



NAPERVILLE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

June 2018

## *Fearless Parenting* by Kathi Lipp, Proverbs 31 Ministries

While raising my kids in the late '90s, the overwhelming theme I heard from other parents, church members and Christian books was consistent: Protect your children at all costs.

As Christian parents, we were told to *not* let our kids:

- consume any media (unless it was the *Adventures in Odyssey* radio program)
- listen to secular music (and even some Christian rock was considered too edgy)
- play with kids who weren't from Christian families (unless they were specifically doing so to eventually invite them to church. Yes, these kinds of playdates were a thing.)

Fear is a very powerful force. It can make us fear our kids will make the wrong choices. It can make us fear a lack of control. It can make us fear being viewed as bad parents. I've also seen how fear can absolutely be the most destructive tool in our parenting bag.

Instead of fear, God longs for us to see His power and love and grow in self-discipline. As 2 Timothy 1:7 reassures us, "*For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.*"

So how do we moms transition from parenting out of fear to fearless parenting? I've got a few ideas.

1. **Talk about the steadfastness of God.** God has given us a spirit of power and we are powerful because we are His. Make sure your kids know the power they possess because of Who lives in them.
2. **Teach your kids how to love others well.** You are their first example and their first teacher of loving well. Loving when circumstances are tough and when your kids are difficult are both great examples. Then, teaching your kids to love people even when they are unlovable is one of the best skills they can possess.
3. **Transition from the role of protector.** It's easy to want to stay in the role of our kids' protector longer than we should. And with all that goes on in the world, who can blame a mom for wanting to keep her family safe?

As an adult, my friend Kimberly endured the unimaginable — being taken at gunpoint while walking to her car after work. Fortunately, after hours of terror and devastation, Kim survived that kidnapping and has gone on to share her story of hope. But of course, no trauma is wrapped up in a tidy little package. Not only did those events affect Kim, but they also affected her whole family, including her mom, Ann.

For years, Ann felt overwhelming guilt for not being able to keep Kim from such a horrific situation. But after years of praying and processing, Ann came to understand that her role was not to protect her daughter. Kim says, "My mom came to this place of peace after my kidnapping. Even though I was a 28-year-old woman, she somehow thought she should have been able to protect me from that event. She realized her job had been to prepare me to handle all the things life would throw at us kids — not protect us from anything ever happening."

As our kids grow, our job is to fearlessly transition our parenting from *protecting* to *preparing* our kids and trusting them to God. And He's given us the ability to do that because of His power in each of us.

*Heavenly Father, my prayer is that I parent out of the love You have poured out for me and my child. I pray that I never parent out of fear, but out of the unending love and grace You've shown me. Let my child see glimpses of You through my love for them. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

# Happenings in CM!



## UPROAR

Everyone had a great time at our UPROAR event on May 3! We ate tacos and headed out into the surrounding neighborhood for our Bigger and Better challenge. Our kids found many treasures! Our next UPROAR event will be a scavenger hunt and ice cream in downtown Naperville on June 11 from 12 Noon-3pm. Sign up online!





# Volunteer

Get involved! Children's Ministries invites you to join us in the care and discipleship of our kids! Please prayerfully consider the following opportunities to serve!

- ◇ We are forming a team that will be an extension of ESL and will provide community time and homework help for the kids of families attending ESL (K-5th grade). Seeking adults, and students in MSM and HSM to serve beginning this fall on Tuesday nights, 6:30-8:30p. Contact Amy Pasqualini for more info.
- ◇ CM is always looking for people to serve on Sunday mornings during both the service and discipleship hour. Commitment can range from 1-4 times per month. Contact the CM office!



**NPC VBS IS ON THE WAY!**

**MONDAY-THURSDAY  
JUNE 25-28  
FROM 1-3:30PM.**

**The Early Bird Deadline has passed. Cost is now \$35.**

**Final registration deadline is June 10.**

**REGISTER ONLINE @  
[NPCHURCH.ORG/VBS2018](http://NPCHURCH.ORG/VBS2018)**



## Book of the Month

The June Book of the Month is  
“Exploring the Bible: A Bible Reading Plan for Kids”  
by David Murray.

This book leads kids through the Bible one day at a time over the course of a year, helping them see the overarching story of God's Word and laying the foundation for a lifetime of discovering truths about God, humanity, and the gospel.

Recommended for ages 6-12.



# June

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Prayer for students in den at 9:30am. All are welcome!	2
3 Classes for Infants-5th Grade during the 9:30 Service and during Discipleship Hour from 11am to Noon.	4	5	6	7	8 Prayer for students in den at 9:30am. All are welcome!	9
10 Classes for Infants-5th Grade during the 9:30 Service and during Discipleship Hour from 11am to Noon. <b>Today is a Communion Sunday.</b> <b>VBS registration deadline!</b>	11 UPROAR Bigger and Better Scavenger Hunt for 4th-12th grade from 12pm-3pm.	12	13	14	15 Prayer for students in den at 9:30am. All are welcome!	16
17 Classes for Infants-5th Grade during the 9:30 Service and during Discipleship Hour from 11am to Noon.	18	19	20	21	22 Prayer for students in den at 9:30am. All are welcome!	23
24 Classes for Infants-5th Grade during the 9:30 Service. <b>This is a Worship and Faith Apps Sunday—K-5th Grade goes to the MPR at the beginning of service.</b> Discipleship Hour from 11am to Noon.	25  VBS 1pm-3:30pm	26  VBS 1pm-3:30pm	27  VBS 1pm-3:30pm	28  VBS 1pm-3:30pm Parents are invited to our wrap up celebration and Kona Ice at 3:30pm.	29  VBS participants are invited to participate in packing food at FMSC from 12pm-2pm. Adult participation is required.	30