

FAMILY DISCIPLESHP CURRICULUM ON THE GO

A HEART LIKE JESUS A-Z

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Welcome to *A Heart Like Jesus A-Z Family Discipleship Curriculum On the Go!* This shortened version of *A Heart Like Jesus A-Z Family Discipleship Curriculum* is designed for busy parents to train Christ-like character in their children without a lot of extra time involved.

This introduction is designed to give you more information about our curriculum and will help you become familiar with each component of a weekly lesson.

Now let's get started!

Why teach our children about Jesus' beautiful heart?

- 1. We want our children to fall in love with who Jesus is through stories about His beautiful heart.** We want them to be more excited about Jesus than any superhero, princess, or treasured possession. After all, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and mind and soul" is the greatest commandment!

Matthew 22:36-37



"Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind." (NLT)

- 2. We want our children to desire to be like Jesus.** As followers of Jesus, the Bible instructs us to be "conformed to His image," and why not start when our kids are young and eager to learn? If we can cultivate a DESIRE to be like Jesus, rather than focusing on "being good" out of obligation, we are more likely to raise true disciples who follow God out of a love-relationship and not out of obligation to follow a set of rules or try to earn their way to Him.

Romans 8:29



For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. (NLT)

What's Inside?

30 MP3 Audio Lessons: The audio lessons are meant to be listened to in the car or during a set time once a week. It is important that the parents/caregivers listen to each audio lesson with their kids, so they can answer any questions and understand how to work on each character trait during the week. Each weekly lesson discusses Jesus' beautiful heart and how we want to have a heart like His. It then teaches a new character trait from A-Z and presents a short audio story to help children further understand how the character trait relates to everyday situations. Finally, it provides a related Bible verse set to a tune to help your children memorize it more easily each week.

Family Discipleship Time: These parent pages coincide with each audio lesson and provide suggestions to go deeper each week with the targeted character trait your child learned about on the audio files. It is recommended to practice the character traits and Bible verses alongside your kids, for children learn best and will understand the importance when you practice with them! You will have the opportunity to review each character trait and what it means, read a story of how Jesus displayed the character trait, memorize a related Bible verse, and practice the character trait in everyday life. For each Bible story, use an age-appropriate picture Bible, when possible, to read and talk about the story. These activities will help your family grow in having a heart like Jesus!

Character Trait Sticker Chart: The sticker chart can be used to reinforce positive character traits and having a heart like Jesus. When you notice your child displaying a specific character trait you have worked on, praise your child for what they did and place a sticker next to that character trait they exemplified.

How can you take character training deeper?

This abbreviated curriculum is meant to give you and your children an overview of character trait training. After completing this curriculum, you and your children will be familiar with a variety of character traits and how to train their hearts to be more like Jesus. Because character training is a life-long process, it is recommended that you continue to work on character by commenting on the positive character traits you see in them and going deeper with virtues your children need to work on.

Other great resources to help train your children's hearts:

A Heart Like Jesus A-Z Family Discipleship Curriculum — This more in-depth weekly curriculum dives deeper into what it means to have a heart like Jesus by providing further interactive resources. These include printable hearts for each character trait and verse, a script of what to teach, the text, visuals, and coloring pages for each Bible story, craft ideas that coincide with each character trait, and scenario questions to help children understand how to demonstrate each character trait in daily life.

www.growingkidsforthe kingdom.com — Our sister site which includes a blog, devotionals, and resource reviews to encourage kids to know and love God, reflect His character, and share His love with others

www.growingfamilies.life — Blog, parenting resources

www.parentingmadepractical.com — Blog, parenting resources

***Parenting with Scripture* by Kara Durbin** — Character resource book for kids ages 5 and up

My hope and prayer is that God will use *A Heart Like Jesus A-Z Family Discipleship Curriculum On the Go* to make training character easy and fun for busy families while encouraging you and your kids to fall more in love with Jesus and become more like Him in character.

With a Heart Like Jesus,

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