



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

August 5, 2018

What We're Learning This Week

"JOHN'S VISION OF JESUS" REVELATION 1:9-20

Jesus showed Himself to John and explained that He is the First and the Last, the Living One. While Jesus was on earth, He defeated sin and death by dying on the cross and coming back to life. Now Jesus is lifted up in glory and honor forever and ever.

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 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. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Revelation 1:9-20, 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 other books of the Bible tell us about things that have already happened in the past, but Revelation tells us about things that will happen in the future. A glimpse of the future kingdom of God gives believers hope and encourages them to remain faithful to Christ.

- Talk together as a family. 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?
 - Is there anything to fear; and if so, how can we respond in our fears? When John saw Jesus, he fell at Jesus' feet. Jesus reached down and put His hand on John. He said, "Don't be afraid" (Rev. 1:17). Jesus explained that He is the First and the Last, the Living One. How does this change our outlook?
 - 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?
2. John saw Jesus walking among seven lamp stands, symbols for the seven churches. Lamp stands are used to bring light into dark places. That is the purpose of the church—to bring the light of the gospel into a dark world.
- Why is Jesus Christ the light of the world? How does He bring redemption to the world? How do we see that today?
 - As believers we are "in Christ" and used by Him as lights to the world. How can we be a light in the darkness? What are some practical ways that plays out in your life/the life of your family?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Pray for a greater understanding of our future with Jesus. Pray for salvation for those who do not have it, to know God and to be with Him forever. And ask God to reveal to you the ways He is calling you to display His light to the world.
- 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
 - Consciously seek out specific ways that you can exhibit Christ's love to your neighbors and neighborhood. Talk together as a family about things that you hope for in the future, and discuss how they align with God's future hope.
- 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.