

NAZARENE ESSENTIALS—WEEK FIVE PARENT’S GUIDE

Theological Coherence

To Parents:

Weeks four through ten will be exploring each of seven characteristics in kid-friendly language. These traits depict what should characterize every local Nazarene church. *Theological coherence* considers how we understand God and how we should live because of scripture, the Church traditions, our own reasoning/our minds, and our experience. These four things are called the Wesleyan Quadrilateral.

Lesson Objective: To understand how the Church of the Nazarene thinks about God and how that influences the way we ought to live as Christians. Students will learn about the Wesleyan Quadrilateral and the key aspects of a holy life.

Consider playing a game like Pick Up Sticks, Kerplunk, or Jenga, all games in which there are consequences to a decision to move a piece.

Bible Study: The Wesleyan Quadrilateral, a four-legged stool.

Consider these four Scriptures and each emphasis. Discuss how these relate to daily choices.

1 Corinthians 11:1 (Christlikeness - be transformed daily into the image of Christ)

Deuteronomy 14:2 (Lifestyle - be set apart from the world to be treasured by God)

Mark 8:34 (Power to choose - be a disciple by putting off sin and taking up the cross)

Galatians 5:22-23 (Fruit of the Spirit - be a perfect example of love in all ways)

Scripture Memory Verse: The Fruit of the Spirit

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law” (Galatians 5:22-23).

Personal Challenge:

Discuss how each of the four “legs” of the Wesleyan Quadrilateral help us make good choices.

Think of examples of choices that you may come up against where these could help.

Talk about the importance of good choices and the consequences of both good and bad choices.

PRAYER:

Dear Father, help us make good choices and follow You. Help us remember the tools You have given us when we face decisions. Thank You for always being with us and guiding us. In Jesus’ name, Amen.