

# THE ARK WAS CAPTURED

1 Samuel 4-6  
Unit 10, Session 2

## WHAT WE LEARNED

The Philistines took the ark from God's people, but God showed the Philistines that He is the one true God. The ark of God reminded the Israelites that God was with them. Years later, God gave His people something greater than a sign that He was with them; God gave them His Son, Jesus—God in the flesh. One of Jesus' names is Immanuel, which means "God with us."

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The ark of the covenant contained the Ten Commandments and symbolized God's presence with His people. In 1 Sam. 4:3, the Israelites attempt to use the ark as a good luck charm to defeat the Philistines, however, they don't seek the LORD himself to intervene.
  - *Can we use God in a way to get what we want without truly wanting God? Does it work? What does that do for hearts?*
  - *What are ways to genuinely seek the LORD, even during stressful times?*
2. Eli died when he heard the ark was captured because he feared the ark of God (1 Sam. 4:13, 18) and even the Philistines' statue of their god, Dagon, fell before the ark two times (1 Sam. 5:1-5)
  - *What does it mean to fear the LORD? (Additional scripture: Psalm 33:8, Deut. 10:12, Proverbs 19:23, Prov. 2:1-6)*
  - *The Philistines were plagued by tumors. What other Bible story exemplifies God's glory and power through plagues? What does that tell us about God and humans?*
3. The Philistines returned the ark and the Israelites rejoiced.
  - *We no longer are required to burn sacrifices to God; what are ways we can rejoice in Him today? Why is it necessary to rejoice in the Lord?*
  - *The ark was a symbol of God with the Israelites. Many years later, he sent them Jesus. How can we have a personal relationship with God because of Jesus? What ways should that impact how we live our lives?*

## MEMORY VERSE FOR THIS UNIT

“There is none like you, O Lord; you are great, and your name is great in might.”

*Jeremiah 10:6*

## PRAY TOGETHER

Spend time this week praising God for the ways that He is committed to His people and the ways He has redeemed us. Pray to God to help your family understand what it means to fear the Lord.

Ask each member of your family – adults included – to share one thing they would like prayer for. Have someone to pray for that person’s request. Encourage your family to pray for that person for the entire week.

## NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- Attend the upcoming Quarterly Family Series event, where our Kids Min worship leader Nuo Liu will be teach and lead us in worship and dance! The event takes place on Saturday, February 25 at 10AM at Johnny Carson Park.
- Follow us on Instagram for all of our Reality LA Kids news! Our handle is @RealityLAKids
- Stay connected on big events and announcements by joining the Reality LA Kids page on RLA Connect. You can find it at [reality.la/RLACKidsMinPage](http://reality.la/RLACKidsMinPage)
- Reach out anytime by emailing [kids@realityla.com](mailto:kids@realityla.com)