



#homedevos 20.2

CREATED FOR COMMUNITY

What Trips Us?

In preparation:

Buy for each family member the same chocolate, like a small Aero. (You can also do this activity just as an imaginary game.)

Meet before the time secretly with one of your children and tell him/her about the activity. Instruct him/her to think about another chocolate (e.g. Lunch Bar) the whole time as you are talking about the Aero without saying a word or giving it away.

Parents, pick up from the games you played in #homedevo 20.1:

- If it was a fun evening of playing together, emphasize that God created us to have good, meaningful relationships with one another within community. Praise God for it.
- If there was some fighting, emphasize the fact that it is within our relationships that we see the need for us to be changed and transformed by the grace of God.
- If one of your children preferred to play all by him/herself, acknowledge it. There are times that we want to be all by ourselves and it is good, but to have it as a lifestyle is not in God's best for us.

The Word of God teaches us to let go of anger, bitter words, lying, etc. – those things that break down relationships, and to be kind, humble, patient, forgiving, etc. to one another – the things that build relationships and brings joy (Colossians 3:8-13; Ephesians 4:1-3,25-32; Philippians 2:1-4).



Questions:

- Why do you think it is sometimes so difficult to be loving/kind/patient/forgiving?
- What do you think is the root of it?



Watch this Video:

The following video clip will help us to find the answer. Let's watch it. <https://youtu.be/WoD9rV5jx1s>

It is selfishness, self-centeredness, "Life is about ME" that broke the relationship between us and God and keep us from good, healthy relationships with one another.

It is therefore important to recognise and see our own selfishness/self-centeredness for what it is and what it does.

Good News! When Jesus died on the cross and, He has delivered us from the penalty and rule of sin when we received Him Lord and Saviour in our lives. Yet we live in a sinful world and are daily confronted and tempted to do the "I, ME, and MY"-thing.

What can we do about it?

We read in Mark 10:17-22 (NKJV) about young man who really lived a good life, doing the right things as God required in the Law and desired to have eternal life. He came running to Jesus and asked Him what he should do to have eternal life. Jesus loved him, looked at him, and answered: "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; come, take up the cross and follow Me." (v.21) He was deeply saddened by what Jesus said, because he was very rich and went away.

Here are a few things to take note of:

- Jesus saw the "I, ME and MY"- thing in his life and said get rid of it. We need to deal with the selfishness/self-centeredness/"Life is about ME" in our lives. Take radical action.
- Jesus said: "come, take up the cross and follow Me": there are two things in overcoming selfishness, like the two sides of coin, "take up the cross" (crucify selfishness, deal with it radically) and "follow Me" (follow My example – do as Jesus did).
- We can only do it as we come to Jesus – we cannot do it in our own strength.
- We have a choice, just as the young man had.

Some more good news! God pours out His grace upon us and gives us His Spirit, the Holy Spirit to help us. We are not alone in it! We also have one another on this journey.

meaning of #devoicons



watch video



do an activity



pray together



memory verse



ask a question



family talk



listen to audio



Activity:

Give each family member a chocolate.

Tell them: *"Do not think about the Aero you are eating now".*

Keep on reminding them that they should not think about the Aero and do not stop *talking about it as they are busy eating it.

When you finished eating it, ask: *"What did you think of while you were eating the Aero?"*

After the answers *"We couldn't!"* the child you arranged with answers: *"I didn't think of the Aero!"* Wait for the reaction of the others. *"Really? How was that possible?"*

"Well, as you were talking and we were eating the Aero, I was the whole time imagining myself eating a Lunch Bar. I LOVE LunchBars!"

We cannot overcome selfishness by just stop doing it, we need to replace it with something else. Apply this principle asking the question "With what will you replace ..." using examples in you family like:

"I want to have the biggest slice of cake!"

"No, I want to play with the Lego's now, not outside!"



Prayer

As Holy Spirit leads you



Memory Verse:

Mark 10:21(b):

"...come, take up the cross and follow Me."

Ideas:

- "Don't think of this Aero wrapped in ... "- describe the wrapping in detail.
- "I want to remind you not to think of this Aero as you take a bite and taste the sweetness of it."
- "Do you feel the heavenly smoothness of this yummiie Aero? Remember not to think about it!"
- "Do you also feel the bubbles on your tongue just as you took a bite?"
- "Mmmm, I just LOVE Aero – it is so smooth on the tongue, but remember not to think about the Aero you are eating!"

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