

Loyalty Activities

Language of Loyalty

The word *loyalty* has a certain air about it. Possibly because it sounds like *royalty*, or perhaps because people take the word seriously, To be loyal—a loyal friend, a loyal fan, a loyal spouse, sibling, or child—is the mark of a true person of character. Good people are loyal people.

This is probably why being loyal—or being *faithful*—gets talked about so much in church circles. We know that God is loyal to us—and thus, we ought to be loyal to God and to one another.

And to be loyal means that we stick with God, with our loved ones, with our pets, and to a lesser extent, with our sports teams, no matter what.

As a family, talk about times you've *been* loyal and when someone has been loyal to you. How did it change your relationship? How did it change your life?

Loyalty Stories

Some of the best stories in the world are stories that show great loyalty. Spend some time as a family reading one of these great stories.

From the Bible:

- The story of Ruth and Naomi
- The story of Mordecai and Esther
- The story of Jesus and Mary Magdelene

From your local bookstore or library:

- Hachiko: The True Story of a Loyal Dog, by Pamela S. Turner
- Tara and Tiree, Fearless Friends, by Andrew Clements
- Wonder, by R. J. Palacio

Yarn Bracelets

Jewelry has been used to signify loyalty as far back as ancient times—and shows no signs of letting up. From friendship bracelets to wedding bands, we use jewelry to signify that we belong to one another and that we'll be true to one another.

Families can make special loyalty bracelets too. They can either be very simple (following the directions below!) or more complex (the internet and your local craft stores are full of ideas!). Either way, creating, sharing, and wearing bracelets that are meaningful to your family show you and the world you belong to each other and remind you of your love and loyalty.

Instructions:

1. Select several colors of yarn (preferably colors your family loves!)
2. Cut yarn into 8-in strips
3. Choose 3 strips to braid together
4. Tie off ends
5. “Size” individual bracelets with yet another knot (NOTE: do NOT make bracelets too tight. They should be able to slip off when pulled)
6. Consider saying a special prayer over the bracelets

Prayer suggestion: Lord, make us ever loyal to one another. Always filled with kind words and good deeds. Also, make us loyal to you. Thank you for being loyal to us. Amen.

True Blue

Calling someone “true blue” is of course, calling them loyal. Because of this, the very color blue can be a fun way to remind ourselves to *be* loyal.

While some say the idea of equating blue with loyalty came from the ever-blueness of the sky and others say it has to do with the permanence of blue dye, either way: blue has become the color of loyalty.

As a family, go around your house and see just how many color blues you can see. Every time someone spots something blue, say “True Blue!” and that person gets a point.

The purpose of the game isn’t actually about winning the most points (though, this is always fun), but training yourselves to think about your devotion to one another whenever you see the color blue.