

The Parent Connection



Parent Connect: May

Spring is here with summer just around the corner, and our preteens are about to have more time than they know what to do with. This is the time of year we begin our search for activities that will help occupy some of this time. We work so hard at finding entertaining things to do throughout the summer; we don't leave time for God. We are going to look at things you can do with your preteens to keep them engaged with God and still have an amazing and fun summer.

First, try scheduling out the summer early. If you haven't started yet, schedule out vacations, camps, and special events, along with making a daily schedule right now. Don't wait until summer to try and find things to do. If you wait and your preteen gets into a routine, breaking it will be almost impossible. When you are scheduling out your summer, talk with your preteens first. Work with them to figure out what schedule works for them. If your preteen feels like they have had a voice in their summer planning, they will be more inclined to follow it.

Finding time for your preteen to spend with God over the summer will help their relationship with Jesus grow greatly. Finding something you can do with them over the summer gives them accountability. There are many devotionals out there that are written specifically for preteens. Look with your preteen and have them pick something out that interests them. Then schedule the time in the day that works for them when they will work on it, and schedule times throughout the week for you and your preteen to discuss what they are reading.

Look for summer events where your preteens can serve, either at church or in the community. Preteens are at the perfect age to start serving and learning what it feels like to serve. A great way to help them build their relationship with Jesus is to learn what it is like to serve, just as Jesus did. Let this summer be a time your preteen can feel how awesome it is to serve others.

Mark 10:44-45 says this:

“Whoever of you wants to become first among you, shall be bondservant of all. For the Son of Man also came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

These are just a few ways that can help keep your preteen involved with God over the summer. It is most important to listen to your preteen and find out what works for them. Summer is a time to relax and reenergize. Let it be a time to reenergize with the Lord, also.