



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

July 1, 2018

What We're Learning This Week

“PAUL MADE MUCH OF JESUS” COLOSSIANS 1:15-2:3

Paul encouraged believers by reminding them that Jesus is great. Jesus is God's Son, and He died on the cross to rescue people from sin. The Gospel is true, and Jesus is all we need.

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 being dedicated to Jesus, used every opportunity to tell people about the Gospel and build up the church. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Colossians 1:15-2:3, 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's teaching to the Colossians was important because the believers were trying to figure out what it meant to follow Jesus. They were struggling to understand the Gospel and discern what is really true. These are the same questions we face as believers today. Talk together as a family about some of the core truths of the faith:
 - Who is Jesus? What is the Gospel? What is true about God and about myself?

- Paul reminded the believers that their sin had separated them from God. They were His enemies. But now, they had salvation and forgiveness through Jesus. Paul had told them the complete Gospel. Anyone who came and said there was a secret Gospel was lying. “Be encouraged and love one another,” Paul wrote. “I want you to know Jesus. All wisdom and knowledge is found in Him.”
2. Paul says three important things about Jesus: 1) He is the image of the invisible God 2) He is Creator and 3) He is King. Talk together as a family about each of these
- What does it mean that Jesus is the image of the invisible God (Col 1:15)? It means that if you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus. His life and teaching tells us what is true about God. He reflects God’s character. (See Heb. 1:3.) Jesus Himself said, “The one who has seen me has seen the Father” (John 14:9)
 - What does it mean that Jesus is Creator (Col 1:16-17)? Because He created everything, He is in charge of everything—even invisible things! He controls and sustains all things. Because He is at the center, we can take comfort in Him even when life is hard
 - What does it mean that Jesus is King (Col 1:18)? The reality is that we live in God’s kingdom. If we live for ourselves instead of Him, we sin. Sin is rebellion against the King. We deserve to die for our sin, but the good news—the Gospel—is that Jesus came to save sinners.

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Pray for the Holy Spirit’s help, to trust the Word of God and to live in light of it’s truth. Pray that Jesus would be lifted up and treasured. Pray that we can grasp the truth of the Gospel and live in light of it’s glory
- 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 conversations about the core truths of the faith, and talk about what it means to not just know about them but to live in light of them.
- 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 “GOD’S PLAN FOR PAUL”) IS PHILIPPIANS 1: 20-21

- *For our older kids, we are doing the full verse:*
 - “It is my eager expectation and hope that ...Christ will be honoured in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.
- For our younger kids, we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:
 - To me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

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 memorisation 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.