



# connecting church and home

An unknown author once wrote the following short story:

- Chapter I *I walk down the street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I fall in. It takes forever to find a way out.*
- Chapter II *I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I fall in again. I can't believe I am in this same place.*
- Chapter III *I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I still fall in ... it's becoming a habit, I get out immediately.*
- Chapter IV *I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I walk around it.*
- Chapter V *I walk down another street.*

## connect

Don't we all wish that it was really that simple? The problem with sin and the trials that we most often battle is that they are not easily avoidable. Genesis 4:7 describes how sin is often crouching at our door. Can you picture it? Do we as parents realize that our children often battle sin? We are tempted to think that if we could just find a healthier environment for our children, then sin wouldn't find them. But Adam and Eve were in the Garden of Eden and sin found them. Let's exhort our children this week with the truth found only in Scripture and encourage them to stand in Christ as their rock and their deliverer.

In these Treasure Stories, your children will see how the Israelites kept returning to their sin even after God showed them favor. God was still faithful to them, although He hated their sin. Your children are in a battle with sin for holiness. With this discussion, also consider talking about discipline with your children, what happens when they disobey, and how the discipline they receive is for their good.

**Treasure Verse:** "Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!" (Psalm 115:1)

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**"The central focus of parenting is the Gospel.**  
 You need to direct not simply the behavior of your children, but the attitudes of their hearts."— *Tedd Tripp, Shepherding a Child's Heart, xxi*  
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**Family Discipleship**  
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