

# heartfelt Newsletter

August 2010

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Luke 12:13-21

THEME: Bob the Builder™

family  
round  
the  
table

EATING TOGETHER



Decorations: Bob the Builder™ play figures or pictures of Bob the Builder™ mounted on cardboard so they can stand up. Add a #10 tin can holding various tools –hammer, screwdriver, pliers.

## MENU

Build Your Own Taco, Spanish Rice, Cinnamon Applesauce

Place the taco ingredients in separate containers and invite family members to “build” their own tacos.

### Spanish Rice

(serves 6)

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 large onion chopped   | 3 tablespoons of olive oil |
| 1 large garlic clove smashed  | 1 1/2 cup rice             |
| 1 (28 oz) can crushed tomatoes with liquid                                  | Salt & Pepper              |
| 1 1/2 cup liquid - boiling water or chicken broth                           |                            |
| Optional: 1 cup chopped green bell pepper, 1 small can of mushrooms drained |                            |

Preparation:

1. In a saucepot, over medium heat, sauté onion (and green pepper) in oil, then add garlic.
2. Stir in raw rice and cook and stir until rice gets a pale tan color.
3. Add tomatoes with liquid, boiling water ( or broth ) and bring to a boil,
4. Cover and simmer until rice has absorbed the liquid and is tender. Stir in mushrooms if desired.
5. When tender, fluff with fork and serve.

### Blessing:

*Be present at our table Lord,  
Be here and everywhere adored.  
These mercies bless and grant that we  
May strengthened for your service be.*



## PLAYING TOGETHER

### Activity One: Build It!

**Materials:** dice, LEGOS™ or similar building blocks.

**Directions:**

1. Building materials are placed in center of table.
2. First player rolls a dice and does the “work” assigned to that number on the dice. Then the first person passes the dice to next person.
3. Use this code for the number rolled:
  - 1 = Structure Failure! Remove last item added to structure!
  - 2, 3, 4 = Add this many items to structure.
  - 5 = Take a break. Pass die to next person.
  - 6 = Team Work! Ask another person to help you add 6 items!
4. Set a time limit to see how big, elaborate, creative a structure can be built in that time.

### Activity Two: Build It! Version 2

**Materials:** LEGOS™ or similar building blocks, timer, camera

**Directions:**

1. Divide the family into teams. Each team will work on its own structure.
2. Set a timer for a certain length of time. At end of the time limit, teams will share structures!
3. Take team photos with their structures and post in a place where you can enjoy seeing them.
4. Give awards for most elaborate, tallest, most creative, etc. Lots of cheers and applause for all the creative work!



## STUDYING GOD’S WORD TOGETHER

- Share that in our Bible Story today, Jesus tells a story about a man who builds a barn. We don’t know what the man’s name was – maybe he was Bob!
- Listen as the story is read to see if you can figure out what Jesus is teaching with this story.
- Invite a family member to read Luke 12:13-2.

### Reflection Questions for the Family

1. What do you think the man who came to Jesus wanted?
2. Why do you think Jesus told him the story about the man building the barn?
3. What do you think will happen to the man’s riches when he dies?
4. What do you think this story is really about?
5. What kind of things do you wish for that you think would make you happy?
6. What do you think the words “poor in the sight of God” mean?



# PRAYING TOGETHER

- Light a worship candle and place the open Bible next to it.
- If possible obtain a recording of “Big House” by Audio Adrenaline or The Newsboys and listen to it as a family.
- Responsively read Psalm 107:1-8 (adapted from CEV):

**ALL: Shout praises to the LORD!**

Reader 1: He is good to us, and his love never fails.

*Reader 2: Everyone the LORD has rescued from trouble should praise him,*

Reader 3: Everyone he has brought from the east and the west, the north and the south.

*Reader 1: Some of you were lost in the scorching desert, far from a town.*

Reader 2: You were hungry and thirsty and about to give up.

*Reader 3: You were in serious trouble, but you prayed to the LORD, and he rescued you.*

**ALL: We will praise the LORD for his love and for the wonderful things he does for all of us.**

- Invite family members to share their joys and concerns and to pray for each other.
- Close with this prayer:  
*Loving God, you have provided us with everything we need: loving family and friends, a home to shelter us and provide us a comfortable place to live, food to satisfy our every hunger, and opportunities to learn and serve.*

*Forgive us, Lord, when we take all of this for granted and whine because we don't have more! Forgive when we spend so much of our time in the pursuit of happiness and leave you behind. Nudge us; shake us awake to your very presence and your call upon our lives.*

*May your spirit surround us and remind us of what makes our lives filled with true wealth: your love and sharing that love with those in our hungry hurting world. In the name of Jesus, the richest gift of all, Amen.*