



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

September 2, 2018

What We're Learning This Week

"GOD CREATED THE WORLD" GENESIS 1

Jesus is Lord over all of creation. The Son has always existed. The Bible says everything was created by Him and for Him, and He holds everything together. All of creation exists to bring God glory.

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, where in the book of Revelation John 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 Genesis 1, 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. In the beginning, God created everything. God created the universe ex nihilo, or "out of nothing." All of creation began with a word. When God spoke, it happened: light, land, sky, stars, plants, and animals. God made them all, and they were good. Creation was perfect, just as God intended.

- Talk together as a family about creation. How can God make something out of nothing? What does that say about His power and His authority?
 - Scripture also says that all things were good. What does that tell us about God? What does it teach us about how the world is designed? How does it shape how we view creation?
 - God also created everything using just words. What does this tell us about the power of words? How should we esteem the Word of God in light of this?
2. The first story—in fact, every story in the Bible—is a small piece of a much bigger story: God’s redemptive story. Sin would enter the world and affect everything, but God already knew. He already had a plan to show His grace to people through His Son (2 Tim. 1:9), to rescue and restore.
- How does this smaller story fit into the bigger story of God’s redemption? Why did God need a rescue plan if everything was created good? What part do humans play in this story, and how are we unable to rescue ourselves?
 - This story is the ushering in of God’s Kingdom. What is God’s Kingdom? In what ways have we seen God’s original plan for creation restored today? How does God call us into that work?
3. The story of Jesus does not begin in a manger. God the Son has always existed, and He was present at creation. He is the Word through whom all things were created. (John 1:1-3) Colossians 1:16-17 says that everything was created by Him and for Him, and He holds everything together. Through creation, we see and understand God’s eternal power and divine nature. (Rom. 1:20)
- Talk together as a family and speak out all of the attributes of God that we see in His account of creation. Some helpful places to start could be His power, His creativity, His wisdom, His glory, or His love. Take time to talk about how God is the origin of all of these things too - for example, He is not just loving, but He is the origin of and the incarnation of love itself

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Pray together for hearts of gratitude and awe of God our Creator. Pray for a deeper love and stewardship of His creation, and for a deeper understanding of God’s grand story of redemption and restoration and for conviction of how to act within it.
- 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
 - Explore creation and marvel in God's wondrous work! Continue conversations about the Kingdom of God and discuss how you feel God is leading you to intercede in restoring His beautiful creation.
- 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 CREATED EVERYTHING") IS COLOSSIANS 1:16B-17

- *For our older kids we are doing the full verse:*
 - "All things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together."
- *For our younger kids we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:*
 - "All things were created through him and for him."

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?

- 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.