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VERSE OF THE MONTH



*Now faith is being sure of
what we hope for and cer-
tain of what we do not see.*

Heb. 11:1 (NIV)



NEW BEGINNINGS

How many of you remember your salvation experience as if it were yesterday? As John Newton so beautifully penned it, "Your chains fell off; you were set free. Your King Jesus ransomed you. You were blind, but now you can finally see." (paraphrase) Without minimizing your conversion experience, I would like to ponder the analogous relationship between that transformation and the new beginning of each school year. The chains of stubbornness, slothfulness, disrespect, deceit, misunderstanding, and any other cumbersome bondages are broken and buried. All that's left is a clean slate ready to be polished and filled with life-changing information, memories, conversations, and experiences. Is this possible? I believe it is completely possible with unwavering faith, unceasing prayer, and consistent self-discipline. These first 3 months, we are going to examine faith, prayer, and self-discipline and how each one can alter the course of our school year. This month we will examine the role of faith in homeschooling.

First, the depth of our faith in our Redeemer will deeply affect our ability to impact our children. Lamentations talks about how God's mercies are new EVERY morning and how His faithfulness is GREAT. If we are going to mirror unwavering faith to our children, we have a very practical means to do this by starting each day with a fresh and excited merciful attitude that spills onto our children's attitudes. What if every time our children say, "I can't", we respond with, "I believe you can", and then give them a specific verse to back up why, such as Philippians 4:13? [See Shield of Faith section on p. 2 for more verses.] Teaching your children to combat battles with the shield of faith is a life-long truth-building journey. Using Scripture will transform our daily teaching into many faith building encounters with our children. If we truly believe God is sovereign, then the bumps along the daily path need no longer be obstacles, but mountains to climb together, growing in our knowledge of, love for, and obedience unto God.

Secondly, IF our faith is truly rooted in God and God alone, then we need not fear the future. He IS our great provider, our Jehovah-jireh, providing everything from our daily bread to the love, creativity, wisdom, grace, and patience we need in teaching our children... IF we will continually ask for it. He IS our Shepherd, our Jehovah-raah, who will lead us in paths of righteousness.... IF we will follow His lead instead of going our own way. He IS our El-Shaddai, for all that we need or ever will need can be found in Him.... IF we will cry out to Him and trust Him. He IS our Jehovah Shalom, gingerly whispering to us and filling us with His peace while the storms rage around us.... IF we will fix our eyes, hearts, and minds on Him.

Finally, I encourage you to journal the specific goals, spiritually and academically, that you are believing by faith for your children this school year. Matthew 17:20 says, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." What a mighty God we serve who waits on us to surrender everything in faith so He can sanctify us and our children for His glory. Having the faith that God loves our children more than we do, that He has a perfect plan for each of their lives, and that He will be faithful in continuing the good work He has started in them can and will transform your school year. Blessings on a faith-filled school year!

New to Veritas or Homeschooling?

- 1) Remember that **YOU are the teacher**. We provide accountability, organization, and assistance in instruction; however, you are the executor in your child's education. Without daily efficient execution, your child cannot reap the benefits of Veritas.
- 2) **Communicate** with your child's tutor(s). We cannot emphasize this enough. If you have a question or concern, please e-mail your child's tutor first. S/he will respond within 24 hours. Communicate with your child's tutor at the first onset of any questions; please do not wait even a week, or an issue becomes more difficult to resolve.
- 3) **Organization tip...**For those of you with multiple aged children, try using a different colored highlighter for each day on the assignment sheet. For example, choose a green highlighter to highlight anything that needs to be done daily. Wednesday can be orange, Thursday blue, Friday yellow, and so on. This allows your children to take ownership of the assignment sheet and gives them a visual of what needs to be done each day. Once your children have taken ownership and are working independently, it will be easier to schedule individual teaching times with them because they will know what to expect and what is expected of them each day.
- 4) **Prioritize!** Bible always comes first. Next complete the core subjects: Language Arts (Grammar, Literature, Spelling, & Writing) and Math. If you keep your priorities in focus, then the curriculum will not become burdensome.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

He remembers our frame and knows that we are dust. He may sometimes chasten us, it is true, but even this He does with a smile, the proud, tender smile of a Father who is bursting with pleasure over an imperfect but promising son who is coming every day to look more and more like the One whose child he is. ~A.W. Tozer

**Congratulations,
Veritas
700 Challenge
Finishers!!!
Way to go!!**

- 5) **Train your child** to independently pack his or her backpack each night before Veritas. Kiddos in grades 3 and up should be able to use a checklist to make sure everything is packed.
- 6) Whether you utilize the aforementioned highlighting method or not, be sure to **organize your child's assignment sheet before the week begins** (the day after their Veritas day). If you wait until the last day of the week to cram the majority of assignments, your child will learn less, sleep less, and be unable to be productive on their Veritas day.
- 7) Don't forget to enroll your child in an **umbrella school!** This is critical!!!
- 8) **If you know you are going to be out of town**, please let your child's tutor know in advance so that you can receive the assignment sheet ahead of time.
- 9) You will help your child immensely if you **give them a list to complete** and let them complete it on their own to the best of their ability. In going back and checking the work, you can review together areas of weakness or misunderstanding.
- 10) **Check your child's work, no matter what the age**, to assure that the assignment sheet is complete before signing it. It is your responsibility to make sure your children are completing and understanding their school work.

Betsy Bragg

Caroline Exley

Connor Marr

Kati Marr

Addy McGillivray

Abigail Peterson

Rebecca Peterson

Ashley Price

Rebecca South

Lainey Taylor

McKinley Winburn

*21 BOOKS READ

*21 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

*2,100 MINUTES OF EXERCISE

*21 PAGES OF MATH

A Degree in Management? Nah!

by Jill Marr

Do you feel like the dishes are creeping out of your sink in alarming numbers? Is the washing machine begging for some work and you can't seem to get to it? Can you write "dust me" on your coffee table? Is it Subway night again? If home schooling is swallowing your household and personal time up in alarming rates, don't despair! Just a few time saving tips to get you on the path to home school and personal success are on the way!

Do you love the double C? Chaos and clutter, that is! Nobody embraces their inner clutter, of that I am sure. Don't let the loads of laundry get you down or the breakfast dishes distress you! Practice the magic minimum! Take your lovely children, make a morning chore list and assign each child an age appropriate task until the clutter is gone. Home life training is a perfectly acceptable part of your home school experience. Before you know it, the table is gleaming and the dishes are safely ensconced in the dark recesses of the dishwasher. Voila, no distracting clutter! At our house we make the beds, clean the kitchen, straighten up bedrooms and lay out our daily lessons. It takes less than thirty minutes! The truth is ALL children and parents are more productive when in a clutter free environment.

The best coaches in the world have a daily practice game plan. You need to have a daily goal assigned to each of the young minds you are training. Get your weekly assignment sheet and divide the work out over the number of days you have set aside for schooling. Don't forget to include exercise, piano practice and the like as part of your day. Routine will come if you set the daily pace and goals! Don't forget to reward your munchkins for meeting their goals! A favorite treat is enough!

Finally, don't let the local drive through eat up your retirement funds. Some of our favorite family meals come out of our crock pot deliciously dripping in flavor! Hallelujah! Make meal planning a vital part of your weekly organizational goals. It saves time, money and effort!

The internet is rife with free organizational resources. Just a few favorites at the Marr household include: www.e-mealz.com. It is a weekly meal planning resource that generates your shopping list and recipes for you. They even let you choose by diet plan and favorite store! For awesome home school planning resources www.donnayoung.org is the best resource on the net! If your household is your weakest link try www.theorganizedhome.com. They have free home planners, home school resources and general encouragement to stay on the path to success. If you can get a handle on your household, your school schedule and your meal plans you will miraculously find time in your day for a quick read in your favorite novel or even a nap! Sounds fabulously rewarding, does it not?



Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
I Thess. 5:16-18

For we know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin.
Rom. 6:6

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother – which is the first commandment with a promise – "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Eph. 6:1-3

SHIELD OF FAITH VERSES

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.
Col. 3:23-24

Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you.
I Peter 5:7

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.
Eph. 4:2

Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins. James 4:17

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Eph. 2:10

A fool spurns his father's discipline, but whoever heeds correction shows prudence.
Prov. 15:5

He who scorns instruction will pay for it, but he who respects a command is rewarded.
Prov. 13:13

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. James 1:5



READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Website of the Month: Learnoutloud.com

Click on the "free stuff" section. From there, you can choose from a variety of categories of free au-

Book of the Month: The Case for Faith By Lee Strobel



Recipe of the Month:

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons minced garlic
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 4 jalapeno peppers, chopped
- 4 lbs. chicken wings
- 2 cups vinegar-based barbecue sauce
- Rinse chicken wings in cold water.
- Place ingredients in crock in order listed, pouring barbecue sauce over all.
- Cover and cook on preferred slow-cooker setting:
 - Low - 7 to 8 hours; Auto Shift- 4-5 hrs.; High -3 hours

PUTTING FEET TO OUR FAITH



This semester at Veritas, we are going to be continuing the project we started last year during the 2nd semester....partnering with The Seed Company and Wycliffe Bible Translators. According to recent statistics, more than 2,200 languages, which includes around 200 million people, still do NOT have the Bible in their language. According to The Seed Company's literature, 522 people groups in Mainland Asia, 515 in Nigeria & Central Africa, and 707 in Indo-Pacific still need the Bible translated into their language. **Our specific project** we will help fund is the Sudan Luke Partnership Cluster. They are working on translating the Jesus film and the Gospel of Luke for 3 people groups in the Sudan. You can read more about it at <http://www.theseedcompany.org/project/sudan-lp-cluster>. Our goal is to raise \$500.00 for The Seed Company to help them translate the Gospel to reach the Sudanese people. You can start sending quarters with your children on their Veritas day. **All money should be turned in to your child's tutor. We will recognize the grade(s) who donate the most money at the Concert of the Arts in February.**

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION...

Music Appreciation and Voice Lessons

Taught by Annie Byrd M.Mu. at Leawood Baptist Church,
3638 Macon Rd

Music Appreciation for students from 8th-12th grade.
Classes will meet every Thursday starting Sept. 9th from
1:30-3:00pm. Voice lessons for ages 13 to 100+



Call for additional information: [734-8653](tel:734-8653)



ETA SIGMA ALPHA NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

This chapter is not sponsored by MHEA but is one of the 264 chapters in 42 states. Membership is limited and is now open to grades 7-12. The officers decided to allow 7-8 graders to join this year. Meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month at Faith Baptist Church. The student must meet one of these minimum test scores: Stanford/Iowa/CAT 90%, PSAT 180, ACT 26, SAT 1800. These test scores must be from within the past year and not administered by a parent. For more information please contact us at PhiEtaHomeschool@gmail.com.