

COLUMBUS CHURCH OF CHRIST



FAITH AT HOME
— BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES —

Puzzle devotional:

As a family work on a puzzle upside down and time how long it takes to complete it. (You may set a time limit or for another variation mix in a few pieces that don't go with your puzzle.) **You could even time each member of the family and give a prize for the fastest puzzler. (Maybe some Reese's Pieces) Now work it right side up and time it.**

After working the puzzle both ways, ask your kids, "which way was easier?" Explain that when we can't see the whole picture, we can wind up frustrated and it takes longer. (if your kids fought you may want to address what led to this here) Explain that trying to make our own decisions without following God is like trying to work a puzzle upside down without seeing the picture. Have them imagine how long it would take to do a 1000- or 5000-piece puzzle without knowing the picture. God knows us what will work best for us because He sees the whole picture of our lives. When we turn to him the pieces fit.

If you chose to add in some other pieces, you can ask your kids:

- How they felt when they found out some pieces didn't fit.
- How did they discover which pieces didn't fit? Probably when they saw the picture. (when we look at the picture God gave us for our lives and compare it to the pieces we have we can easily see what doesn't belong)
- Why is putting a puzzle together easier when you can see the whole picture?

Read these two scriptures together:

- **Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.
- **Proverbs 14:12** There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Close by having your kids say this:

God knows where I fit because he sees all of it.