



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

April 22, 2018

What We're Learning This Week

“CHILDREN OF GOD”

ROMANS 8: 12-39

God is changing believers to be more like Jesus. We are God's children—freed from sin, given power to do what is right, and adopted into God's family. Because Jesus died on the cross, God the Father welcomes us and promises a future with Him forever.

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 Paul wrote to Titus and James to give them advice on church leadership and help them know how to lead God's people. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Romans 8:12-39, 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. Paul wanted to remind believers of how they should live. He says that believers should live by the Spirit and not by the flesh. What does this mean? Discuss this together. How is living by the Spirit modeled in Scripture and in this passage? What does living by the flesh look like? Allow your kids to share.

- Explain to your kids that when we become believers, we are given the Spirit who helps us say no to the sinful desires of our flesh. As believers we are to always be led by the Spirit in everything. What does this look like?
2. Paul explains that the Holy Spirit gives us the power to live in a way that pleases God. Discuss together as a family, the other works of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers that are spoken about in this passage and in the rest of scripture.
 - In this passage Paul explains that the Holy Spirit helps us when we are weak, he helps us pray according to God's will when we don't have words to say, and he challenges us to be more like Jesus.
 3. Paul also says that when we believe in Jesus, we become adopted as children of God and are a part of his family. Take time to explain this to your kids. Why is it important that we understand that we have been adopted as children of God? What does our adoption into God's family give us?
 - Explain to your kids that as children of God, we get to call on God as our father and come to him as a father. We become heirs in his kingdom and receive every spiritual blessing in Christ Jesus. What does this mean?
 4. Before we trust in Jesus we are separated from God because of our sin, however, Paul says that when we trust in Jesus by the power of the Spirit, nothing can separate us from God. Why is that? What did Jesus do that makes us inseparable from the love of God? How are we made right before God? Talk together as a family about this.
 - Emphasize to your kids that we cannot be condemned, judged or separated from God because God the judge has sent his son, Jesus to die on the cross and raise from the dead to sit at the place of honor on the His right hand, interceding for us. Christ's death and resurrection has made us right before God. We are no longer strangers in the God's kingdom, but children who are a part of the family.

Discipleship through prayer

Take time to pray together as a family.

- Thank God for the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers and specifically in your family. Thank God for our adoption into his family. Pray that the Lord teaches you as a family to live as children of God by the power of the Spirit. Pray that the Lord increases your dependency on the Holy Spirit to be like Christ and shepherd your kids in the way of the Lord. Pray that your hope will be in Jesus and him alone.
- 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 to your family what it means to be led by the Spirit in everyday life. Intentionally seek to pray together as a family and live in community with other believers. Creatively model what adoption in Christ looks like.
 - 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 LEADS”) IS GALATIANS 2:20

- *For our older kids, we are doing the full verse:*
 - “I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me”
- *For our younger kids, we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:*
 - “I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me”

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?

- Our schedule has changed! Check out the changes [here](#) and ask RLA Kids leaders about it on Sunday.
- 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!

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.