

God's Hands at Work

Look down at your hands. Wiggle your fingers! Clap them together. What types of things have your hands done today? Did they feed your body? Did they write words at school, carry a ball, or wave to a friend? Did they send a text message or post a picture online? Our hands are busy.

(Tell a story about the first time you held your child in your hands, or the first time your child grabbed your finger with his/her hand.)

God uses his hands in our lives to protect and bless us! Sometimes God's hands are like a gentle whisper, other times they can feel more firm, showing us what we should or shouldn't do.

This activity takes the basic concept of the festive paper plate game to the next level. You will get to experience the difference between creating a life solo and creating a life with the help of God's hands.

Each person will need a paper plate and a marker or pencil. Direct your family members to place the plate on their heads. During the activity they cannot take it down to look at their picture. It has to stay in place.

Give these commands:

1. Draw a house.
2. Draw a sun in the sky.
3. If you haven't already, put a chimney and windows on the house.
4. Draw a line where the ground should be.
5. Add flowers coming up from the ground.
6. Place a happy face on the sun.
7. Draw a tree on the side of the house.
8. Add a person to the scene under the tree.

Now let everyone look at their artistic creations! It is always silly to see how the scenes turn out. Ask a few questions. Was it difficult to know where to put the objects? What was the hardest part about drawing this pictures? What would have made it easier?

Now, play a second round. Choose partners. Let one person be the artist and the other gets to represent "Gods Hands." It's a pretty important role! Repeat the process and read the instructions aloud. The artist will still draw the objects on the plate, but this time they will have "God's Hands" to direct and assist them. The helper can use their hands to place the marker in a good spot on the plate, or to shape the objects in an appropriate manner.

Once the eight steps are competed for the second time, compare the two finished scenes. Which one was easier to do? Did it help to have someone

who could see the whole picture guiding the artist? Was it hard to give some control over to the helper?

This activity is to help your family understand that God is the ultimate creator. Under the direction of His powerful hands, the world was created. We were created and we trust in God to help us in our lives. If we try to live life on our own, without God, things can (and most likely WILL) get pretty messy. Just like our pictures. Even when you try your best, it is hard to live a happy and complete life without the influence of our Heavenly Father. God's hands are always reaching out for us. He loves us. He cares for us. He is our Father. He wants to walk with us. He will pick us up when we are feeling sad, clap for us when we are doing good, wipe away our tears, and point out the way we need to go. If we walk hand in hand with God, we will go forward with faith and never be alone.

