



WEEK FOUR

JOHN 3:16

God loves us so much, He sent Jesus to be our friend forever.



REMEMBER THIS:

"Nothing at all can ever separate us from God's love."

ROMANS 8:39, NIV



SAY THIS:

Who loves you?
GOD LOVES ME.



DO THIS:



Add two colors of plastic blocks to bath time. Say, "Let's sort the blocks by color. That means you will separate the orange ones over here and then separate the green ones over here." When you're done sorting, say, "Good job! We can separate blocks, but nothing can separate us from God's love!"

BASIC TRUTH:

GOD LOVES ME.

DETERMINED PARENTS

By Carey Nieuwhof

One of the reasons it's so critical to help our kids live a determined life is that almost nothing happens on the first try. Fast forward twenty years and imagine your son or daughter grown up. Their character (including their determination) will directly impact what happens at work, at home, and in their families.

My friend Gary Reniecke shared some statistics from the world of sales that tell quite a story about determination. Studies have shown that:

48% of sales people *never* follow up with a prospect.

25% of sales people make a 2nd contact and stop.

12% of sales people make three contacts and stop.

Only 10% of sales people make more than four contacts.

Why does this matter? Well, consider this:

2% of sales are made on the 1st contact.

3% of sales are made on the 2nd contact.

5% of sales are made on the 3rd contact.

10% of sales are made on the 4th contact.

80% of sales are made on the 5th to 12th contact.

Whether our kids ever choose sales as a career is beside the point. The point is determination and persistence pays off. And that shouldn't surprise us.

Isn't it true that even as adults, few of us learn the lessons we need to learn on the first go-round? Isn't it true most things don't happen without some level of determination? Mastering a skill, developing relationships, growing faith and character, achieving a dream . . .

Most great things take time. And without determination, we'll never see them realized. As a parent, you might need to become determined to teach values like determination. Rarely will a child pick up on what's important on first try, and even if they embrace it early, it's easy to get discouraged and follow a different course down the road. This isn't just true in instilling determination in your child—it's true of virtually everything that's important.

All of this to simply say this: Don't get discouraged if you didn't succeed this week, or this month. So next week, next month, and next year, chip away at determination and encourage your family to do the same. Down the road, the payoff stands to be significant.

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