

# *Faith Chronicles*

## *Telling the Next Generation About the Lord*

### *Family Activities*

The following family activities are designed to provide for experiential learning opportunities which reinforce some of the principles taught in the Bible stories. These activities are intentionally designed to be simple, without need for elaborate preparations. Some activities are games families can play together. Others are simple questions to generate family discussions. In many cases ordinary family outings and events are used to teach spiritual principles [e.g. cleaning house, going shopping, reading the newspaper etc...]

# Family Activities

## The Stories ~ Part 1

Story # 1: *The Creation*

Family Activity: "Ex Nihilo"

*Sometimes people use the phrase "ex nihilo" when speaking of the creation. It means "out of nothing" and refers to our belief that before the creation existed there was nothing other than God. God created this world out of nothing, but himself. Here is a fun game to play that perhaps symbolizes that truth somewhat. Select a word and see how many smaller words you can create using only the letters in the larger word. For example, the word "God" has within it the words "go", "do" & "dog." The word "beginning" has at least 12 words inside it, can you find them all? Here are some more words to use:*

"heaven"

"earth"

"vegetation"

"creation"

"darkness"

"light"

"garden"

"firmament"

Story # 2: *Adam and Eve*

Family Activity: In His Image

*Anyone trained in art can look at a great work of art and recognize the master painter who created it. Musicians can recognize the music of great composers. Architects can look at a building and tell you in what period of time it was built and sometimes even the architect who built it. The creation can also tell us much about its creator. What do the following creations tell us about our Creator? [You may need to get out the encyclopedia and look at the pictures.]*

\* Rose

\* Koala Bear

\* Milky Way Galaxy

\* Tornado

\* Duckbilled Platypus

\* Human Body

\* Snowflake

\* Mount Everest

\* You!

Story # 3:                    *Noah and the Flood*  
Family Activity:            Searching for Noah's Ark

What did Noah's Ark look like? No one really knows, but we can get an idea from the basic dimensions given in the Bible. Look up the measurements in the Bible [Genesis 6:15-18] and scale them down from feet to centimeters. Mark off these dimensions on pieces of cardboard, cut them out and put it all together. To really get an idea of how big the ark was, why not go searching for Noah's ark in your own town. Can you find a building in your town that approaches the same length, height and width of the ark?

Story # 4:                    *The Call of Abraham*  
Family Activity:            A Moving Experience

God called Abraham to leave his family and go to a place he had never been to before. That was a hard move for Abraham to make. Hard moves come in different sizes and shapes and we've all experienced some in our lives. Rank the moves below in order from the easiest to the hardest.

- |                    |                          |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| a. to a new room   | d. to a new city         | g. to a new state  |
| b. to a new school | e. to a new grade        | h. to a new family |
| c. to a new county | f. to a new neighborhood | i. To a new team   |

In Abraham's day, families lived together, even uncles, cousins and servants. Today we get pretty spread out. Which one of your relatives lives furthest from you? Why not give them a call tonight and say "Hi!"