

Family Devotion

(for all ages)

"Where's Daniel When You Need Him?"

THE BIG IDEA

Godly Friends Will Be There 'Till The End!



POWER VERSE

"The righteous should choose his friends carefully, for the way of the wicked leads them astray." - Proverbs 12:26

Tell your children that it's NASCAR Night, and that this week's devotion is about race car drivers. (Don't worry if the members of your family aren't big NASCAR fans; the devotion explains everything you need to know.) Have your children run or ride their bikes around the house or down the street as fast as they can just to get in the racing mindset. Older children may not want to do this, and that's fine. Explain to your children that their lives are like a NASCAR race, and you're going to discuss some of the things they'll need in order to win life's race.

Ask your children what the goal of a race car driver is. Then explain to them that winning the race of life means living eternally with God. In order to win the race, though, we all need some help. Here are some of the people we need:

Pit Crew

Tell your children that every race car driver has a pit crew that keeps his car in the best shape possible during the race. Explain to them that during every race, there are planned pit stops as well as pit stops the driver takes when he realizes something is wrong with his car. Talk about the following questions:

- What are some of the responsibilities of the pit crew? (Changing tires, refueling car, giving driver a drink of water, cleaning windshields)
- Would the driver win the race if he had to take care of all those responsibilities by himself? Why not?
- We all need a pit crew in our lives to help us win the race. What might some of their responsibilities be? (Encourage us, give advice, point out problems, "fine tune" some areas of our lives)
- Can we win the race if we don't have anyone helping us? (Possibly, but it would be much harder)
- How can we have planned pit stops in our lives? (We can meet regularly with "crew members" to discuss how the race is going)
- What are some of the unplanned pit stops in our lives? (Any unexpected occurrence, good or bad, that might affect our life such as illness, loss of a friend, moving, new teacher, etc.)

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Family Devotion

(continued)

Spotter

Tell your children that some members of the pit crew are spotters. These are people who sit throughout the stadium watching for potential problems on the track that the driver can't see. When they spot one, they immediately tell the driver and the rest of the crew.

- Why does the driver need a spotter? (Because the driver can only see a small part of the race and needs someone who can tell him about any potential problems)
- What would a spotter do in our lives? (Tell us about potential problems or situations that we may face based on how we're performing in the race)

Crew Chief

The crew chief is in charge of the entire crew and remains in constant contact with the driver by using microphones and headphones. The driver knows that if he has a question or concern during the race, he can always talk to the crew chief.

What kind of person should be the crew chief in our life? (Someone who's farther along in the race than we are, who has our best interest at heart, and wants to help us win.)

Owner

Ask your children who owns the car the driver is racing. Some children may think the driver owns the car, but actually a company owns it.

- Who owns our lives? (Jesus, because He paid for our lives by giving up His)
- Could we win the race if we didn't have an owner? (No, because we couldn't afford to be in the race. God supplies every need we have to win.)
- Who ultimately should get the credit when we win the race? (God, because He's the one who gave us everything we needed to win.)

Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 and talk about how important it is for us to have people in our lives who will help us win our race. Pray together, asking God to help you have a good pit crew in your life. Thank Him for owning your life and giving you everything you need to win.

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