



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

July 29, 2018

What We're Learning This Week

"WHILE WE WAIT" 2 PETER 3:1-13

Some people thought the believers were foolish for thinking Jesus is coming again. Peter explained that God is patient, and He wants everyone to trust in Jesus. At just the right time, Jesus will come again, and we look forward to the day when He creates the new heavens and a new earth.

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 Jude warned against false teaching leading believers astray and that Jesus was the way, the truth, and the life. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through 2 Peter 3:1-13, 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. Last week we read Jude's letter warning believers about false teachers. Peter shares a similar message in this letter from prison.

- Have the same talk together as a family. How can we determine whether someone or something is true or false? How do we know that everything in the Bible is true? What is the role of the Holy Spirit in this?
 - How does knowing God and knowing about God help us in this pursuit? What are some ways that we can know/know about God more?
 - We can feel fearful that we will be lead astray. What are some promises of God that bring us peace? What are some ways we've seen God fulfill His promise to protect His people from sin, both in Scripture and in our own lives? What does it look like to defend the faith?
2. Peter also took time to write about the day Jesus will return. He detailed how people thought believers were foolish in thinking Jesus was coming again. Peter explained that God is patient, and He wants everyone to trust in Jesus. Peter wrote that the Day of the Lord will come when we do not expect it—like a thief in the night. God will judge the world. Until then, you should live a holy life by the Holy Spirit's power. Live in a way that pleases God. Jesus will come again and make the new heavens and a new earth.
- Talk together as a family. What does it mean to wait well? What are ways that God teaches us how to wait, and in what power can we wait? What does seeing and experiencing God's patience teach us about patience?
 - How should we live in the tension of waiting expectantly and living a holy life now? What does it mean to be holy?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Pray for God to empower your family to live a holy life as we await the return of Jesus! Pray for wisdom in what it looks like to be set apart for god's purposes and to live in the tension between being hopeful and present. Ask God for greater patience.
- 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
 - Ask God for greater patience and follow up about how you have seen God answer that prayer/ways you can continue to grow.

- 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 GIVES HOPE”) IS 2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

- *For our older kids, we are doing the full verse:*
 - “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work”
- For our younger kids, we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:
 - “All Scripture is breathed out by God”

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?

- Family Date Night will be July 28 in Central LA. Check out the [RLA Kids page on RLA Connect](#) for more info
- Stay connected by joining the [RLA Kids page on RLA Connect](#)
- 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.