



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

October 18, 2020

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!

What We're Learning This Week

"CRITICISM AND IDENTITY" NUMBERS 12:1-9

Our lesson comes from Numbers 12, where Aaron and Miriam criticize Moses - and criticize God and His good plans by extension. They forgot many truths about God, like how God made people uniquely to flourish as a body, and that God decides what to gift people with. Criticism can be met in two ways: responding in unhealthy ways (letting criticism define you, shame, becoming obsessed with proving it wrong, etc.) or responding in healthy ways (trusting God's promises, remembering your identity in Christ, forgiving others.) This ultimately points to Jesus. He endured the harshest of criticism and hate, and He met it with compassion, love, and a commitment to the Father. Because of that, we are able to follow Him down the path of life rather than the path of destruction.

Before we meet together on Sunday

- Initiate and/or continue conversations as a family regarding everything going on in our world today, how your kids are feeling and processing it all, and how they can still trust in the promises of God through it all. Read through the [Family Resources for Current Events](#) page for equipping and resources for all of that.

After the kids watch the video on Sunday

Discipleship Through Scripture and Conversation

- Talk to your kids about the Bible lesson they watched on video. Ask them to explain what they learned/what stuck out to them in the video, and expand upon the truths of the Bible that they are bringing up. Some helpful conversations this week could be:
 1. Aaron and Miriam forgot that God makes people unique and different, and how that is beautiful and good.
 - What ways have you noticed people's distinctions from one another as a good thing? How does this reflect God? What are truths that we (or other people) forget when we devalue diversity and distinction in things like skills, gifts, abilities, appearance, etc.?
 - What does it mean to be made in the image of God?

2. Criticism of others for their abilities, appearance, gifts, etc. is actually a criticism of God, who wonderfully made them and imparted those things to them by His grace.
 - What are some unhealthy ways that we can deal with criticism? What are we forgetting about God when we do that?
 - What are some things that are true about you and your identity when you put your faith in Jesus? How can we remember those things when faced with criticism? How is Jesus our example in this?
3. Additional resources for Preteen students:
 - Watch [this video](#) from the Bible Project on the book of Numbers.

Discipleship through prayer

- Spend time this week praising God for the ways that He has created you and created others around you in His image, but also diverse and distinct. Ask God to help you celebrate those things. Pray for grace and forgiveness for the ways you have criticized others and for the ability to forgive others who have unfairly critiqued you. Pray for a rootedness in your identity in Christ. Continue to pray for everything surrounding the coronavirus and racial equality in our country - for safety, for healing, for unity, and for specific people you can serve as a family.
- 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.

What's Coming Up?

- Follow us on Instagram for daily story time! Our handle is [@RealityLAKids](#)
- Stay connected by joining the [RLA Kids page on RLA Connect](#)
- Continue to be informed through the [Family Resources for Current Events](#) page for equipping and resources for all of that.

Do Your Kids Have Questions About the Video? Want to See Something on the Videos?

We love hearing from you! You can email kids@realityla.com at any time with any feedback or questions that your kids have about the video lesson (or any of your thoughts)...we would love to read some on our next video and answer them! We also want to see us be silly, so send suggestions in and we will see what we can do. We also love to be praying with and alongside your family, so please send over prayer requests as well (those will be kept off screen, we just want to pray with and for you.)