



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

May 19, 2019

What We're Learning This Week

"SAMSON" **JUDGES 13-16**

Samson's sin led to his own death, but God used his death to save the Israelites from their enemies. Samson's story reminds us of Jesus. Jesus never sinned, but God sent him to die on the cross and rise again to rescue people from sin and give them eternal life.

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 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. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Judges 13-16, 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 had a plan for Samson since his conception. This plan involved blessings, suffering, and even marrying a Philistine.
 - How did God provide for Samson, even after Samson sinned?

- Samson maintained hope in God despite his circumstances. How do you walk confidently with God despite your circumstances? What are daily disciplines that can help you walk confidently with him?
2. Read 1 Timothy 4:8. Samson was physically strong, however, he was often spiritually weak, especially when he was tempted.
 - In what ways did Samson sin against God in his weakness?
 - In what ways did Samson exhibit spiritual strength/reliance on God?
 - What situations have you experienced that make it hard to rely on God or to be obedient?
 3. What characteristics of Samson exemplify Christ?
 - Regarding all the previous lessons on the book of Judges, how is God our ultimate and perfect judge?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Pray to God for to provide you spiritual strength, especially when you feel weak. Ask for daily reminders of Jesus's salvation and God's righteousness.
- 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
 - Model what daily (or frequent) discipline looks like and invite your children to join. This could be reading a passage in the Bible together, praying together, working on the memory verse together, or praising Jesus together. Remind them that spending time with God is important because of your love for him and his love for us.
- 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.