

**The Parent Link – September, 2023**

**The Hook:** This month’s theme

Friendship: Using Your Words and Actions to Show Others You Care

**The Book:** This month’s Bible memory verse and weekly biblical texts

***Memory Verse***: “*A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes*.” Proverbs 17:17

 **Weekly Biblical Texts**

* Week 1 – Ecclesiastes 4:9,10 & 12 – A cord of three strands is not easily broken
* Week 2 – 1 & 2 Samuel – David kept his promise to Jonathan
* Week 3 – Acts 9: 26-27 - Barnabas stood up for Saul
* Week 4 – Romans 5:8, Colossians 3:12-17 - Paul calls us to forgive one another

**The Look:** A quick focus behind each week’s bible story or biblical text

* Week 1 Focus - Choose your friends carefully
* Week 2 Focus - Friends keep their promises
* Week 3 Focus - Friends stand up for one another
* Week 4 Focus - Friends forgive one another just as Christ first forgave us

**The Took**: Practical questions and discussion starters for your family each week

* Week 1 – What makes someone a good friend?
	+ Friends listen
	+ Friends encourage you when you’re having a bad day
	+ Friends tell you about Jesus
* Week 2 – Who is a friend you can trust?
	+ Someone who is there when you need them
	+ Someone who does what they say they’ll do
	+ Someone who prays for you
* Week 3 – When have you seen someone stand up for someone else
	+ When someone steps in and keeps another kid from bullying their friend
	+ When someone invites a loner to go to church with them
	+ When someone shares the Gospel with another friend
* Week 4 – Why is forgiveness important?
	+ God commanded us to forgive
	+ Forgiveness can help friends stay friends even when if one messes up
	+ Forgiveness help you overcome anger
	+ Jesus forgave us so we should forgive others