

parenting for faith



Unwinding Wrong Views

Helping our children build a healthy understanding of God

Part of our role in our kids' lives is to help them develop a full and deep view of God, so that they want to connect with Him. As we discover how they see God, we can get an idea of where they're at, and then gently unwind any unbalanced views. Here are a few:



Distant/Busy God

- God is far away on a cloud somewhere
- He's very busy looking after everyone
- Kids don't want to interrupt Him with their small stuff
- **Unwind** by proactively reminding that God promises to always be with us. Talk about stories and/or songs that remind us of that. Don't rush prayers



Happy God

- This version of God smiles through whatever is happening, He's always happy
- Kids may want to seek His approval
- God can seem uncaring about the reality of their lives
- **Unwind** by adding helpful relational truths, eg in the prodigal son God loves us no matter what we do, He is with us even in painful times in our lives



Angry God

- God is in the sky on His throne passing judgement on everyone and is impossible to please
- **Unwind** by being careful how we talk about sin. Sin makes a mess and puts a wall between us and God. God sent Jesus to break down that wall.
- **Unwind** by choosing bible stories that emphasis God's love for us



Mysterious God

- God is mysterious and changeable, we never know how He is going to react
- This can be reinforced by saying things like "God works in mysterious ways", "God has a bigger plan", or we try to guess why God has done or not done something
- **Unwind** by explaining everything and answering questions the best you can using what we know about God to be true



Buddy God

- God likes to be my buddy and does everything with me
- I am the centre of my relationship of God, it becomes all about me
- **Unwind** by talking about how God works all over the world in many different situations. He invites us to join Him to do what He wants to do