

NAZARENE ESSENTIALS—WEEK TWELVE PARENT’S GUIDE

Our Church

To Parents: The Church of the Nazarene is an organized church that is interconnected with Nazarene churches all over the world. How exciting to be a part of something larger than ourselves, all with the directive from Jesus Himself to make Christlike disciples in all the nations.

It is valuable for all members of our local church to see and understand the bigger picture of the Church. We have the church on local, district, and general church levels. As a connected church we share beliefs, values, the mission, and responsibilities.

The Church of the Nazarene is globally connected. We are an interdependent body of local churches organized into districts in order to carry out our mutual mission of “making Christlike disciples in the nations.” We are accountable to one another to maintain the integrity of our commonly held beliefs.

We want our children to know they also are a part of the church, on the local level as well as through the district and globally. How can we describe district? There are district opportunities for kids, such as quizzing and summer camps. Global? Every four years we have a global quiz, where children from all over the world gather together to participate in a world-wide quiz. Additionally, as we talk about our missionaries who minister all over the world, they have an opportunity to learn about them and about how kids can be a part of missions as well.

Lesson Objective: To help children see the importance of the local church, the district church and the global church.

Bible Story with Discussion: The Church is made up of many parts. Read Romans 12:3-8, then talk with your children about these questions: What did you like about this story? What does it mean to have a body with many parts? What does this verse tell us about all the different people in one church? How do you think God may want to use your gifts?

Scripture and Memory Verse: Matthew 28:19 (*NIV*)

“Therefore go and make disciples in all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.”

Personal Challenge:

Discuss with your children how Jesus may want us to live as a result of hearing this Bible story. Listen to their responses.

PRAYER:

Dear God, thank You for our church. Help us to understand how each of us can serve others in our church. In Jesus’ name, amen.