



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

November 19, 2017

What We're Learning This Week

"JESUS ASCENDED TO HEAVEN"

ACTS 1:4-14

Jesus left earth and returned to heaven, but He did not leave us alone. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to be with us and help us do God's work. One day, Jesus will return to make all things new and to rule as Lord over all.

Questions to Ask, Conversation Starters, and Helping to Apply The Truths to Our Kids' Lives

Remember: this guide is meant to help facilitate conversations and engagement with Jesus throughout the week, so don't feel like you need to do this all in one day!

BEFORE WE MEET TOGETHER ON SUNDAY

- Continue conversations as a family regarding last week's lesson about Jesus giving his disciples the Great Commission. Last week's guide can be found [here](#)
- Read through Acts 1:4-14; pray and ask God to reveal himself to you and for wisdom in how to best shepherd and disciple your kids through this Scripture in the next week

AFTER WE MEET TOGETHER ON SUNDAY

Discipleship Through Scripture and Conversation

- Talk to your kids about the Bible story that they learned at church. Ask them to explain what they learned/what stuck out to them in the story, and expand upon the truths of the Bible that they are bringing up.
- Continue the conversation with your kids on Sunday and throughout the week. Some helpful conversations this week could be:
 1. Jesus is alive! He ascended into heaven but not before promising that his disciples would receive power when the Holy Spirit comes to earth.
 - Talk about the importance of Jesus' ascension. Why is it important that he was lifted into heaven fully alive? How does this teach us more about Jesus' divine nature?
 2. Jesus is still alive and interceding for his people at the right hand of the throne (Acts 7:55-56, Romans 8:24).

- Talk together as a family. What does this mean for us? How does that change the ways we should live?
 - As a family, how can we grow in our prayer life knowing that Jesus is alive, listening, and interceding for us?
3. In verse 8, Jesus says that we will “receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you.”
- Talk together as a family about the Holy Spirit. Who is the Holy Spirit? How does he work in our individual lives, in the life of our church, and in our city?
 - Talk together about listening to the Holy Spirit.
 - How do we hear from God in prayer and through Scripture through the power of the Holy Spirit? What is conviction of the Holy Spirit, and how should we respond to it? How do we know what is from the Holy Spirit and what are our own desires/flesh?
4. In verse 6 the disciples wondered if Jesus was coming to fully and finally set up his kingdom on Earth. In verse 7 Jesus corrects them, telling them “it is not for you to know times of seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority.”
- Waiting on Jesus is difficult, both in waiting for him to return to Earth but also in everyday life. There is a tension of needing to practice patience and having joyful anticipation. Talk as a family about this tension and ways that you experience it in your lives. How is it hard? What does he call us to do? How can we trust God in these times?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Pray together as a family to grow as disciples who pray to the living Jesus and who live in obedience to the Holy Spirit
- Ask each member of your family – adults included – to share one thing they would like prayer over. Have someone to pray for that person’s request. Encourage your family to pray for that person for the entire week.
- Take time to pray independently for your children, for God to do his mighty work in their hearts through the power of the Holy Spirit

Discipleship through modeling/action

- Follow up throughout the week about the things you discussed
 - How have you seen Jesus transform your heart in prayer this week? How have you been listening to and responding to the Holy Spirit this week? What ways has it been challenging and how can we ask Jesus to help us?

- Share how this has been for you personally and lead your children into thinking about this themselves. Continue to discuss and pray over these things together
- Pursue discipleship in your own life. Read Scripture, pray fervently, invest into community, and more. Model the ways of Christ as an example to your kids.

Our Memory Verse for This Unit

OUR MEMORY VERSE FOR THIS UNIT (ENTITLED “JESUS THE RISEN KING”) IS 1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4

- *For our older kids, we are doing the full verse:*
 - “For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures”
- *For our younger kids, we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:*
 - “He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures”

While we are helping the kids engage with this Scripture on Sundays through fun activities and time together, we really encourage you to take time to continue to engage with the memorization of this Scripture at home. As always, the hope is not to have our kids simply know a lot of Scripture, but to engage in God’s Word and allow Him to use it to transform the hearts of our kids!

What’s Coming Up?

- Help us get to know you more and to know how we can love and serve you in greater ways by taking our short [RLA Kids Family Survey](#). If that link doesn’t work you can access the survey at <https://realityla.wufoo.com/forms/rla-kids-family-survey-fall-2017/>
- Want weekly updates and occasional texts about special announcements? Text the word “Kids” to 323.859.1122
- Nothing else to report this week; keep an eye out on this section in the future for upcoming RLA Kids events, initiatives, and opportunities!

We Want to Know and Serve You Better!

We love hearing from you! You can email kids@realityla.com at any time with any thoughts, questions, or concerns. We also love to be praying with and alongside you, so please send those over as well!