



Summer fun is in the cards!

This summer's **Talkabout**, a set of 78 parable cards (four cards matching each of the 13 sessions, *plus* 26 “Any Day” cards), can be used anywhere, any time—during the summer quarter and beyond!

Allow time during worship for an introduction of the Talkabout. You might briefly explain how to use the cards, or have a short dedication as they are presented to each family.

Tips for summer teaching

Summer is a great time to study the parables, which call us to see familiar things in new ways. Summer also can be the perfect time to rearrange the way we do Sunday school. Change your pace. Enjoy a break from your routine. Take a risk!

- **Combine parents and children** for intergenerational learning. Invite families to prepare a response activity based on a parable one or two times during the quarter. Or stay together for the gathering time and Bible story and separate into breakout groups for Responding.
- **Gather all children together** for singing, memory work, the Bible story, Reflecting and Connecting times. Break into smaller groups for Responding time.
- **If you prefer smaller class sizes**, switch rooms and mix children into multiage groupings so they experience the sessions with different people.
- **Set up a variety of stations** for Responding activities, prepared for broadly aged groups. Allow children to choose their activity.
- **If your church doesn't schedule Sunday school in summer**, consider following a parable theme for worship services. Use music, prayers, and stories from Multiage and Parent/Caregiver materials for worship. Plan a brief responding time for the whole congregation or as part of the children's time.
- **Give each household with children** a copy of *Connect, My Bible Storybook* or *Together*, and the Talkabout. Hand out the Talkabout before families leave for vacations, and encourage them to take the cards wherever they go.

Special tips for junior youth

Gather 'Round Multiage materials always include tips to modify sessions for junior youth. Here are even more options for the summer quarter:

- **Leadership training.** Invite junior youth to become co-teachers. Encourage youth to use their special gifts to teach younger children. Which junior youth might lead singing or accompany with an instrument? Who is a good storyteller? What response activities would a junior youth particularly enjoy preparing and leading?
- **Learning buddies.** Pair each junior youth with a younger child for activities. Just as a teacher can be a mentor for a youth, so the youth can become a mentor to a younger child.
- **Team up with parents.** Some great connections can be made if junior youth and parents join together for Sunday school. Use *Connect* (the Parent/Caregiver guide), the Multiage teacher's guide, and the Talkabout as resources for an intergenerational experience.
- **Offer activity time just for them.** Allow junior youth to meet separately for Responding time and work together on their own, age-appropriate activities as described in the Multiage teacher's guide.