



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

May 12, 2019

What We're Learning This Week

"GIDEON" JUDGES 6-8

The Israelites cried out to God because they knew they could not save themselves. Even Gideon was not enough to save them; God used Gideon to help His people, but God fought the battle for them. The people needed someone who was mighty to save. Jesus Christ came to save us from sin because we cannot save ourselves. Only God, through Christ, can save us.

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 we learned that God does what is for His glory and our good (Psalm 115:8; Romans 8:28). God fought for the Israelites and used Deborah, Barak, and Jael to defeat Canaan. In a similar way, God uses people and events to not only save us from our enemies, but to teach us about our ultimate good: salvation through His son, Jesus Christ. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Judges 6-8, 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. God instructed Gideon to reduce the size of the army from 32,000 to 300 men.
 - Why did God have Gideon reduce the size of the army? (Judges 7:2)

- The Israelites had to rely on God in order for them to be saved. How has God saved us from our sin?
 - When you feel weak or small during a situation, how do you rely on God's strength? (2 Corinthians 12:9)
2. Gideon was an unlikely leader. Read Judges 6:15.
- Who else was an unlikely leader in the Bible?
 - How did God use these unlikely leaders?
 - Are there times that you have been afraid to follow God like Gideon was? How can we trust God in the midst of fear?
3. This story ends with the Israelites worshipping other gods.
- What are daily practices that you can do that will help you remain obedient to God?
 - Earlier in the story (Judges 6:25-26) God tells Gideon to tear down the alter to a foreign God. Why should we not have any other gods or idols before God?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Pray to God that you will trust in his provision no matter the situation and that you can boast in your weaknesses. Pray for any idols that are placed before God in your heart will be removed so God can be the king of your heart.
- 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
 - Share stories with your children when you experienced a time or situation that seemed unsurmountable but then God provided. Explain why it was hard or easy to rely on God. Ask your child if he or she has experienced any challenging situations. Talk them through how they can rely on God, by prayer, memorizing scripture, etc.
- 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 CYCLE OF JUDGES”) IS 1 JOHN 1:9

- *For our older kids we are doing the full verse:*
 - “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”
- *For our younger kids we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:*
 - “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us.”

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.