Apps

### Arms

This cartoonish fighting game is for Nintendo's new Switch console. Players use detachable motion-sensor joysticks and can brawl with a variety of offbeat items. In just four months on the market, more than 5 million Switch consoles have sold, earning comparisons to Nintendo's last hit, Wii.

### Switchzoo.com

Kids can create their own unique animals, mixing and matching body parts, habitats, sounds, and more. Amid the fun, children also learn animal facts and explore topics such as diversity and species specialization. The site features 142 animals, as well as virtual field trips. Best for ages 5 to 9.

### Thinkrolls: Kings & Queens

This app from award-winning company Avokiddo features a variety of logic and physics-related puzzles. In a fantasy setting, young players learn strategy, problem-solving, and cause and effect. The app costs \$3.99 and is designed for ages 3 to 8.

This page is designed to help educate parents and isn't meant to endorse any movie, music, or product. Our goal is to help you make informed decisions about what your children watch, read, listen to, and play.



## CULTURE & TRENDS

**Recycled Clothes** Some students headed back to school this fall in "green" clothing—of many colors. Retailers such as Target and J.C. Penney now offer jeans and shirts made from recycled fabric and even plastic bottles. Tags touting "Responsible Style" attract eco-friendly consumers. (AP)

**The Honest Truth?** Take note: The new app Sarahah (Arabic for "candor") is exposing kids to online bullying. Known as the "honesty app," it allows anyone to comment on a person's social media posts and photos anonymously. Although Sarahah isn't recommended for children, it has no age restriction. (commonsensemedia.org)

## QUICK STATS

### Older Is Better?

Researchers say older mothers tend to thrive because they have more psychological and cognitive flexibility. A study of more than 4,700 families reveals that older mothers are less harsh regarding discipline, and their kids are less likely to have behavioral, social, and emotional problems. (nytimes.com)

**Screen Danger** A study of 4,500 children found that those who logged more than three hours of screen time per day had insulin-resistance levels that were 11% higher than those of kids who spent less than one hour a day in front of screens. (theguardian.com)

# Serve Sundays @ RLC

**What are they?** An opportunity for families and others to serve side by side together as we grow in community. This is an opportunity to teach our kids about serving others.

**No regular Cornerstone, Luther League, or Devos & Donuts on Serve Sundays.**

**Why?** To experience the joy of giving to others in our community as a family while serving along side others in our congregation

**When?** 3 times throughout the school year at 10:00 in the Activity Center

## October 8: Care Packages for Recent RLC Graduates

Pack and decorate boxes with goodies and write encouraging notes that will be sent to the RLC kids that have recently graduated from high school.



## January 21: The Big Wrap and Dresser Build

Donate kitchen utensils and towels and then wrap them into Kitchen and Bath bundles to benefit the clients of Bridging on the Mezzanines and the Commons and/or assemble dressers with others in the Activity Center.

## April 15: Helping the Hungry

Youth from FLOCK will deliver notes to area homes asking for donations of food and goods for the Keystone food shelf on Tuesday (4/10). RLC families will then work in teams on Sunday to pick up the donations from our neighborhood and bring them back to RLC. Build a mountain of food!



Hope you can join us for these fun serving events! All are welcome!



Welcome to the wonderful year of second grade! You're in the phase that is the very essence of childhood. I've been working with children for over forty years now, and I've been a parent for more than thirty. In my experience, this is the age that brings a smile to my heart more than any other. This up-for-anything, sounds-like-fun bunch is always ready to go.

Want to go camping? "Sounds like fun!"

Want to dance? "Sounds like fun!"

Want to help wash the car with Daddy? "Sounds like fun!"

Want to go to a rodeo? "Sounds like fun!"

Want to make a building out of sugar cubes? "Sounds like fun!"

Want to take guitar lessons? "Sounds like fun!"

Now's the time to rekindle your adventurous side and experience things with your child you've always wanted to try yourself.

Looking back on this phase with my daughters, I remember the temptation my wife and I had to disengage. Our kids were finally reaching a comfortable level of independence. They could ride their bikes to a friend's house. They could make their own snacks in the kitchen. They could read and play on their own with very little help from us.

Let's face it—we wanted to raise independent young women, and we were happy to celebrate their first steps in that direction by enjoying adult conversation for the first time in almost a decade.

While the increased freedom is definitely part of what makes this a sweet season of parenting, don't disengage too much. While you catch your breath, remember there's a lot happening in their second-grade world. And you don't want to miss it. For example, one of the things that I admire about second graders is their understanding of right and wrong. They're eager to know what's right, and they still believe that what you say is true. That means there's a great opportunity for you to instill values that are important to your family and to your child's future.

And here's the great news—all the fun and adventure and memory-making that will make this year fantastic goes hand-in-hand with some of the most important truths you want your kid to learn in this phase. As you play games together, talk about winning and losing. As you wash the car together, talk about the value of hard work and how good it feels to see what you've done. Look for ways to shape their character as you go about doing the many things that "sound like fun."

The sunny second-grade phase won't last forever. Savor and enjoy every crazy adventure it brings. And, don't forget. You're building your child's history. You're making memories together that you both can draw from in the years ahead. Let this phase be the one you tell family stories about for decades to come.

— Jim Wideman      Children Ministry Pioneer, Pastor, & Author



## HOW SOCIAL MEDIA IS *molding* YOUR CHILD

PARENT  
CUE

By Chris Pochiba, Parent Cue Blog—Technology

I'm a 90's kid. That means I have fond memories of gathering around the TV watching T.G.I.F. with my family, I could slay Bop-It like my life depended on it, and I owned several "Now That's What I Call Music...." er,r I mean, "WOW Hits." It also means I lived in the era when the Internet boomed in the homes of everyday people.

I remember the first time I was granted access to the internet in my own home. I had heard the rumors of this mystical land that lived inside Internet Explorer. It was the world where you could ask a butler named Jeeves any question, where the evilest thing you could find was pop-up ads, and receive the rush of chemicals to your head as you typed your heart out in AOL Instant Messaging (AIM).

This was my version of Social Media. Two hours a day, with only a handful of friends who also had internet access, and an insufficient number of web pages. It was an experience.

This is not your child's version of social media.

Your child's social media isn't an experience. It's a lifestyle.

With the development of the cell phone and the plethora of other internet connected devices, social media has become so integral in the lives our children (and us) that it's reshaping the culture of childhood.

Let's get one thing straight: Your children are not growing up like you or me.

Now, before you channel Ron Swanson and run to your child's room to destroy every piece of technology they own, we have to understand HOW social media is shaping them.

### PERSONAL IDENTITY

Social Media is shaping the way your children are reacting, responding, and reminiscing. They not only see the way you handle circumstances, they have access to entirely different worldviews and experiences. They are arriving at their conclusions on how the world operates by more than just your voice.

### VALUE

Social media is a measure of their worth. How many likes did they receive on that Instagram post? Did they get over 200 views on their Snapchat story? How many retweets did they get? Their validation is now a numerical number instead of the truth of who God has made them to be.

### CONNECTION

Social media is THE place where they connect with others. Forget about grabbing someone's digits, what's their handle? This is where they meet strangers and friends. This is the environment where they experience bullying, criticize others, and/or affirm each other.

This is also the place where they gather news and get passionate about causes they believe in. It's also the place where they will find romantic partners.

This is the world we live in now.

Parent Cue is an online blog for parents that helps remind you why what you do as a parent is so important. Sharing tidbits to help make the most of each week in your child's life, whether you have an infant or a child going off to college.

Interested in what Parent Cue has to offer?

Go to [theparentcue.org](http://theparentcue.org) and explore!

## How Social Media is Molding your Child (cont.)

I know as a parent this can feel a little overwhelming. What are you supposed to do? You can't stop the way the world is evolving with technology. The only real thing that YOU can do as a parent is to set the example. Show your children what a healthy balance of consumption looks like. When your kids remember their childhood make sure they remember your face not the back of your phone. Dr. Catherine Steiner-Adair, Ed.D., advises, " Don't walk in the door after work, say 'hi' quickly, and then 'just check your email.' In the morning, get up a half hour earlier than your kids and check your email then. Give them your full attention until they're out the door. And neither of you should be using phones in the car to or from school because that's an important time to talk."

### PRACTICAL TAKEAWAYS

If your child is on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, etc., be their friend and monitor their activity. Establish "no tech zones." Make sure everyone (EVEN YOU) understands the rule and has no technology around the No Tech Zone.

Find other interests other than the digital world. Do they like sports? Get them on a team. Do they like music? Get lessons going.

Schedule times of adventure that require everyone to unplug. Go on hikes, canoe the lake, run the trail.

Gather as a family and read the promises of who God created us to be. Teach where real value comes from with verses like Isaiah 40:31, Isaiah 41:10, Deuteronomy 3:18, John 8:36, Psalm 34:17.

Navigating parenting in our world is like the wild west. We don't have all the perfect answers and how-to's, and that's ok. When your child puts up a fight with these rules, because they will, rest in the knowledge that you're preparing them for success in their future. Your children are regularly receiving both affirmation and criticism from the outside world, be intentional on affirming and loving your children in a more personal and meaningful way on a daily basis. Hug them. Love them. Listen to them.

*Cornerstone needs your hands...*

To prepare for the Cornerstone Christmas Program, we will need help to make headbands for the kids to wear and other props that we need. You will see tables in the Lobby in October and November... join the group to make camel ears, dove hats and donkey ears! Supplies and hot glue guns will be ready and waiting for you!





Upcoming Events in  
Children's Ministry at RLC

- October 8 **Serve Sunday**—No regular Cornerstone. Families and others prepare care packages for recent RLC graduates in Activity Center at 10:00.
- Nov 19 **RLC 75th Anniversary Celebration**—ONE Worship service at 10:00 for all. No regular programming on this day.
- Nov 26 **Advent Activity Day**—prepare a craft for Advent. No regular Cornerstone, but kids and parents meet to create a fun craft for their home. Kids rehearse music for Christmas program first, then meet by age for crafts.
- Dec 3. **Pajama Day!** Wear your jammies to church and bring a new pair for someone that needs them!
- Dec 9 **Saturday rehearsal for Cornerstone Christmas program** 9-noon in Worship Center.
- Dec 10 **Cornerstone Christmas Program** during 11:00 Worship service. Kids rehearse at 10:00 to prepare for the program at 11.
- Dec 17 **Cornerstone Birthday Party** for Jesus!
- Dec 24-31 **Christmas Break**—no regular programming
- Jan. 7 **Cornerstone resumes** for the new year! Welcome 2018!
- Jan. 21 **Serve Sunday**—No regular Cornerstone. Families build dressers and pack Kitchen & Bath Bundles for clients of Bridging.

