



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

May 5, 2019

What We're Learning This Week

“DEBORAH AND BARAK” JUDGES 4-5

God does what is for His glory and our good. (Psalm 115:3; 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.

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 judges saved the people from the consequences of their sin, but not the cause of it. God's plan was to one day send a true Deliverer—Jesus, His own Son—to be the King of His people. Jesus saves people from sin forever. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Judges 4-5, 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. Read Judges 4. In our previous lessons, we learned that the Israelites were supposed to drive out the nations of the promised land (Deut. 7); however, they did not, thus disobeying God (Judges 1:27-33).

- Why were the Israelites being oppressed?
 - Why do you think God rescued his people after they turned away from him? Refer to Lam. 3:22-23.
 - Deborah trusted that God would provide but Barak did not. What was the result of his lack of faith?
 - God delivered Israel from their sin by destroying Canaan's army. How did God help the Israelites win?
2. God used the judges and war heroes to redeem the Israelites from the repercussions of their sin. A stake was driven through Sisera's head, yet, the ultimate stakes were driven through Jesus' hands and feet.
- How has God redeemed us from our sin?
 - How can we show we trust God? Read Psalm 5:3-4.
 - The Israelites sang a song of praise after God defeated the army. Why is it important to give God praise and glory for what he has done in the past and in the present?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Pray to God and thank him for sending his only begotten Son, Jesus, to save us from our sins. That we do not need to fear our enemies and can trust that God's will is for our good and his glory.
- 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
 - Ask your children for ways that they can praise God for sending Jesus to save us from our sins. This can be through prayer, conversation, music, etc. Be creative to help your children find ways to praise God!
- 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.