

# FAMILIES FOR FAMILIES

QUARTER THREE



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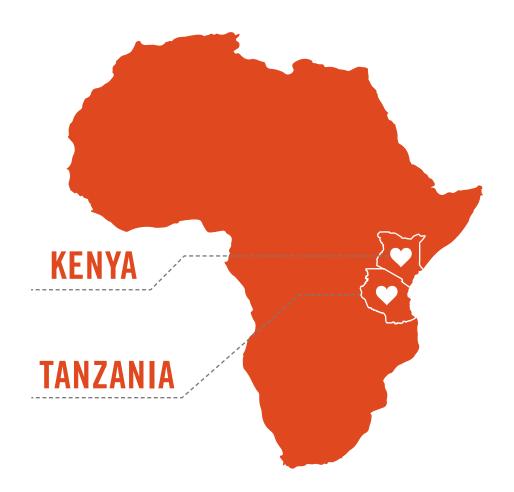
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We are so glad you have joined us! We are a group of parents who desire to live out our faith and to love Jesus and others while teaching our children to do the same. We have created this toolbox to come alongside you and make serving other families easy for you! Each quarter, we will have a virtue and memory verse we are focusing on, an East African family we will get to know better, and a service-related project to raise awareness for CARE for AIDS and support families living with HIV/AIDS. Most of all, we want to make it easy for you to create conversations around service, generosity, compassion, caring for others, and this exciting journey of faith! Each quarter, a new Families for Families newsletter will be released on the CARE for AIDS website to equip and encourage you in these areas. There will be suggested activities, conversation starters, discussion questions and more! We look forward to embarking on this journey with you and your family!

# WHAT IS CARE FOR AIDS?

For those of you new to Families for Families, watch this video to learn more about CARE for AIDS.



Want to watch a great video of a family who has been through the program? Check this one out as a family!



# HOW TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT HIV/AIDS

#### PRESCHOOL SUGGESTION

People with AIDS are sick, sometimes very sick, and we want to help them feel better!

#### **ELEMENTARY SUGGESTION**

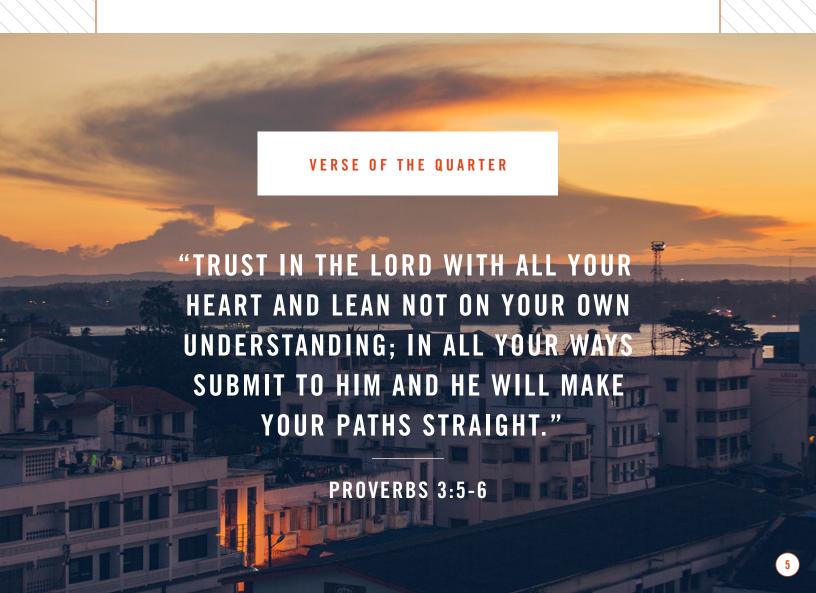
HIV/AIDS is a disease that makes your body too weak to fight off other diseases. Think of it like a cold. If you get a cold, your body is weak and tired and cannot protect itself against other infections. However, with HIV/AIDS, you can't catch it through the air like a cold, only through infected blood. So you can't get HIV/AIDS by high-fiving, hugging, or even sharing a drink or snack with someone who has the disease. If people with HIV/AIDS take their medicine every day, they can feel healthy and strong just like you and me. If they don't take their medicine daily, they get weaker and weaker until they can't fight off germs anymore.



# TRUST

#### **DEFINITION**

BELIEVING GOD IS WHO HE SAYS HE IS AND WILL DO WHAT HE SAYS HE WILL DO



## DINNER DISCUSSIONS

#### **QUESTIONS**

- What does it mean for you to trust Mom and Dad? What do you trust Mom and Dad to do? (Hint: feed you, buy your clothes, put a roof over your head, love you, drive safely, pick you up from school.)
- How do people break our trust?
- · What does it mean to trust in God who can never break our trust?
- Give some examples from the Bible or from your own life showing how God is trustworthy.
- What happened today when you had a choice to either trust God or lean on your own understanding?
- When life is hard or sad, why is it sometimes hard to trust God?

#### PARENT SHARE

- Tell about a time in your life when you really trusted God and He came through.
- Tell about a hard time when you trusted God and got a different response than you'd hoped.
- Tell about a relationship where your trust was broken and how.
- Tell your kids about how trust is important to your marriage and parenting.

#### AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO PARENTS:

Trust is a hard one for us as parents. We are stewarding tiny humans and in some cases, making daily decisions for them. Take some time and meditate on the verse for this month. As parents, we sometimes think we are in control of making our children's paths straight. That is not our side of the equation; we only need to trust and lean not on our understanding, our intelligence, our parenting abilities or inadequacies, but just depend on Him and trust Him with our child's path. So often as a parent, we think our performance dictates our child's future. This puts enormous pressure on our parenting because it assumes we are in control. We are not sovereign! Lean on the One who created your children and loves them far more than you do. Trust Him with their paths, breathe a breath of freedom and parent from an easier position!

# TRUST DEVOTION

#### **ABRAHAM AND ISAAC**

• Read: "The Present" from *Jesus Storybook Bible* (page 62), or Genesis 22:1-18, or **CLICK HERE** to watch it online.

#### QUESTIONS

- What promise did God make to Abraham?
- Did Abraham trust God with what was most important to him?
- What is most important to you in life? Is God more precious than it?
- God gave up the most precious thing in the world for you; what was it?



# TRUST GOD AT HIS WORD!

Take some time this quarter to memorize or just review some promises of God and what He says is true about you. These are the things God has said in His word we can trust to be true. He will never disappoint.

PROMISE OF GOD	WHERE TO FIND IT
Nothing is too hard for God.	Genesis 18:14
God goes with me always.	Deuteronomy 31:6
The Lord is my safe place to run in times of trouble or fear.	Psalms 9:9-10
God guides me and watches over me.	Psalms 32:8
God's love and forgiveness never end.	Psalms 103:11-12
He gives me peace when I fully trust in Him.	Isaiah 26:3
God is working even when I don't understand or see it.	Isaiah 43:19, Romans 8:28
God gives me rest from my worries.	Matthew 11:28-30
Whoever receives Christ becomes a child of God, is given eternal life, and is not under condemnation.	John 1:12, 3:16, 5:24
God chose me in Christ before the world was made.	Ephesians 1:4
In Christ, God calls me chosen, holy, blameless, adopted, redeemed, forgiven.	Ephesians 1:3-8
By grace I have been saved through faith, not because of anything I have done.	Ephesians 2:8
All of the words in the Bible are true and are God-breathed.	2 Timothy 3:16-17
Nothing can separate me from God's love.	Romans 8:38
If I am in Christ, I am a new creation.	2 Corinthians 5:17
Christ lives inside me.	Galatians 2:20

## CLIENT STORY SPOTLIGHT

**MEET HADIJA!** Hadija joined CARE for AIDS last year when she was very sick. At that time, she did not believe in God. She knew she needed help, so she started to meet with her counselors and other clients in the program. Soon after starting her nine-month program, her husband grew sick and passed away. She received so much love and support from her new friends and counselors at the church. She saw that as a gift from God. She knew God had a purpose for her being at this church.

Slowly, each month, she was learning she could trust God with her life. Her husband had been the one who made money, so she was thankful to learn new skills! Hadija said, "I am now a businesswoman!" Through CARE for AIDS, she feels she has gotten closer to God. She received her first Bible in the program and now enjoys reading it.



### FAMILY ACTIVITIES

#### **FAMILY TRUST JOURNAL**

This quarter, jot down some prayer requests for each child and go back at the end of the quarter and see how God answered those prayers.

#### "WHOM DO YOU TRUST?" GAME

Think of questions that one person in your family has expertise in—multiplication that your 3rd grader is practicing, colors your preschooler has just nailed, business questions for the parents, current pop events for your teen. Ask different members of the family one of those questions that they wouldn't necessarily know, or even if they do know, can't answer alone. Ask that person, "Whom do you trust to answer this correctly for you?" They can't choose Mom and Dad every time! Keep score if you like or play for fun, but this is a great and fun family activity that allows them to trust the wisdom of others!

#### TRUST OBSTACLE COURSE

Build a quick obstacle course with pillows, toys, or Legos on the ground, under tables, etc. Pair into partners and blindfold one of the partners. Let the kids practice trust as they listen to their partner's instructions to make it through the room. In the same way, we must listen closely to God's wisdom as we go through life. It would be foolish to ignore!

#### TRUST FALL

Kids, can you trust your parents to catch you? Fall backwards with your hands folded on your chest and see how hard it can be to trust and let go! The second time, wear a blindfold and stand on something higher! You have the courage to fall because you trust your parents are there to catch you. In life, we can have the courage to do hard things, overcome obstacles, and choose kindness even when it isn't easy, because we know and trust that God is right there with us!



## LOVE & SERVE DAY ACTIVITIES

#### **END OF SUMMER KICKBALL TOURNAMENT**

Gather families you know, charge an entry fee, and have a kickball tournament at a local park or someone's backyard. This is a great end-of-summer activity to build family relationships, strengthen community, have a lot of fun, and raise money for a great cause while doing it. Sell popsicles, cookies, or lemonade after the game too!

#### **LUNCH BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS**

Even toddlers can decorate paper lunch bags and add a water bottle, granola bar, nuts, socks, etc. These are great to have in the car to pass along to someone you may see who could use a snack.

#### RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS JAR

Add a quarter or dime when you catch your kids serving one another or doing something kind around the house. Decide as a family how you will use these funds at the end of the quarter!



#### HOW TO SHARE WITH OTHERS

As the author, Chris Marlow, said, "Doing good is simple." So let's gather our friends and family to do lots of good! Use this newsletter as an opportunity to rally your community, your small group, your moms group, your neighbors! Use the hashtag **#FAMILIESFORFAMILIES** on all your social media outlets so we can see the ways God is using families and small groups to impact families in East Africa!

