



# RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

January 7, 2018

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## What We're Learning This Week

### **"THE ETHIOPIAN OFFICIAL BELIEVED"**

*ACTS 8:26-40*

The Ethiopian official knew what the Old Testament prophets had said, but he did not understand that the prophets spoke about Jesus. The Holy Spirit led Philip to help the official understand the good news about Jesus: Jesus died on the cross for our sins and was raised from the dead, just like the Old Testament prophets said.

## 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 Christmas holiday and what it means.
- Read through Acts 8:26-40; 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 Ethiopian official knew what the Old Testament prophets had said, but he did not understand that the prophets spoke about Jesus.
    - Talk together as a family about the Old Testament. Why is important for us to read the Old Testament? How is the way we read the Old Testament shaped by our understanding of Jesus, the Gospel, and the rest of the New Testament?

- The Old Testament prophecies about Jesus. What is a prophecy? How do we know the Old Testament is talking about Jesus in these prophecies? How can the Old Testament teach us more about Jesus?
2. The Holy Spirit led Philip to help the Ethiopian official understand the good news about Jesus
- Talk together as a family about the Holy Spirit. Who is the Holy Spirit, and how is He our helper? What does it look like to ask the Holy Spirit to lead us, and what are some signs of a Spirit-filled life? How can we grow as a family in understanding the role of the Holy Spirit in our world (changing people's hearts) and in our lives (changing our heart)?

### **Discipleship through prayer**

- Take time to pray together as a family.
  - In our mission of making disciples, believers must be willing instruments to be used in the hands of the Lord. Philip didn't go into the desert today with a strategy for converting another man; the Holy Spirit led Philip, and he obeyed. As believers, we can be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and willing to follow His lead. He will go with us. Pray as families to be missional disciples of Jesus together, through the power of 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
  - Model for your children missional discipleship within community and within your city. Continue to talk about the Holy Spirit as a family, and take some time in the Old Testament reflecting on the prophecy of the coming Messiah.
- 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 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](mailto: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!