



Making Magic

How do you in your family treasure the magic moments?

The more you can notice and celebrate the magic bits the more you can enjoy the job of caring for young children.

Have you tried ...

- ✂ taking and printing out photos of special moments for the kids to see and tell stories about them
- ✂ pausing at the start of a mealtime to be grateful ... get in the habit of each person saying one thing they are thankful for
- ✂ special moments at bedtime, maybe a special song or finger rhyme
- ✂ telling stories about magic moments with grandparents and other friends and family
- ✂ ease over grumpy stressful times with a silly song, or just sitting for a hug
- ✂ hiding special treats for the kids to find
- ✂ making magic places, hiding places, huts and tents out of sheets behind the sofa
- ✂ treasure hunts, looking for bugs and flowers and leaves and making a magic garden with all the special discoveries

... what else do you do that makes each day just a bit MAGIC??

... what did you used to do that it's easy to forget to make time for?

... what crazy idea would you love to try if only you could get around to it?

The greatest magic of all is the power of forgiveness.

It is easy to love and feel loving when things are going well and people are in harmony. It is so much harder when harsh words have been spoken and voices raised, when people have let you down or hurt you. Parenting young children demands of us that we forgive them over and over again, even if they hit or bite us, make messes and break things. The amazing thing about forgiveness is that we can offer it again and again. It doesn't even depend on the child or other person saying sorry or making up for what they've done. We forgive because we can, because we know ourselves to be loved.

The mighty word for this kind of magic is GRACE. Grace is "pure gift", giving love to another not because they have earned it, and despite all they've done to reject it. This is 'Unconditional Love', and it is only possible when we experience it for ourselves ... that you are loved not because you have earned it, and despite all you have done to reject it, but just because you are greatly loved.



Here is a modern translation of a letter written to the church in Rome 2000 years ago (Romans 3:22-24)

"The God-setting-things-right that we read about has become Jesus-setting-things-right for us. And not only for us, but for everyone who believes in him. ... Out of sheer generosity God put us in right standing with himself. A pure gift. He got us out of the mess we're in and restored us to where he always wanted us to be. And he did it by means of Jesus Christ."

