



God's Good Creation

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground."

So God created human beings in his own image.

In the image of God he created them;

male and female he created them.



Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

Then God said, "Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. And I have given every green plant as food for all the wild animals, the birds in the sky, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—everything that has life." And that is what happened.

Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good!

And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day.

Genesis 1:26-31, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What are some of your favorite things that God created? Why?
- What do you think it means to be made in God's image?
- How do you feel knowing that God made people special and called them “very good”?

For Younger Kids

- What are some ways people are different from animals or trees?
- How can you show God’s love to others this week?

For Older Kids

- What do you think it means that we are made to “be like” God?
- What parts of God's character (like kindness, creativity, or truthfulness) do you want to show more in your life?

For Parents to Reflect

- What responsibilities did God give people in creation? What does that mean for how we treat the world and each other?
- How does this passage help us understand our identity and purpose?

Key Point: *God created everything, and he made me to be like him.*

Prayer Prompt to Close

“God, thank you for making everything, and for making me in your image. Help me show your love, kindness, and creativity to the world around me.”



The First Sin

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, “Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?”

“Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,” the woman replied. “It’s only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, ‘You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.’”

“You won’t die!” the serpent replied to the woman. “God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.”

The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too.

At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.



When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the Lord God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the Lord God among the trees. Then the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

He replied, “I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked.”

“Who told you that you were naked?” the Lord God asked. “Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?”



The man replied, "It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it."

Then the Lord God asked the woman, "What have you done?"

"The serpent deceived me," she replied. "That's why I ate it."

Then the Lord God said to the serpent,

*"Because you have done this,
you are cursed...*

*And I will cause hostility between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring.*

*He will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel."*

...

And the Lord God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife.

Genesis 3:1-5,21, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What happened in this story? Can you retell it in your own words?
- Why do you think Adam and Eve hid from God?
- How do you think God felt when Adam and Eve disobeyed him? How do you think they felt?

For Younger Kids

- What is a rule you sometimes have a hard time following?
- What do you do when you make a mistake? Who helps you make it right again?

For Older Kids

- What does it mean that sin broke our friendship with God?
- Verse 15 talks about someone who would crush the serpent's head. Who do you think that is? (Hint: It's Jesus!)

For Parents to Reflect

- What does this story teach us about God's love, even when we mess up?
- Why do you think God made clothes for Adam and Eve before they left the garden? What does that show about his care?

Key Point: *Even when sin separates me, God's love brings me close again.*

Prayer Prompt

“God, thank you for loving us even when we sin. Thank you for sending Jesus to bring us close to you again. Help us to follow you and trust your love every day.”



Two By Two And Lots of Rain Too

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

This is the story of Noah. He was a righteous man, the only blameless person living on earth at the time, and he walked in close fellowship with God.

God said to Noah, “I have decided to destroy all living creatures, for they have filled the earth with violence. “Build a large boat from cypress wood and waterproof it with tar, inside and out. Then construct decks and stalls throughout its interior. Bring a pair of every kind of animal—a male and a female—into the boat with you to keep them alive during the flood. Pairs of every kind of bird, and every kind of animal, and every kind of small animal that scurries along the ground, will come to you to be kept alive. And be sure to take on board enough food for your family and for all the animals.”

So Noah did everything exactly as God had commanded him.

[Later, after the rain stopped and the floodwaters went down...]

But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and livestock with him in the boat. He sent a wind to blow across the earth, and the floodwaters began to recede.

*Then God said, “I am giving you a sign of my covenant with you and all living creatures, for all generations to come. I have placed my rainbow in the clouds. It is the sign of my covenant with you and with all the earth. When I send clouds over the earth, the rainbow will appear in the clouds, **15** and I will remember my covenant with you and with all living creatures. Never again will the floodwaters destroy all life. **16** When I see the rainbow in the clouds, I will remember the eternal covenant between God and every living creature on earth.”* **Genesis 6:9,11 14, 19- 22, 8:1, 9:12-16, NLT**





To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What did God ask Noah to do? Was it easy or hard to follow?
- What did Noah do when God gave him instructions?
- How do you think Noah felt while building the ark or waiting for the flood to end?

For Younger Kids

- What's your favorite animal that might have been on the ark?
- What do you think it means that God keeps his promises?

For Older Kids

- Have you ever had to trust someone without fully understanding why? What was that like?
- The rainbow was a sign of God's promise. What are some promises God makes to us today?

For Parents to Reflect or Ask

- How can we help each other trust God when his plan doesn't make sense right away?
- Where have we seen God keep his promises in our lives as a family?

Key Point: *God always keeps his promises, even when we don't understand his plan.*

Prayer Prompt

"God, thank you for always keeping your promises. Help us trust you, even when we don't understand your plan. Help us to follow you like Noah did—with faith and obedience."



A Big Promise From A Big God

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

The LORD had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you. I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you.”

So Abram departed as the LORD had instructed, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran.

Then the LORD said to him, “No, your servant will not be your heir, for you will have a son of your own who will be your heir.” Then the LORD took Abram outside and said to him, “Look up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That’s how many descendants you will have!”

And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD counted him as righteous because of his faith.



Genesis 12:1-5, Genesis 12:4-6, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- Have you ever made a promise to someone? What was it? Did you keep it?
- What did God promise Abraham in this story?
- Was it easy or hard for Abraham to believe God's promise? Why do you think so?
- **For Younger Kids**
- Have you ever had to wait a long time for something? What was that like?
- Can you think of a promise God has made, like always being with you or loving you?

For Older Kids

- Abraham trusted God even when he didn't see how the promise would come true. What does it mean to trust someone?
- What is one way you can show you trust God this week?

For the Whole Family

- What are some promises we know God makes to us today? (Examples: God loves us, God forgives us, God is always with us.)
- Why do you think it matters that God always keeps his promises? How does that help us trust him?

Key Point: *We worship a God who always keeps his promises.*

Prayer Prompt

"God, thank you for always keeping your promises. Help us trust you like Abraham did, even when we don't know how everything will work out."



The Big Test

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

Some time later, God tested Abraham's faith. "Abraham!" God called.

"Yes," he replied. "Here I am."

"Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you."

The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son, Isaac. Then he chopped wood for a fire for a burnt offering and set out for the place God had told him about. On the third day of their journey, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. "Stay here with the donkey," Abraham told the servants. "The boy and I will travel a little farther. We will worship there, and then we will come right back."

So Abraham placed the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac's shoulders, while he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them walked on together, Isaac turned to Abraham and said, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.

"We have the fire and the wood," the boy said, "but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?"

"God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son," Abraham answered. And they both walked on together.

When they arrived at the place where God had told him to go, Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood on it. Then he tied his son, Isaac, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. And Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice. At that moment the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Yes," Abraham replied. "Here I am!"



“Don’t lay a hand on the boy!” the angel said. “Do not hurt him in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld from me even your son, your only son.”

Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in a thicket. So he took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering in place of his son. Abraham named the place Yahweh-Yireh (which means “the LORD will provide”). To this day, people still use that name as a proverb: “On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.”



Then the angel of the LORD called again to Abraham from heaven.

“This is what the LORD says: Because you have obeyed me and have not withheld even your son, your only son, I swear by my own name that I will certainly bless you. I will multiply your descendants beyond number, like the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will conquer the cities of their enemies. And through your descendants all the nations of the earth will be blessed—all because you have obeyed me.”

Genesis 11:1-18, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- Have you ever been asked to do something hard or scary? What did you do?
- What did God ask Abraham to do with his son, Isaac?
- How did Abraham show that he trusted God?

For Younger Kids

- What are some things you need every day? Who helps provide those for you?
- Can you think of a time when someone helped you right when you needed it?

For Older Kids

- Why do you think Abraham obeyed God, even though he didn't understand the plan?
- What do you think it means that "God provides"? Can you give an example from your own life?

For the Whole Family

- Why do you think it's important to trust God, even when things don't make sense?
- Can you think of something you're waiting on or needing right now? How can we trust God together for that?

Key Point: *God is the one who provides—even when we don't understand.*

Prayer Prompt

"God, thank you for being the one who provides. Help us to trust you, even when we don't know what will happen next."



From Pit to Palace

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

So when Joseph arrived, his brothers ripped off the beautiful robe he was wearing. Then they grabbed him and threw him into the cistern. Now the cistern was empty; there was no water in it. Then, just as they were sitting down to eat, they looked up and saw a caravan of camels in the distance coming toward them. It was a group of Ishmaelite traders taking a load of gum, balm, and aromatic resin from Gilead down to Egypt.

Judah said to his brothers, “What will we gain by killing our brother? We’d have to cover up the crime. Instead of hurting him, let’s sell him to those Ishmaelite traders. After all, he is our brother—our own flesh and blood!” And his brothers agreed. So when the Ishmaelites, who were Midianite traders, came by, Joseph’s brothers pulled him out of the cistern and sold him to them for twenty pieces of silver. And the traders took him to Egypt.

Genesis 37:23-28, NLT

So he took Joseph and threw him into the prison where the king’s prisoners were held, and there he remained. But the LORD was with Joseph in the prison and showed him his faithful love. And the LORD made Joseph a favorite with the prison warden. Before long, the warden put Joseph in charge of all the other prisoners and over everything that happened in the prison. The warden had no more worries, because Joseph took care of everything. The LORD was with him and caused everything he did to succeed.

Genesis 39:20-23, NLT

Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Since God has revealed the meaning of the dreams to you, clearly no one else is as intelligent or wise as you are. You will be in charge of my court, and all my people will take orders from you. Only I, sitting on my throne, will have a rank higher than yours.”



Genesis 41:39-40, NLT

“Please, come closer,” he said to them. So they came closer. And he said again, “I am Joseph, your brother, whom you sold into slavery in Egypt. But don’t be upset, and don’t be angry with yourselves for selling me to this place. It was God who sent me here ahead of you to preserve your lives. This famine that has ravaged the land for two years will last five more years, and there will be neither plowing nor harvesting. God has sent me ahead of you to keep you and your families alive and to preserve many survivors. So it was God who sent me here, not you! And he is the one who made me an adviser to Pharaoh—the manager of his entire palace and the governor of all Egypt.

Genesis 45:4-8, NLT

But Joseph replied, “Don’t be afraid of me. Am I God, that I can punish you? You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people. No, don’t be afraid. I will continue to take care of you and your children.” So he reassured them by speaking kindly to them.

Genesis 50:19-21



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What are some of the hard things that happened to Joseph?
- How do we know that God was with Joseph, even in those hard times?
- What good things did God bring out of Joseph's hard story?

For Younger Kids

- Have you ever had something happen that didn't feel fair or made you sad?
- Who helps you feel better when you're having a hard day?
- What does it mean to trust God, even when life is hard?

For Older Kids

- Why do you think Joseph forgave his brothers after everything they did to him?
- Have you ever had to forgive someone? What helped you do that?
- Can you think of a time something seemed bad at first, but God used it for something good?

For the Whole Family

- What does this story show us about God's promises and His plan for our lives?
- How can we trust God together as a family when something hard happens?
- What is one way we can show forgiveness or trust this week?

Key Point: *Even when bad things happen, I can trust God's good plan.*

Prayer Prompt

"God, thank you for being with us no matter what happens. Help us to trust your plan like Joseph did, and to forgive others the way he forgave his brothers."



Bugs, Frogs, and Pharaoh—Oh My!

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Pay close attention to this. I will make you seem like God to Pharaoh, and your brother, Aaron, will be your prophet. Tell Aaron everything I command you, and Aaron must command Pharaoh to let the people of Israel leave his country. But I will make Pharaoh’s heart stubborn so I can multiply my miraculous signs and wonders in the land of Egypt. Even then Pharaoh will refuse to listen to you. So I will bring down my fist on Egypt. Then I will rescue my forces—my people, the Israelites—from the land of Egypt with great acts of judgment. When I raise my powerful hand and bring out the Israelites, the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD.”

So Moses and Aaron did just as the LORD had commanded them.

Exodus 7:1-6, NLT

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Pharaoh’s heart is stubborn, and he still refuses to let the people go. So go to Pharaoh in the morning as he goes down to the river. Stand on the bank of the Nile and meet him there. Be sure to take along the staff that turned into a snake. Then announce to him, ‘The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to tell you, “Let my people go, so they can worship me in the wilderness.” Until now, you have refused to listen to him. So this is what the LORD says: “I will show you that I am the LORD.” Look! I will strike the water of the Nile with this staff in my hand, and the river will turn to blood. The fish in it will die, and the river will stink. The Egyptians will not be able to drink any water from the Nile.”’

Then the LORD said to Moses: “Tell Aaron, ‘Take your staff and raise your hand over the waters of Egypt—all its rivers, canals, ponds, and all the reservoirs. Turn all the water to blood. Everywhere in Egypt the water will turn to blood, even the water stored in wooden bowls and stone pots.”’

So Moses and Aaron did just as the LORD commanded them. As Pharaoh and all of his officials watched, Aaron raised his staff and struck the water of the Nile. Suddenly, the whole river turned to blood! The fish in the river died, and the water became so foul



that the Egyptians couldn't drink it. There was blood everywhere throughout the land of Egypt. But again the magicians of Egypt used their magic, and they, too, turned water into blood. So Pharaoh's heart remained hard. He refused to listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had predicted. Pharaoh returned to his palace and put the whole thing out of his mind. Then all the Egyptians dug along the riverbank to find drinking water, for they couldn't drink the water from the Nile.

Exodus 7:14-24, NLT

So Aaron raised his hand over the waters of Egypt, and frogs came up and covered the whole land!

Exodus 8:6, NLT

So Moses and Aaron did just as the LORD had commanded them. When Aaron raised his hand and struck the ground with his staff, gnats infested the entire land, covering the Egyptians and their animals. All the dust in the land of Egypt turned into gnats.

Exodus 8:17, NLT

And the LORD did just as he had said. A thick swarm of flies filled Pharaoh's palace and the houses of his officials. The whole land of Egypt was thrown into chaos by the flies.

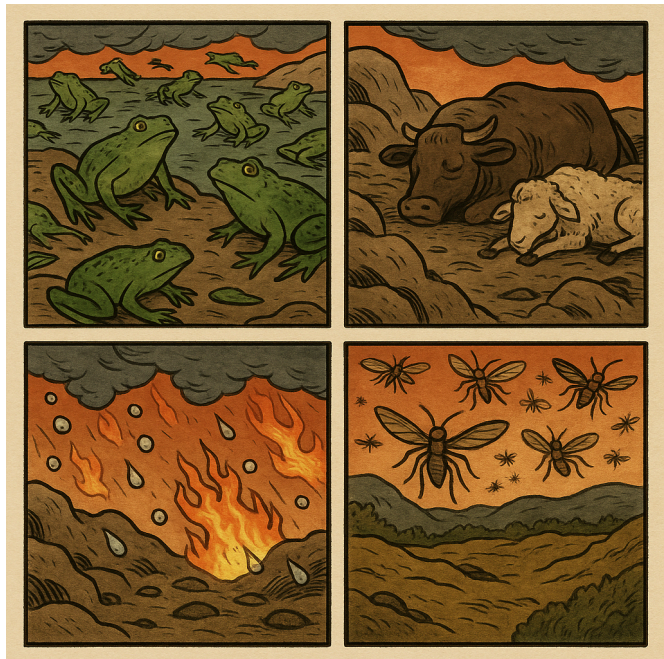
Exodus 8:24, NLT

And the LORD did just as he had said. The next morning all the livestock of the Egyptians died, but the Israelites didn't lose a single animal.

Exodus 9:6, NLT

So they took soot from a brick kiln and went and stood before Pharaoh. As Pharaoh watched, Moses threw the soot into the air, and boils broke out on people and animals alike.

Exodus 9:10, NLT





So Moses lifted his staff toward the sky, and the Lord sent thunder and hail, and lightning flashed toward the earth. The Lord sent a tremendous hailstorm against all the land of Egypt. Never in all the history of Egypt had there been a storm like that, with such devastating hail and continuous lightning.

Exodus 9:23-24, NLT

And the locusts swarmed over the whole land of Egypt, settling in dense swarms from one end of the country to the other. It was the worst locust plague in Egyptian history, and there has never been another one like it. For the locusts covered the whole country and darkened the land. They devoured every plant in the fields and all the fruit on the trees that had survived the hailstorm. Not a single leaf was left on the trees and plants throughout the land of Egypt.

Exodus 10:14-15, NLT

So Moses lifted his hand to the sky, and a deep darkness covered the entire land of Egypt for three days.

Exodus 10:22, NLT

And that night at midnight, the Lord struck down all the firstborn sons in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn son of Pharaoh, who sat on his throne, to the firstborn son of the prisoner in the dungeon. Even the firstborn of their livestock were killed.

Exodus 12:29, NLT

Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron during the night. “Get out!” he ordered. “Leave my people—and take the rest of the Israelites with you! Go and worship the LORD as you have requested.

Exodus 12:31, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family. Take time this week to read through **Exodus 1–12** as a family. Reading just a chapter or two a day will help you see how God cared for His people and showed his power.

For the Whole Family

- What happened to God’s people in Egypt? Why did they need help?
- How did God use Moses to help the people?
- What are some of the ways God showed his power in this story?

For Younger Kids

- Which part of the story do you think was the most amazing—like the plagues or the Red Sea?
- What does it mean that God rescued his people? How do we know God cares for us too?

For Older Kids

- Why do you think Pharaoh didn’t want to let the people go, even after all the plagues?
- What does this story teach us about trusting God when life is hard or scary? Can you think of a time when you felt scared but someone helped you? How does that remind you of how God helps his people?

For the Whole Family

- What does this story teach us about God's power and promises?
- How can we remind ourselves this week that God is powerful and cares for us?

Key Point: *God’s power shows that he cares for all his people—including me!*

Prayer Prompt

“God, thank you for using your power to care for your people. Help us to remember that you are strong, that you keep your promises, and that you love us.”



Top Ten From God

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

Then God gave the people all these instructions:

"I am the LORD your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery.

"You must not have any other god but me.

"You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children; the entire family is affected—even children in the third and fourth generations of those who reject me. But I lavish unfailing love for a thousand generations on those who love me and obey my commands.

"You must not misuse the name of the LORD your God. The LORD will not let you go unpunished if you misuse his name.

"Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. You have six days each week for your ordinary work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath day of rest dedicated to the LORD your God. On that day no one in your household may do any work. This includes you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants,





your livestock, and any foreigners living among you. For in six days the LORD made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and everything in them; but on the seventh day he rested. That is why the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and set it apart as holy.

“Honor your father and mother. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

“You must not murder.

“You must not commit adultery.

“You must not steal.

“You must not testify falsely against your neighbor.

“You must not covet your neighbor’s house. You must not covet your neighbor’s wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.”

Exodus 20:1-17, NLT

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.
Romans 3:23, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What are the Ten Commandments? Why do you think God gave them to us?
- Which of God's commands do you think is the easiest to follow? Which one might be harder?
- How do God's rules help us show love to him and to others?

For Younger Kids

- Can you name one of the Ten Commandments?
- What's one way you can obey that command this week at home or school?
- Have you ever made a mistake? What happened? Who helped you?

For Older Kids

- God's commands show us what's right, but none of us can keep them perfectly. Why do you think we still need them?
- Romans 3:23 says we all sin. How does it feel to know that God still loves and forgives us?
- What's one command you want to try to follow more closely this week? How can your family help you?

For the Whole Family

- Why is it important to know that everyone makes mistakes—but God forgives us through Jesus?
- How can our family work together to love God and love others this week?

Key Point: *God gave us his commands so we can love him and love others.*

Prayer Prompt

“God, thank you for your commandments that help us know how to love you and others. Help us follow you, and thank you for forgiving us when we mess up.”



Prophecies of the Messiah

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

*For a child is born to us,
a son is given to us.
The government will rest on his shoulders.
And he will be called:
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His government and its peace
will never end.
He will rule with fairness and justice from
the throne of his ancestor David
for all eternity.
The passionate commitment of the Lord of
Heaven's Armies
will make this happen!*

Isaiah 9:6-7, NLT





To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What does it mean that Jesus is the Savior? Who sent him and why?
- Where was Jesus born? Why is that important?
- How does this story show us that God keeps his promises?

For Younger Kids

- What's something special about Jesus being born as a baby?
- Who do you tell good news to? Who would you want to tell that Jesus was born?

For Older Kids

- Isaiah and Micah lived hundreds of years before Jesus. What does it show you that God kept those promises?
- Why do you think God chose to send Jesus to earth instead of helping from far away?
- What does it mean that Jesus came to save *you*? How does that make you feel?

For the Whole Family

- Can you think of a promise God has kept in your life or one you're still trusting Him to keep?
- What's one way we can celebrate that Jesus came for us—not just at Christmas, but all year long?

Key Point: *God the Father sent his Son to save the world—and to save me too.*

Prayer Prompt

“God, thank you for keeping your promises. Thank you for sending Jesus to save the world—and to save me. Help us to trust you and celebrate the good news of Jesus every day.”



Surprised by God's Plan

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"

Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!"

Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin."

The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month. For the word of God will never fail."

Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her.

Luke 1:26-38, NLT





To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- Who came to visit Mary in this story? What message did he bring?
- How do you think Mary felt when she heard the angel's news?
- What did Mary say when the angel told her God's plan? What does that show about her trust in God?

For Younger Kids

- Has something ever surprised you—like a change in plans?
- How do you feel when someone asks you to do something that feels big or hard?
- Who helps you when you need to be brave?

For Older Kids

- Mary didn't know how everything would work out, but she still trusted God. Why do you think she said yes?
- What does this story teach us about how God uses people, even if they don't feel important?
- Is there something in your life right now that you want to trust God with?

For the Whole Family

- What does Mary's example teach us about saying "yes" to God?
- How can we trust God's plan as a family, even when we don't fully understand it?

Key Point: *Because God loves us, we can trust his plan, just like Mary did.*

Prayer Prompt

"God, thank you for loving us and choosing to include people like Mary—and people like us—in your big story. Help us trust your plan, even when it's surprising."



Following the Star, Finding the King

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.

As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. “Joseph, son of David,” the angel said, “do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord’s message through his prophet:

“Look! The virgin will conceive a child!

*She will give birth to a son,
and they will call him Immanuel,
which means ‘God is with us.’”*

When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife.

Matthew 1:18-24, NLT



Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.”

King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, “Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?”

“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they said, “for this is what the prophet wrote: ‘And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah,

are not least among the ruling cities of Judah, for a ruler will come from you who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.’”

Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. Then he told them, “Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!”

After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

After the wise men were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and his mother,” the angel said. “Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

Matthew 2:1-13, NLT





To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- Who were some of the people in the story who heard about Jesus being born?
- How did Joseph respond when the angel told him about Jesus?
- What did the wise men do when they found Jesus? Why do you think they were so happy?

For Younger Kids

- What would you do if you got really exciting news—jump, smile, tell someone?
- How do you think the wise men felt when they saw the star and found Jesus?
- What are some ways you can show joy because Jesus was born?

For Older Kids

- Joseph listened and obeyed God, even when it was hard. What does that show us about trusting God?
- The wise men brought gifts to Jesus. What's something special you would want to give Jesus?
- Why do you think the good news of Jesus still brings joy today?

For the Whole Family

- How can we be like the wise men and show joy because of Jesus?
- What's one way our family can celebrate Jesus together this week?

Key Point: *When we hear the good news of Jesus, we can choose to respond with joy.*

Prayer Prompt

“Jesus, thank you for coming to us. Help us to be like the wise men—full of joy and ready to worship you. Show us how we can share your joy with others.”



The Best Birthday Ever!

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child. And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger."

Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in highest heaven,

and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."

When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often. The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.



Luke 2:1-20, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What happened the night Jesus was born? Who was there?
- Who were the first people to hear the good news? Why do you think God chose shepherds?
- How did the shepherds respond when they heard the angel's message? What did they do next?

For Younger Kids

- How do you think the shepherds felt when the angels showed up in the sky?
- What do you do when you hear good news? (Jump? Smile? Tell someone?)
- What are some ways you can celebrate Jesus' birth with joy?

For Older Kids

- The shepherds were regular people, not kings or leaders. What does that tell you about who Jesus came for?
- Why is it important that the angel called Jesus "the Savior" and "Messiah"?
- How can we share the good news of Jesus with others today—like the shepherds did?

For the Whole Family

- What's one thing that brings you joy about Jesus?
- How can we be like the shepherds and worship Jesus with joy as a family this week?

Key Point: *When we hear the good news about Jesus, we can choose to respond with joy.*

Prayer Prompt

"Jesus, thank you for coming to earth for everyone—including us. Help us be like the shepherds, full of joy and ready to tell others about your love."



Water & Wilderness

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. But John tried to talk him out of it. "I am the one who needs to be baptized by you," he said, "so why are you coming to me?"

But Jesus said, "It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires." So John agreed to baptize him. After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy."

Matthew 3:13-17, NLT



Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry.

During that time the devil came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become loaves of bread."

But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say, 'People do not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city, Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, and said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say, 'He will order his angels to protect you.

And they will hold you up with their hands

so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.'"

Jesus responded, "The Scriptures also say, 'You must not test the Lord your God.'"

Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. "I will give it all to you," he said, "if you will kneel down and worship me."

"Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say,

'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'"

Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.

Matthew 4:1-11, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What did Jesus do at the beginning of this story? Who baptized Him?
- Why do you think Jesus got baptized, even though He never sinned?
- What happened when Jesus was in the desert? Who tried to tempt Him?

For Younger Kids

- What does it mean to obey? Who do you obey at home or school?
- Has anyone ever asked you to do something wrong? What did you do?
- How did Jesus fight temptation? What helped Him say “no”?

For Older Kids

- What does it tell you about Jesus that He used Scripture when He was tempted?
- Have you ever felt tempted to do something you knew wasn’t right? How can you stand strong like Jesus did?
- Why do you think it’s important to obey God even when it’s hard?

For the Whole Family

- What are some ways we can help each other obey God in everyday life?
- How can we use Scripture in our own lives when we face hard choices or temptations?

Key Point: *Jesus obeyed God, and I can too—even when it is hard.*

Prayer Prompt

“Jesus, thank you for showing us how to obey God and do what is right. Help us remember your example and your words when we face hard choices.”



From Fishermen to Followers

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

One day as Jesus was preaching on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, great crowds pressed in on him to listen to the word of God. He noticed two empty boats at the water's edge, for the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets. Stepping into one of the boats, Jesus asked Simon, its owner, to push it out into the water. So he sat in the boat and taught the crowds from there. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Now go out where it is deeper, and let down your nets to catch some fish."

"Master," Simon replied, "we worked hard all last night and didn't catch a thing. But if you say so, I'll let the nets down again." And this time their nets were so full of fish they began to tear! A shout for help brought their partners in the other boat, and soon both boats were filled with fish and on the verge of sinking.

When Simon Peter realized what had happened, he fell to his knees before Jesus and said, "Oh, Lord, please leave me—I'm such a sinful man." For he was awestruck by the number of fish they had caught, as were the others with him. His partners, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were also amazed.

Jesus replied to Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!" And as soon as they landed, they left everything and followed Jesus.

Luke 5:1-11, NLT





To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What happened when Jesus told the fishermen to put their nets in the water again?
- How did the fishermen react when they caught so many fish?
- What did Jesus ask the fishermen to do after the miracle? What was their response?

For Younger Kids

- What do you think it would feel like to leave everything and follow someone?
- Can you think of one way you can follow Jesus today—at home, at school, or with friends?
- Why do you think Jesus picked fishermen instead of kings or famous people?

For Older Kids

- Why do you think the fishermen were willing to leave their jobs and follow Jesus right away?
- What does this story tell us about who Jesus invites to be part of his mission?
- Is there something in your life that would be hard to give up if Jesus asked you to follow him more closely?

For the Whole Family

- What does it look like for a family to follow Jesus today?
- How can we encourage each other to say “yes” to Jesus when he calls us to do something big or brave?

Key Point: *Jesus asked the fishermen to leave everything and follow him, and he calls me to do the same.*

Prayer Prompt

“Jesus, thank you for calling ordinary people to follow you—just like the fishermen. Help us to listen to you and say ‘yes’ when you call us to follow and obey.”



Rainy Days and Rocky Foundations

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

“Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won’t collapse because it is built on bedrock. But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn’t obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash.”

Matthew 7:24-27, NLT





To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What did Jesus say wise people are like in this story? What are foolish people like?
- What happened to the house built on the rock when the storm came? What happened to the house on the sand?
- What do you think it means to build your life on Jesus?

For Younger Kids

- Have you ever built something with blocks or sand? What happens when the base isn't strong?
- What can help you feel strong when you're having a hard day?
- Who can help remind you of Jesus' love when you're feeling upset or sad?

For Older Kids

- What are some "storms" or hard things kids might face? How does trusting Jesus help in those times?
- Jesus says the wise builder *hears His words and puts them into practice*. What does that look like in your life?
- How can your actions—especially in hard times—help others see God's love?

For the Whole Family

- What does our family do when we face a hard day or a problem? How can we rely on Jesus more in those moments?
- How can we encourage each other to build our lives on Jesus this week?

Key Point: *We all have hard days, but when we trust Jesus with our lives, he helps us keep going.*

Prayer Prompt

"Jesus, thank you for being strong when life is hard. Help us build our lives on your words and trust you no matter what storms we face."



Finding True Treasure

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field.”

Matthew 13:44, NLT

“Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”

Matthew 6:19-21, NLT





To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What do you think Jesus meant when He said the Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field?
- Why would someone give up everything they have to get that treasure?
- What does Jesus say in Matthew 6:19–21 about where we keep our treasures? What does that mean?

For Younger Kids

- What is something that's really valuable or special to you?
- Why do you think Jesus is better than even the best treasure or toy?
- What are some ways you can live for Jesus this week—at home, school, or with friends?

For Older Kids

- Jesus says “where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” What do you think that means for how we live and what we care about?
- What are some things people treat like treasure in life? How is God's Kingdom different?
- How can you live as part of God's Kingdom right now—even as a kid?

For the Whole Family

- What does it look like for our family to value God's Kingdom more than things or achievements?
- How can we help each other make choices that show we are following Jesus as our King?

Key Point: *When I follow Jesus as my King, I gain the greatest treasure: life in his Kingdom.*

Prayer Prompt

“Jesus, thank you for showing us that life in your Kingdom is the greatest treasure of all. Help us to follow you, love others, and live every day like you are our King.”



Through the Roof!

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

When Jesus returned to Capernaum several days later, the news spread quickly that he was back home. Soon the house where he was staying was so packed with visitors that there was no more room, even outside the door. While he was preaching God's word to them, four men arrived carrying a paralyzed man on a mat. They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above his head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My child, your sins are forgiven."

But some of the teachers of religious law who were sitting there thought to themselves, "What is he saying? This is blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!"

Jesus knew immediately what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts? Is it easier to say to the paralyzed man 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk'? So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!" And the man jumped up, grabbed his mat, and walked out through the stunned onlookers. They were all amazed and praised God, exclaiming, "We've never seen anything like this before!"



Mark 2:1-12, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What problem did the man in the story have? How did he get to Jesus?
- What did Jesus say to the man before healing his body?
- Why were some people surprised or upset when Jesus forgave the man's sins?

For Younger Kids

- Have you ever been hurt or sick? Who helped take care of you?
- What do you think it means when we say Jesus can fix what's broken inside?
- Why do you think Jesus forgives us even when we make mistakes?

For Older Kids

- Why do you think Jesus chose to forgive the man's sins before healing his legs?
- What's something broken—on the inside—that you think Jesus can help with (like feeling sad, scared, or guilty)?
- How does it feel to know there's nothing too big for Jesus to fix?

For the Whole Family

- How can we help each other remember that Jesus loves to forgive and heal?
- Is there someone we know who needs healing or hope? How can we show them Jesus' love?

Key Point: *Jesus fixes what's broken—inside and out.*

Prayer Prompt

"Jesus, thank you for fixing what's broken in our hearts and in our lives. Help us trust you with every problem, big or small. Thank you for your love and forgiveness."



5 Loaves, 2 Fish, 5000 Full Bellies

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

After this, Jesus crossed over to the far side of the Sea of Galilee, also known as the Sea of Tiberias. A huge crowd kept following him wherever he went, because they saw his miraculous signs as he healed the sick. Then Jesus climbed a hill and sat down with his disciples around him. (It was nearly time for the Jewish Passover celebration.) Jesus soon saw a huge crowd of people coming to look for him. Turning to Philip, he asked, "Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?" He was testing Philip, for he already knew what he was going to do.

Philip replied, "Even if we worked for months, we wouldn't have enough money to feed them!"

Then Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up. "There's a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that with this huge crowd?"

"Tell everyone to sit down," Jesus said. So they all sat down on the grassy slopes. (The men alone numbered about 5,000.) Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks to God, and distributed them to the people. Afterward he did the same with the fish. And they all ate as much as they wanted. After everyone was full, Jesus told his disciples, "Now gather the leftovers, so that nothing is wasted." So they picked up the pieces and filled twelve baskets with scraps left by the people who had eaten from the five barley loaves.

When the people saw him do this miraculous sign, they exclaimed, "Surely, he is the Prophet we have been expecting!"



John 6:1-14, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What did the boy give to Jesus in this story?
- What did Jesus do with the little food the boy had?
- How do you think the people felt when they saw there was enough food for everyone?

For Younger Kids

- What's something small you've shared that made a difference (like a snack or a toy)?
- How does it feel to know Jesus cares about what you need—like food and help?
- What is one thing you can give or do this week to help someone else?

For Older Kids

- Why do you think Jesus used a child's small lunch to do something so big?
- What do you think it means that God can use anything we give him?
- How can you use your time, words, or talents to help others and show them Jesus' care?

For the Whole Family

- Can you think of a time God provided for our family in a surprising way?
- How can we work together this week to care for someone else—just like Jesus cares for us?

Key Point: *When we trust Jesus, we see his power to care for us.*

🙏 Prayer Prompt

"Jesus, thank you for caring about what we need. Help us trust you with what we have and be ready to share with others so they can see your love through us."



Waves, Wind, and Worship

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

Immediately after this, Jesus insisted that his disciples get back into the boat and cross to the other side of the lake, while he sent the people home. After sending them home, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. Night fell while he was there alone.

Meanwhile, the disciples were in trouble far away from land, for a strong wind had risen, and they were fighting heavy waves. About three o'clock in the morning Jesus came toward them, walking on the water. When the disciples saw him walking on the water, they were terrified. In their fear, they cried out, "It's a ghost!"

But Jesus spoke to them at once. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Take courage. I am here!" Then Peter called to him, "Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water." "Yes, come," Jesus said.

So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he shouted.

Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt me?"

When they climbed back into the boat, the wind stopped. Then the disciples worshiped him. "You really are the Son of God!" they exclaimed.



Matthew 14:22-33, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What were the disciples doing when Jesus came to them on the water?
- How did the disciples react when they saw Jesus walking on the water?
- What happened when Peter walked toward Jesus? Why did he start to sink?

For Younger Kids

- Have you ever been scared or worried about something? What helped you feel better?
- Why do you think Jesus reached out to help Peter right away?
- What can you pray about when you feel nervous or scared?

For Older Kids

- What does this story show you about Jesus' power and love?
- Why is it hard sometimes to trust Jesus when things feel scary or out of control?
- What are some ways you can grow your faith and trust in Jesus this week?

For the Whole Family

- Can you think of a time when our family went through something hard? How did God help us?
- How can we support each other in trusting Jesus—especially when things don't go as planned?

Key Point: *Jesus shows his power and care by coming to his disciples in their trouble.*

Prayer Prompt

“Jesus, thank you for coming close to us when life is hard. Help us trust you when we feel scared or unsure. We know you have power, and you care about us.”



Shining Like the Son

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

Six days later Jesus took Peter and the two brothers, James and John, and led them up a high mountain to be alone. As the men watched, Jesus' appearance was transformed so that his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light. Suddenly, Moses and Elijah appeared and began talking with Jesus.

Peter exclaimed, "Lord, it's wonderful for us to be here! If you want, I'll make three shelters as memorials—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

But even as he spoke, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy. Listen to him." The disciples were terrified and fell face down on the ground.

Then Jesus came over and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." And when they looked up, Moses and Elijah were gone, and they saw only Jesus.

As they went back down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."



Matthew 17:1-9, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What happened to Jesus when he was on the mountain with his friends?
- Who appeared with Jesus, and what did God say about him?
- What does this story show us about who Jesus really is?

For Younger Kids

- How do you think the disciples felt when they saw Jesus glowing and heard God's voice?
- What's something special you know about Jesus?
- Why is it important that Jesus is God's Son and also lived as a human like us?

For Older Kids

- Why do you think God wanted the disciples to see Jesus in this way?
- How does knowing Jesus is fully God and fully human help you trust him more?
- What would you have done or said if you were there on the mountain that day?

For the Whole Family

- What does it mean to "listen to Jesus," like God told the disciples to do?
- How can we remind each other that Jesus is powerful and close to us at the same time?

Key Point: *Jesus, the Son of God, is fully God and fully human.*

Prayer Prompt to Close

"Jesus, thank you for being both God and human. You understand us and care for us, and you have the power to help us. Help us to listen to you and trust you more every day."



The King Arrives

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

As Jesus and the disciples approached Jerusalem, they came to the town of Bethphage on the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two of them on ahead. “Go into the village over there,” he said. “As soon as you enter it, you will see a donkey tied there, with its colt beside it. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone asks what you are doing, just say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will immediately let you take them.”

*This took place to fulfill the prophecy that said,
“Tell the people of Jerusalem,*

*‘Look, your King is coming to you.
He is humble, riding on a donkey—
riding on a donkey’s colt.’”*

The two disciples did as Jesus commanded. They brought the donkey and the colt to him and threw their garments over the colt, and he sat on it. Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road ahead of him, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Jesus was in the center of the procession, and the people all around him were shouting,

“Praise God for the Son of David!

Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Praise God in highest heaven!”

The entire city of Jerusalem was in an uproar as he entered. “Who is this?” they asked.

And the crowds replied, “It’s Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Matthew 21:1-11, NLT



“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:45, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What did the crowd do when Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey? How did they treat him?
- What kind of king were the people expecting?
- How is Jesus different from the kings or leaders we usually think of?

For Younger Kids

- What kind of king would you imagine—someone with a big crown and fancy clothes?
- Jesus wore a crown too—but it was made of thorns. What do you think that shows about how he chose to love us?
- Why is it good news that Jesus came to save us?

For Older Kids

- Jesus didn't come to be rich or powerful—he came to serve and save. Why do you think he did that?
- Mark 10:45 says Jesus came to give his life for others. What does that show us about real love?
- What's one way you can follow Jesus' example of serving others this week?

For the Whole Family

- How can we celebrate Jesus as our King—not just with words, but with our actions?
- What are some ways we can show others that Jesus is a King who loves and forgives, not one who just shows off power?

Key Point: *Jesus is God's promised King, and he came to save me from my sins.*

Prayer Prompt

“Jesus, thank you for being the King who loves and saves. Help us to follow you, trust your ways, and show your love to others—not just by what we say, but by how we live.”



Broken Bread, Poured Out Love

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

Now the Festival of Unleavened Bread arrived, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John ahead and said, “Go and prepare the Passover meal, so we can eat it together.”

“Where do you want us to prepare it?” they asked him.

He replied, “As soon as you enter Jerusalem, a man carrying a pitcher of water will meet you. Follow him. At the house he enters, say to the owner, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room where I can eat the Passover meal with my disciples?’ He will take you upstairs to a large room that is already set up. That is where you should prepare our meal.” They went off to the city and found everything just as Jesus had said, and they prepared the Passover meal there.

When the time came, Jesus and the apostles sat down together at the table. Jesus said, “I have been very eager to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins. For I tell you now that I won’t eat this meal again until its meaning is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God.”

Then he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to God for it. Then he said, “Take this and share it among yourselves. For I will not drink wine again until the Kingdom of God has come.”

He took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper he took another cup of wine and said, “This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you.”



Luke 22:7-20, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What did Jesus and his disciples eat and drink during the Lord's Supper?
- What did Jesus say the bread and cup represent?
- Why did Jesus want his followers to keep doing this meal together?

For Younger Kids

- Have you ever seen people at church eat a small piece of bread and drink from a little cup?
- Why do you think Jesus wants us to remember him this way?
- What's one way you can remember how much Jesus loves you?

For Older Kids

- Jesus said the bread is his body and the cup is his blood. What do you think he meant by that?
- How does this meal help you think about Jesus' sacrifice on the cross?
- Jesus said he will eat this meal again in God's kingdom. What does that tell us about the future?

For the Whole Family

- Why is it important to remember what Jesus did for us—and not just on Easter or during the Lord's Supper?
- What are some ways we can live in hope of Jesus coming back again? How can we share that hope with others?

Key Point: *The Lord's Supper helps me remember Jesus' sacrifice.*

Prayer Prompt

"Jesus, thank you for giving your life for us. Help us to remember your love, live with hope, and follow you every day."



The Price He Paid

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, "So you're the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you're at it!"

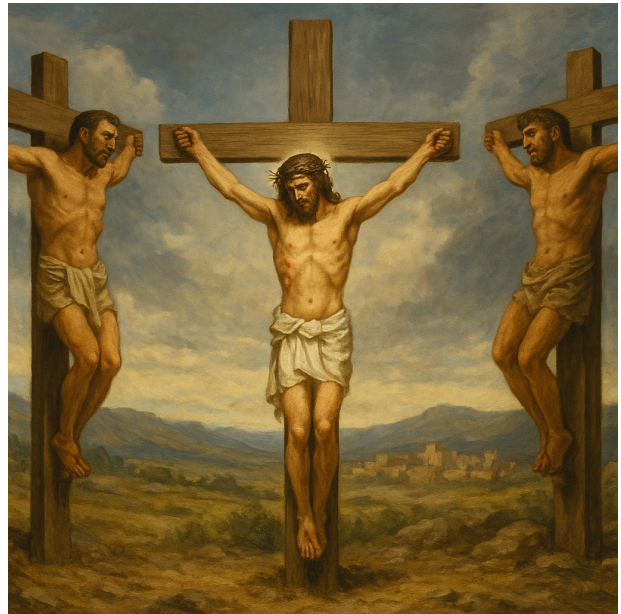
But the other criminal protested, "Don't you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die? We deserve to die for our crimes, but this man hasn't done anything wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom."

And Jesus replied, "I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Luke 23:39-43, NLT

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23, NLT





To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What happened to Jesus in this part of the story?
- Who were the two criminals on the crosses next to Jesus? What did one of them ask Jesus?
- What did Jesus promise to the man who believed in him?

For Younger Kids

- What does it mean to be forgiven? Can you think of a time someone forgave you?
- Why do you think Jesus chose to die for us, even though he never did anything wrong?
- How does it feel to know Jesus wants to be your forever friend and Savior?

For Older Kids

- Romans 6:23 says the “wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life.” What does that mean?
- What choice did the two criminals make differently? How can we choose to believe in Jesus like the one man did?
- What do you think it means to live with God forever—and to start that relationship now?

For the Whole Family

- Why is Jesus’ death such an important part of God’s plan to save us?
- How can we live each day knowing that Jesus forgives us and wants to be close to us forever?

Key Point: *Jesus died so I can be forgiven and live with God forever.*

Prayer Prompt

“Jesus, thank you for dying for us so we can be forgiven and live with you forever. Help us trust you, love you, and follow you every day.”



He's Not Here– He's Alive!

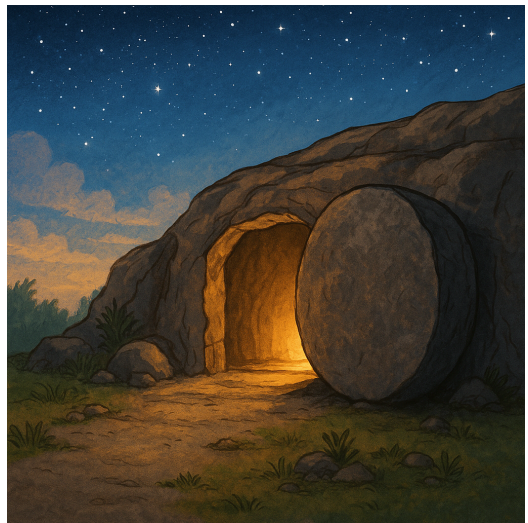
Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

Saturday evening, when the Sabbath ended, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome went out and purchased burial spices so they could anoint Jesus' body. Very early on Sunday morning, just at sunrise, they went to the tomb. On the way they were asking each other, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" But as they arrived, they looked up and saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled aside.

When they entered the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a white robe sitting on the right side. The women were shocked, but the angel said, "Don't be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Look, this is where they laid his body. Now go and tell his disciples, including Peter, that Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you before he died."

The women fled from the tomb, trembling and bewildered, and they said nothing to anyone because they were too frightened.

Then they briefly reported all this to Peter and his companions. Afterward Jesus himself sent them out from east to west with the sacred and unfailing message of salvation that gives eternal life. Amen.



Mark 16:1-8, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- Who went to visit Jesus' tomb, and what did they expect to find?
- What surprised the women when they got there?
- What message did the angel give them about Jesus?

For Younger Kids

- How do you think the women felt when they saw the tomb was empty?
- Why is it good news that Jesus is alive?
- What can you do when you feel scared or alone? Who can you talk to?

For Older Kids

- Why do you think the resurrection was so surprising, even to Jesus' closest friends?
- If Jesus is alive and with us, how does that change how we face hard things?
- What are some ways you've seen God's power or help in your life or someone else's?

For the Whole Family

- Why is it important to believe that Jesus rose from the dead?
- How can we live like we believe Jesus is alive and with us every day?

Key Point: *Jesus is alive, so I'm never alone and I know God's power is real.*

🙏 Prayer Prompt to Close

"Jesus, thank you for rising from the dead! Because you're alive, we know you are always with us. Help us trust your power and remember we're never alone."



Better Together

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.



Acts 2:42-47, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What are some things the people in the early church did together?
- How do you think they felt being together, learning, praying, and helping one another?
- What happened as more people saw how the early church lived and loved?

For Younger Kids

- What's your favorite thing to do at church or in your small group?
- Who are some people who help you learn about Jesus?
- What's one way you can share or pray for someone like they did in the early church?

For Older Kids

- Why do you think being with other believers helped the early church grow in faith?
- How is church more than just a place—it's people who follow Jesus together. How do you see that today?
- What's one way you can grow your faith with others (like praying with a friend, asking questions, or helping at church)?

For the Whole Family

- How can our family be like the early church—learning, sharing, praying, and worshiping together?
- What's one thing we can do this week to grow in our faith as a family or with others at church?

Key Point: *I can be part of God's church by growing in my faith with others—just like the early church!*

Prayer Prompt to Close

“God, thank you for creating the church so we don’t have to grow in our faith alone. Help us love each other, learn together, and live the way Jesus taught—just like the early church.”



Saul Meets Jesus

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord's followers. So he went to the high priest. He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains. As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?" "Who are you, lord?" Saul asked. And the voice replied, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting! Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." The men with Saul stood speechless, for they heard the sound of someone's voice but saw no one! Saul picked himself up off the ground, but when he opened his eyes he was blind. So his companions led him by the hand to Damascus. He remained there blind for three days and did not eat or drink.

Acts 9:1-9, NLT



Saul stayed with the believers in Damascus for a few days. And immediately he began preaching about Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is indeed the Son of God!" All who heard him were amazed. "Isn't this the same man who caused such devastation among Jesus' followers in Jerusalem?" they asked. "And didn't he come here to arrest them and take them in chains to the leading priests?" Saul's preaching became more and more powerful, and the Jews in Damascus couldn't refute his proofs that Jesus was indeed the Messiah.

Acts 9:19-22, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- Who was Saul, and how was he treating Jesus' followers at the beginning of the story?
- What happened to Saul on the road to Damascus?
- How did Saul change after he met Jesus?

For Younger Kids

- Can people change when they learn something new or meet someone special?
- How do you think Saul felt when Jesus spoke to him?
- What's something kind or good you can do because you know Jesus?

For Older Kids

- Why is it important that even someone like Saul could be forgiven and used by God?
- What does Saul's story show us about God's power to change hearts?
- What's one way your life is different because you know who Jesus is?

For the Whole Family

- Do you believe God has a plan and purpose for each person in the family? What do you think that might look like?
- How can we help each other live more like Jesus every day?

Key Point: *When I meet Jesus, my life changes.*

🙏 Prayer Prompt to Close

"Jesus, thank you for changing hearts and giving us a new purpose. Help us follow you and live in a way that shows your love to others."



A new Creation in Christ

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. “Rabbi,” he said, “we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you.”

Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.”

“What do you mean?” exclaimed Nicodemus. “How can an old man go back into his mother’s womb and be born again?”

Jesus replied, “I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. So don’t be surprised when I say, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can’t tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can’t explain how people are born of the Spirit.”

“How are these things possible?” Nicodemus asked.

Jesus replied, “You are a respected Jewish teacher, and yet you don’t understand these things? I assure you, we tell you what we know and have seen, and yet you won’t believe our testimony. But if you don’t believe me when I tell you about earthly things, how can you possibly believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ever gone to heaven and returned. But the Son of Man has come down from heaven. And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life.

“For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.

John 3:1-17, NLT



This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

2 Corinthians 5:17, NLT



To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What do you think it means to be a “new creation” because of Jesus?
- Who was Nicodemus, and what did Jesus tell him about being “born again”?
- Why does Jesus want to change our hearts—not just our actions?

For Younger Kids

- Have you ever seen a caterpillar turn into a butterfly? How is that like what Jesus does in us?
- What’s something new Jesus can help you do (like being kind, patient, or brave)?
- Why do you think Jesus wants to be close to us and make us new?

For Older Kids

- 2 Corinthians 5:17 says that “the old life is gone; a new life has begun.” What do you think that looks like in real life?
- How does trusting Jesus change the way you think, speak, or treat others?
- What is one area of your life where you want Jesus to help you grow or change?

For the Whole Family

- How has Jesus changed our lives or the way we treat each other as a family?
- What’s one way we can encourage each other to live like we belong to Jesus?

Key Point: *Because of Jesus, I am a new creation! He changes me to live for him.*

🙏 Prayer Prompt to Close

“Jesus, thank you for making us new when we trust in you. Help us live in a way that shows your love and helps others know who you are.”



The Armor of God

Read the Bible passages aloud. Then, answer the questions together. Be sure everyone has a chance to speak.

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Ephesians 6:10-17, NLT





To Discuss:

Based on the passage above, discuss the questions below as a family.

For the Whole Family

- What does it mean to “put on the armor of God”?
- Can you name the pieces of the armor? (Hint: belt, breastplate, shoes, shield, helmet, sword)
- Why do you think God gives us spiritual armor instead of actual armor like soldiers wear?

For Younger Kids

- Which piece of armor sounds the most fun or important to you? Why?
- What’s something hard you’ve faced lately? How do you think God helped you stay strong?
- What’s one way you can remember to “put on” the armor each day?

For Older Kids

- Which part of the armor do you think helps you the most right now—and why?
- The “sword of the Spirit” is God’s Word. How can reading the Bible help when you’re going through a hard time?
- How can we use the armor of God to help others, not just ourselves?

For the Whole Family

- How can we remind each other to stand strong in God’s truth, peace, and love every day?
- What’s a challenge our family is facing—and how can we “put on God’s armor” together to face it?

Key Point: *When I put on the full armor of God I can stay strong through every challenge.*



Prayer Prompt to Close

“God, thank you for giving us your armor to help us stand strong. Help us remember your truth, trust your Word, and live with courage and faith every day.”