

NAZARENE ESSENTIALS—WEEK TWO PARENT’S GUIDE

Our Wesleyan Holiness Heritage

To Parents:

Week two of Nazarene Essentials includes a brief overview of John Wesley’s life, his influence on the history of our denomination, and what it means to live a holy life.

As you review this lesson with your child, consider what it means to live obedient to God, a holy life. Pray for God to help you and your child get to know Him better and live out this scripture in your daily life: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind...Love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37, 39).

Lesson Objective: To understand the influence John Wesley had on the beginnings of the church of the Nazarene. To learn more about John Wesley go to wesley.nnu.edu and search for the Life of John Wesley. In addition, a child friendly story can be found at www.christianity.com on *John Wesley, Father of Methodism*.

Your child will learn they are part of the body of Christ within a Church of the Nazarene, and they can join God at work in the world around them and use their gifts and abilities to share God’s love.

Bible Story: “Jesus Gives two Great Commandments” - Matt 22:34-40, *NIV*

³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Scripture Memory Verse: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind...Love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37, 39).

Personal Challenge:

How can we show God that we love Him with all our heart AND soul AND mind? Brainstorm ways to do this at home, at school and in your community. How can we show this love to others? What does it look like to love others as ourselves?

PRAYER:

Dear Father, Help us to love You completely. Help us to see ways we can show Your love to others. In Jesus’ name, Amen.