



# RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

December 15, 2019

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## What We're Learning This Week

### **“JESUS WAS BORN” MATTHEW 1; LUKE 2**

Jesus' birth fulfilled the Old Testament prophecy. God the Son came into the world as Immanuel. Jesus was born to be “God with us” and to save people from sin.

*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 discussed that God showed His power to rescue Daniel from the lions, but Daniel was just a small part of a much bigger story. God ultimately rescued us from a much bigger problem—sin and death—through His Son, Jesus. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Matthew 1 and Luke 2. Pray and ask God to reveal Himself to you + 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 created things good, but humans turned away from God and chose to disobey God and not trust His good plan. Sin had entered the world, the perfection and peace was broken. A prophet named Isaiah got a word from God to share with people: that a Savior would come to rescue the world from sin!
    - Read through Isaiah 9:6 together. Who does it say this Savior would be? What would they be like? Was the Savior going to come in the way many people expected? How was he described?

2. Read through the Christmas narrative together in Luke 2 and talk through a few of these questions/conversations.
  - Mary got pregnant miraculously! What did this mean, and why was it important?
  - Joseph was from the line of David; why was that significant?
  - Why is it significant that Jesus was born in a lowly barn? What does it tell us about who God is?
  - Why is it so amazing that God became a man? What does it mean for the rescue story of the Kingdom of God?

### **Discipleship through prayer**

- Take time to pray together as a family.
  - Praise God that He loves us so much that He sent His only Son to earth to become man, to live a perfect life, and to die on our behalf.
- 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.
- 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 “HOPE IN EXILE”) IS 1 THESSALONIANS 5: 16-18.**

- *For our older kids we are doing the full verse:*
  - “Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in everything; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”
- *For our younger kids we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:*
  - “Pray constantly, give thanks in everything.”

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](mailto: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.