

BIBLE STORY

1 SAMUEL 17:34-37

David protects his sheep from a lion.

SAY THIS

**WHO CAN HELP YOU?
GOD CAN HELP YOU.**

DO THIS



MORNING TIME

When you go into your child's room this month say, "Good morning [child's name]! I see my sweet boy/girl! Mommy/Daddy is here to help you because I love you."



DRIVE TIME

As you drive along, chant this cheer with your child: "One, two, God helps you! One, two, three, God helps me!"



CUDDLE TIME

Cuddle up with your child this month and pray, "Dear God, I am so thankful You will always be with [child's name]. I pray as he/she grows up that he/she will go to You when he/she needs help. Thank You for the way You love us. I love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."



BATH TIME

Tell your child you want to help him/her with bath time. Emphasize the word "help" as you say, "Let me help you get your clean clothes. Let me help you run the water. Let me help wash your hair, tummy, etc. Let me help you dry off and get dressed." When you're done with bath time say, "God helps me help you because God loves us!"

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WIDENING THE CIRCLE . . . A "WE" APPROACH.

This is an excerpt adapted from the book *Parenting Your New Baby* by Kristen Ivy and Reggie Joiner

When you widen the circle, you not only recognize the need for others to influence your children, but also the need for your children to be a part of something that is much larger than just your family. A wider circle gives them not only a place to belong but a significant role to engage in a bigger story.

Seth Godin makes this observation: "Human beings can't help it; we need to belong. One of the most powerful of our survival mechanisms is to be part of a tribe, to contribute to (and take from) a group of like-minded people."

The right community is not only important because of what it gives to your children, but also because of what it requires from your children. Children need more than just a family that gives them unconditional acceptance and love; they need

a tribe that gives them a sense of belonging and significance.

Something powerful happens when you partner with other influences who desire to instill a sense of mission into the hearts of your children. You give them a different view of their place in the world, and you transfer a different kind of passion to them that your family alone cannot give them.

When you widen the circle, you not only recognize the need for others to influence your children, but also the need for your children to be a part of something that is much larger than just your family. A wider circle gives them not only a place to belong, but a significant role to engage in a bigger story.

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