



WEEK FOUR

TWELVE MEN CHECK OUT THE LAND OF CANAAN • NUMBERS 13-14



SAY THIS:

YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU SHOULD EVEN WHEN OTHERS ARE AFRAID.



REMEMBER THIS:

"Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go."

JOSHUA 1:9B, NIrV



DO THIS:



While on the road this month ask, "What are some things you worry about?" Don't just limit the question to the child in the car; ask everyone and talk about it.

COURAGE:

BEING BRAVE ENOUGH TO DO WHAT YOU SHOULD DO, EVEN WHEN YOU'RE AFRAID



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### BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN THE HOME AND THE CLASSROOM

With Teacher of the Year: Pamela Padak

For many families, there aren't many people who will spend as much time with your kid than their teacher does. With that in mind, it pays to have a positive relationship with the person who will be pouring so many hours into our children when they're not in our care.

It's not uncommon; however, for there to be tension between teachers and parents. Parents often find themselves frustrated by the amount of homework sent home. (I mean, come on! Don't they know how many sports practices my kid has each week?) Teacher sometimes get annoyed when parents aren't as engaged as they'd like them to be. (Would it kill you to open and read the emails we send?) There's often miscommunication on both sides, leading to mutual frustration that don't benefit the student.

So here are a few things you can do to bridge the gap between the home and classroom.

- **Ask your child questions.** The best way to engage your child is to ask open-ended, clarifying questions about their day. Their answers will not only give you insight into what happened when you were apart from each other, but will also give you something to talk about with their teacher.

- **Read what teachers send home.** Teachers send emails so parents can keep up to date on what's happening with their student. Read this! Not only will it keep you in the loop and decrease teacher frustration, but it'll also allow you to have a more rich conversation with your kid about their school life.
- **Give teachers feedback.** As parents, we're quick to send feedback when something goes wrong. But how often do we send feedback when things go well? Send a quick email or text to your child's teacher telling them how much you appreciate something small they did this week in your child's classroom.

For the sake of your kid, make every effort this week to partner with their teacher, support their efforts, and appreciate their investment. It can make more of a difference than you think.

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