

# God's Story Our Story

August 23, 2015

*Faith 5 – A pattern for shaping a life of faith*



## Share:

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

**Read:** Reflect on the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*John 4:4-42 It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'*

## Talk:

- When have you seen with your own eyes and heard with your own ears honest to goodness GOOD NEWS?
- What are some social norms you live by every day? (Where to sit; what are the unspoken rules at work?)
- When has new life appeared in a place you thought was a dead end?

## Pray:

Faithful God, you sent Jesus to constantly surprise, shock, and delight us as he broke all the rules of polite society to show your love. Help to make us so bold not in our name but yours. Amen.

## Bless:

May God walk with you into new places where God already is. Amen.

## "Pray Ground Experiment"

We gathered together a group of families with small children and talked about what it is like to come to worship at River of Hope with wiggly ones. For the month of August, we decided to experiment with an in-worship nursery area for small ones so that parents can keep a watchful eye and still be present in worship.

Because River of Hope actively involves children of all ages in worship leadership, this seems to fit with our M.O. Kids soak in all kinds of things as they are with the worshiping body. Prayers and song, sitting and standing, bread and wine are all embodied activities that these young ones embody with us in their own way.

Parents are invited and encouraged to use the "Crying and Gnashing of Teeth Outer Darkness" area for when things aren't going well. (Back in the Senior Center with the comfortable couches so at least one of you is comfortable.)

1. The Pray Ground is for kids not yet in kindergarten and younger.
2. Parents, please keep an eye on your little one and intervene if things get too rowdy.
3. Worshipers, please continue to show your empathy and solidarity with parents who are practicing this critical part of faith with their children.

Give your feedback throughout the month of August. Is it too disruptive? What do you like about it? What are your ideas?