



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

January 28, 2018

What We're Learning This Week

“PAUL’S FIRST JOURNEY”

ACTS 13:1-3, 14:8-28

Paul and Barnabas faced many people who rejected the good news about Jesus. But God had a plan for Paul to share the gospel with Gentiles, no matter what troubles Paul faced. Many believed in Jesus. The church grew and the gospel was shared so that people all over the world could be saved from their sin by trusting in Jesus as Lord and Savior.

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 the lesson from last Sunday, when Jesus appeared to Saul and changed him from the inside and out. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Acts 13:1-3, 14:8-28; 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. The Holy Spirit sent Paul and Barnabas to tell Jews and Gentiles about Jesus. If Paul had not taken the gospel to the Gentiles, many of us would probably not be believers today. God uses people to tell others about Jesus so that people all over the world can be saved from their sin by trusting in Jesus as Lord and Savior.

- Talk about the Gospel. Does everyone know about the Good News of Jesus? What makes it such good news? How can we know and trust that it is true?
 - Talk together as a family about sharing the Gospel, following up on some questions we discussed a few weeks ago. How does the Gospel push back against the temptation of the the church being only for certain people? What truths about God in Scripture point us to that? What does it mean and look like to pursue people of all ethnicities, ages, socioeconomic standing, etc?
 - Ask and talk about following the conviction of the Holy Spirit. What does Scripture tell us about listening to and responding to the Holy Spirit? How does the Spirit lead us? How can you pursue people and relationships through the power of the Holy Spirit?
2. Paul and Barnabas faced rejection in every place that they traveled. Some of the people believed, but some of them were angry. Many people rejected the truth about Jesus. In some places, the Jews made plans to kill Paul.
- Talk together as a family about opposition to the Gospel. Why can we expect hostility and objection to the Gospel? How does Scripture equip us and empower us to respond to this? Talk as a family about how you would interact with someone who rejects the truth about Jesus.
 - How does God respond to opposition and rejection? How can we partner with him in reaching those who have turned away from Him and His gospel?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Pray for opportunities to share the message of the Gospel so that God may save people in Los Angeles. Pray for wisdom in discerning the conviction and calling of the Holy Spirit, and for courage to trust the Gospel even in the midst of rejection.
- 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
 - Continue to discuss the truth of the Gospel as a family, ensuring your kids are grasping the concepts of creation, sin, redemption, and grace. Model for your family what pursuing others with the Gospel looks like. Pray for those far from Him 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 “THE GOD WHO SENDS”) IS ACTS 1:8

- *For our older kids, we are doing the full verse:*
 - “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth”
- *For our younger kids, we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:*
 - “You will be my witnesses...to the end of the earth”

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?

- Want weekly updates and occasional texts about special announcements? Text the word “Kids” to 323.859.1122. It really helps in preparing for Sunday and the rest of the week!
- 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/>

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!