



Four Things Our Children Will Remember about COVID–19

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Watergate television updates in 1972 were nothing more than interruptions to my cartoons. As a seven-year-old, I remember wondering how the whole White House was flooded in the first place. Children are not supposed to feel the weight of the world, much less understand it. As our children and grandchildren struggle to grasp the implications of COVID-19, we can help them with a few concrete concepts, which will remain for the rest of their lives.

Our children will remember how much we trusted God.

Deuteronomy is basically a review of the Mosaic Law, written for the children of the *Exodus generation*, aka the *Joshua generation*. That younger generation was faced with the same hard decision their parents had, whether to possess the land or play it safe. Moses reminded them that their parents panicked at the *Promised Land*, instead of possessing it as the LORD God had told them to.

“The Promised Land” gets its name from God’s promise to give them the land of Canaan by empowering them to take it from their hostile, godless neighbors.

“The LORD your God who goes before you will fight for you, just as you saw him do for you in Egypt” (Deuteronomy 1:30 CSB).

The Exodus generation was terrified of the Canaanites, even though they saw firsthand the ten plagues unleashed on Egypt. They were also eyewitnesses to the parting of the Red Sea, which led to both their safe exit as well as the demise of the world’s most powerful army.

Their children were now faced with the same opportunity 40 years later—to stay in the familiar desert or go in and possess the land. Thankfully, that generation learned from their parents’ mistakes, instead of repeating them, by trusting in the faithfulness of God.





Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him (Psalm 127:3).

Experience Scripture

And we know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God and are fitting into his plans (Romans 8:28 TLB).

Plan moments with your “gifts from the Lord” when you celebrate: I’m excited that even during this Corona virus crisis, we...

- *have all helped one another by _____*
- *have seen God take care of us by _____*
- *have had fun together like when _____*

Our children will remember how well we took care of each other.

I’m afraid we are all stuck with the unfortunate toilet paper byline of this COVID–19 story. However, new stories are daily being told of heroism by our healthcare workers, first responders, and multitudes of other good neighbors—including pastors and churches.

As this COVID–19 story is being written each day, ask yourself how you will become a positive part of it. Ask how your children can contribute. Your children can glorify God in the middle of this crisis and in turn, pass that legacy on to their children one day.

Joshua’s generation not only trusted God more than their parents did, but so did their own children who watched them bravely possess the land.

Our children will remember how God provided.

Nothing is nonspiritual about being concerned for your family’s safety and security. No one can guarantee that we will come out of this unscathed, but we do have a great opportunity to show our children how big we believe God is. The bigger our God is to our children; the smaller our challenges will seem to them and us.

I don’t want to sound ungrateful for whatever part the \$2 trillion dollar stimulus package will play to help us, but we are basically borrowing from ourselves and our children. I suggest that we flip the script of this story by lifting Jesus up as the Savior He really is.

Our children will remember the extra attention we gave them.

For adults, this awkward asylum is an excellent opportunity to invest in the most important people in our lives—our family. Our children and grandchildren will probably remember this crisis as being the longest and best **spring break** of their lives. They are likely less concerned about the canceled vacation than we are because they just want our loving attention.

Believer, will you panic during this pandemic, or will you seize this opportunity to trust God? Will you look out for only yourself or also for the interests of others? Will you seize this opportunity to make a lifetime memory with your children, which could benefit their children? Our response to this pandemic not only impacts our children and our legacy but also God’s glory.

