



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

August 26, 2018

What We're Learning This Week

"JESUS WILL RETURN" REVELATION 21-22

Jesus promised to come back to earth soon. When Jesus returns, those who trust in Jesus will be with Him and enjoy Him forever. God will undo every bad thing caused by sin—no more death, no more pain, no more tears. Jesus is making all things new. .

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 John cried when he saw that no one was worthy to open the scroll, but then saw the resurrected Lamb — God's Son, Jesus. Jesus was killed on the cross so that we could have forgiveness and eternal life. Jesus is worthy. He deserves all praise, honor, and blessing.. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Revelation 21-22, 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. Before jumping into the specifics of this week's lesson, take time to continue the conversations started the last few weeks and talk together about the book of Revelation
 - We can all feel skeptical about someone "knowing the future"...how do we know this account is true? What ways does God meet us in our uncertainty and doubt?

- How can we know, with certainty, what our future holds? What hope do we have in knowing this future hope of Christ? What does it say about who God is?
2. John's descriptions paint a picture of a place with immense beauty, riches, and magnificence; yet all of the physical beauty of the new heaven will pale in comparison to the glory and beauty of being in the presence of Jesus, our Lord.
- Talk together about the appeal of heaven. Scripture describes heaven as beautiful because we will be in the presence of God who reigns forever, not because of what it looks like or what we will get. How does knowing about God and who He is keep our eyes focused on this? How are we tempted to view or care about heaven aside from this? How is Jesus beautiful, and how can we be drawn into and declare God's glory?
 - Why and how does the promise of the return of Christ and the eternity of heaven fill believers with hope? What does Scripture mean when it says that Jesus will destroy all evil and make all things new? How does that help the church today persevere through trial and temptation?
3. In Revelation 21-22 John describes a vision of heaven itself and the beauty of the new heavens and new earth. The streets will be pure gold, like clear glass. The foundations of the city wall will be adorned with precious stones. The city will not need the sun or the moon because God's glory lights up the city. There will be no darkness, and nothing evil will ever come into the city.
- What does the beauty of heaven and the new earth say about who God is? How can beauty in things like art, construction, and physical items lead the church into worship? What are some temptations of beautiful creations that exist for us today? What will happen with that temptation in the new heaven and new earth, and how can we see walk in the victory over that temptation today?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Praise God for Jesus, the victory of Christ in resurrection, and the promise of eternal life with Him forever! Pray for a greater understanding of what is to come - not so we may know all the answers, but so we can know the heart of God in deeper ways. Pray for God's kingdom to continue to break into the world today.
- 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
 - Have follow up discussions with your kids about the concepts of eternity, heaven, sin, and eschatology. Seek to identify ways the victory of Jesus is already breaking into your life a a family, as a church, and in our city. Practice celebrating God together!
- 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 REVELATION 21:5

- *For our older kids and our younger kids, we are doing the full verse:*
 - “He who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.”

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 next Family Connect is coming up on August 25. 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.