



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

May 27, 2018

What We're Learning This Week

"HEROES OF FAITH" HEBREWS 11:1-12:2

The Bible gives examples of people who had faith, but the true hero of the Bible is Jesus. Jesus looked forward to the joy that would come because of the cross. Because of Jesus, the things the faithful people in the Bible looked forward to will come true. We know that Jesus will come back one day because God always keeps His promises.

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 we were reminded that God has been generous to us by giving us his son, Jesus and that because of Jesus we can be merciful and generous to others. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Hebrews 11:1-12:2 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 writer of Hebrews teaches us a lot about faith. We are given many examples of people who had faith in God's word and promise through very difficult circumstances. Talk together as a family about this. What is faith? How is it described in this passage and the

rest of scripture? How do the examples help us understand more of what faith in God looks like.

- Go through the examples of faith given in these passages and explain any unfamiliar people or stories to your kids. Emphasize to your kids that while we are to learn from these examples of faith, every person in this list of biblical heroes was a sinner in need of salvation in Jesus. What does the fact that these heroic figures were ordinary humans, sinners in need of grace teach us about the character and nature of God?
 - Help your kids understand that faith is our response to God's spoken word and promises. Faith compels us to act upon what God has said and promised even and especially when we cannot see or do not fully understand. We are moved to action through faith because we discern the work of the invisible God. Engage your kids in a conversation about how difficult this is and why it is so difficult.
2. From Abel to Noah to Abraham we are given remarkable examples of how each of them had faith in God's promise and word. What are some of the things they had to believe about God for them to act out in obedience through faith? Think of Abraham being asked by God to sacrifice Isaac, his only son, the same God who had told him that through Isaac Abraham will have many descendants. What are some things you have to believe about God's character to act in faith?
 3. In these passages, we see that having faith is not easy. Many of the faithful people suffered and died because of their faith, even before the promise of God was fulfilled in Christ. What does this teach us about faith? How does it shape how we live out faith and respond to God's word? Why were they willing to endure so much?
 - Emphasize to your kids that while these faithful people had to endure a lot and suffer much because of their faith, they did so by looking to the invisible God, who has infinite power, wisdom and sovereignty. They trusted in the promised messiah, Jesus.
 4. Ultimately, the writer of Hebrews turns to the ultimate example of faith, the promised messiah, Jesus who himself endured suffering for our salvation. We are encouraged to run the race, leaving behind anything that will slow us down and run with endurance, looking to Jesus for help. Engage in a conversation about this. Ask your kids what are some of the things that prevent them from being obedient to God in faith. Who is our help in our walk with God and why is this important to remember?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Thank the Lord for the gift of faith in Christ Jesus. Pray that the Lord increases your capacity for faith in Christ, to trust in his promises and to act in obedience upon the things that he is calling your family to. Pray that your eyes and heart will be set on

Jesus, the perfecter of our faith. Pray that by the power of the Holy Spirit, your family will be able to live out in faith daily.

- 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
 - .This week intentionally seek opportunities to model faith in Jesus to your kids. What does it look like for you to lead your family to step out in faith, in obedience to God’s spoken word and promise. Seek to do that this week.
- 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 CHANGES US”) IS 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

- *For our older kids and younger kids, we are doing the full verse:*
 - “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.”

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?

- We will be updating our schedule a little bit! 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.