



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

June 30, 2019

What We're Learning This Week

“DAVID SHOWED MERCY” 1 SAMUEL 24

David showed mercy to Saul, his enemy, because David trusted God's plan. Jesus also trusted His Father's plan. He died on the cross so His enemies could experience God's mercy and live forever as part of God's family.

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 David did not look like a king or a mighty warrior, but God chose him to be king over Israel and gave him victory over Goliath. The Israelites were too weak and afraid to face Goliath; they needed David to fight on their behalf. In a similar way, though Jesus did not look like a warrior or a king, we need Him to fight for us. Jesus gave us victory over sin and death. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through the book of 1 Samuel 24, 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. David had an opportunity to kill Saul. Why did he not?

- When we have opportunities to get back at others or to seek vengeance, what are ways to help us seek peace and extend mercy instead?
- Loving your enemies is hard. How can you love your enemies?
- David's act of mercy on Saul is a representation of Jesus's act of mercy for us. Compare how.
- In the end, David does fail God, repeatedly. Yet Jesus does not. How is Jesus the perfect king?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Pray to God to help you extend mercy and grace on those who you might have difficulty loving or to people who have hurt you. Ask him to extend the same mercy on them that our good Father extended to us through Jesus's death on the cross.
- 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
 - Sometimes it is hard to love people who have hurt us or who make us angry. Discuss with your children their feelings and remind them of this story that David extended mercy to Saul and that Jesus extended mercy to us. Share with them a time that you had to learn how to be merciful towards someone that hurt you.
- 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 "GREAT KIND DAVID") IS PSALM 145:13

- *For our older kids we are doing the full verse:*
 - "Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The Lord is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works."
- For our younger kids we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:

- "Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations."

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.