



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

December 23, 2018

What We're Learning This Week

“JESUS WAS BORN” ISAIAH 9; LUKE 2

The birth of Jesus was good news! Jesus was not an ordinary baby. He was God's Son, sent to earth from heaven. Jesus came into the world to bring peace between people and God. He came to save people from their sins and to be their King.

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 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. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Isaiah 9 and Luke 2, 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 prophet Isaiah lived hundreds of years before Jesus was born but was able to speak specifically of His birth
 - How did Isaiah know about Jesus? Who were prophets in the Bible, and how did God reveal Himself/work through them?

- Isaiah says the Son will be called - among other things - the “Prince of Peace” and “Immanuel.” What are these two things, and how is the coming Messiah the fulfillment of them?
 - How does Isaiah’s prophecy of God’s plan remind us that it is not a secret plan?
2. Jesus is the center of everything; the reason for hope; and the rescuer of His people.
- What hope can we draw from the Christmas story? What does it tell us about who God is? How does God being born in a barn - rather than a place of “cleanliness” or “dignity” - speak to God’s character?
 - How is the birth of Jesus the beginning of the good news of the Gospel? How does God bring peace to the world through Jesus?
 - How does the Christmas story fit in to the big story of God’s Kingdom that is told throughout the entire bible? How does God answer the need for His people to be rescued, and how does He do that through Jesus?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Praise God and celebrate Him for sending His Son Jesus to be the rescuer for His people!
- 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
 - Continue in your advent devotional times. While singing Christmas songs and hymns, take time to pause and reflect together on the true meaning of the words/songs.
- 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.