

MADE



PRESCHOOL



WEEK THREE

LUKE 12:7; JOHN 3:16

We are so important to God, He gave His only Son so we can be with Him forever.

SAY THIS

**WHO MADE YOU?
GOD MADE ME.**

DO THIS



CUDDLE TIME

Cuddle up with your child this month and pray, "Dear God, thank you for making [child's name] smart, creative, and helpful like You. I love being his/her mommy/daddy. Help me to trust that You love my little guy/girl even more than I do because You made him/her, and because of that I can totally trust Your plans for him/her! We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

REMEMBER THIS

"I am fearfully and wonderfully made."
Psalm 139:14, NIV

BASIC TRUTH

GOD MADE ME

HOW TO COMMUNICATE IN A WAY THAT VALUES YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

By Carey Nieuwhof

I think it's kind of fun that God puts families into a little box called a home—where they bump into each other daily for years on end—and tells them to love each other. Nice experiment.

It's always amazed me that many of us have a tendency to communicate least graciously with the people who are closest to us. When you are in close quarters, small irritants often become large issues, and we end up speaking to our family in a way we would never communicate with anyone else. And who are we often most kind toward? Perfect strangers. Go figure.

How we communicate is as or more important than what we communicate. I'm not saying truth doesn't matter (it does), but isn't it true that sometimes you can say exactly the right thing in precisely the wrong way?

Ironically, when we do that, we often accomplish the opposite of what we intended. It strains the relationship and provokes resistance. Be honest, when someone tells you what to do in an ungracious way, doesn't it make you want to do the opposite? And we wonder why our kids resist us.

One of the best things a parent can do is communicate in a way that

gives the relationship value. Over the next few days, monitor not what you communicate, but how you communicate with your family.

In the meantime, think about what your biggest trigger is. In what ways do you struggle with communicating with each other at home?

For me, it's often when things aren't picked up, cleaned up, or in order. A little bomb goes off inside of me, and the shrapnel has a way of leaking out. I may be right in principle, but how I communicate it is all wrong. Thinking about how I want to respond in those moments before they happen helps me pause and respond in a better way.

But the truth remains that we're going to get it wrong sometimes. We're imperfect humans.

Fortunately, one of the best ways you can communicate you value the relationship in those moments is to be ready and armed with some of the most powerful relationship-building words you could say: "I'm sorry."
