



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

December 16, 2018

What We're Learning This Week

"JOSEPH SAVED HIS FAMILY" GENESIS 42-46;50

God had a plan for Joseph's life. He allowed Joseph to suffer to rescue a whole nation. In a greater way, God planned for Jesus to suffer so that many—people from all nations—would be saved from sin.

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 God sent Joseph to Egypt and blessed him so that he rose to a position of great authority. God used Joseph to help Joseph's family and many others. When Jesus came to earth, He gave up His position of honor in heaven to be the Savior of the world. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Genesis 42-46;50, 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. Joseph had a decision in front of him: revenge or rescue. He could either avenge his brothers' evil against him or rescue his family with forgiveness. God softened Joseph's heart and he was able to choose forgiveness.

- What about Joseph's relationship with and knowledge of God allowed Joseph to forgive his brothers?
- What does it mean to forgive?
 - Forgiveness is not saying "it's ok"...that means that no harm was done, which isn't true! Forgiveness is an acknowledgment of the hurt or wrongdoing, and the offended party choosing to bear that for the sake of the relationship.
- Should there still be consequences to sin if there is forgiveness? Can forgiveness and a change in the relationship co-exist? How does the reconciling power of God shape how we seek to reconcile with others?
- How does God instruct us to act if we have wronged someone? Where do we see this in Scripture?
- How has God shown other forgiveness in Scripture? How has He shown you forgiveness in your life? How is Jesus the ultimate fulfillment of forgiveness for us? And how does the complete, undeserved forgiveness from God spur us towards forgiveness towards others?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Praise God for His incredible forgives to us! Pray for opportunities to forgive those who have hurt you and to ask forgiveness for those you have hurt.
- 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
 - Actively seek to forgive someone who it is hard for you to forgive, and repent of sin to your family and ask forgiveness. Model repentance, grace, and reconciliation for your kids.
- 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 FORMED A NEW NATION”) IS HOSEA 13:4

- *For our older kids we are doing the full verse:*
 - “I have been the Lord your God ever since you came out of Egypt. You shall acknowledge no God but me, no Savior except me.”
- *For our younger kids we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:*
 - “You shall acknowledge no God but me, no Savior except me”

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.