



AT HOME

WEEKLY FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE

March 5 & 6

REMEMBER VERSE Memorize Together

“In the same way, let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 5:16 (NIRV)

GOD STATEMENT: Jesus is Our Hope

Use this God-centered statement to help apply what your kids are learning. Instead of just hearing a Bible story and seeing how God helped those specific people, encourage them to look at their own life and apply the God-centered statement to it.

GROW DEEPER Discuss as a Family

Help your kids grow deeper in their understanding of this past weekend's lesson and prepare for next week's lesson.

WHAT WE LEARNED THIS WEEK...

LESSON: Jesus is God's Son - At The Temple

READ TOGETHER: Luke 2:41-52

DISCUSS (Younger Kids):

- Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple for Passover. When Mary and Joseph went home, they realized Jesus was missing because He stayed at the temple. Can you think of a time where you might have wandered off from your family? Where was it? How did you feel? How do you think your family felt?
- When they found Jesus, what was He doing? (Teaching in the Temple)

DISCUSS (Older Kids):

- Jesus said, “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn't you know I had to be in my father's house?” What do you think He meant and why? (He was in God's house, and He knew He is God's Son)
- God is our father, and he loves us so much. He gives us hope and He protects us. Jesus was God's son, but he also had earthly parents (Mary and Joseph). Jesus wanted to share the hope of God with others. What is one way that we can share this truth with others too?

NEXT WEEK...

We will continue to look at Jesus' life and discover how **Jesus is Our Hope**, as we learn why Jesus got baptized. (Luke 3:1-22)

GATHER

Intentional Family Time

Life is busy and finding intentional time to gather as a family can be hard! How can you create intentional opportunities for family time in the following areas?

THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE OF FASTING

This Spring, we are challenging kids to work on the spiritual discipline of fasting.

The discipline of fasting is not something the Bible commands us to do. However, the Bible presents fasting as something that is good, profitable and beneficial to us, helping us grow in our walk with Christ.

While many people think fasting is only related to food, the whole goal behind this discipline is to give up something important to us in order to focus more on God. While fasting helps strengthen our relationship with God, it also reminds us of our dependence on Him for everything!

LENT

One of the most traditional times when Christians practice this discipline is during the season of Lent, the 6 weeks leading up to Easter.

Just like the way Jesus went into the desert for 40 days of fasting and prayer before he started his public ministry, Lent is a time for us to set aside something important to focus on what Jesus did for us on the cross. It's a time to prepare our hearts for the celebration of his resurrection!

TALKING ABOUT FASTING AS A FAMILY

- Talk about the Easter story - what happened?
[Click here to watch "The Story of Easter" by Saddleback Kids](#)
- Discuss why this is important to each of you - how does this make you want to live differently?
- Discuss "fasting" as a family - make sure everyone understands the meaning of fasting
- As a family, decide what each of you will fast from and for how long - how will you focus more on God?
- After your period of fasting is over, talk about it as a family - what was it like? How did you feel? What did you learn about God?

CONTRIBUTE

Missions Focus

Refugees in Greece

Over the next few weeks, we are spending time learning about and praying for refugees in Greece.

The country of Greece currently has over 50,000 refugees mostly from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Even during these scary & uncertain times, God is using the people of Athens, Greece, to love and serve these refugees.

This is a great opportunity to encourage empathy and compassion. Start by discussing:

What is a refugee? How would you feel if you were a refugee?

Spend time discussing what it would be like to be a refugee - someone who has to leave their home and needs a safe place to go.

How can I help?

Prayer is our most powerful tool as believers. How can your family intentionally pray for the refugees of Greece and other countries?

CONNECT

Fun Opportunities

Family Easter Box

Sign up for a box full of fun for your family this Easter season. Boxes will be delivered to your doorstep at the end of March!

Register for a Family Easter Box today:
woodmenvalley.org/kids