

RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

December 20, 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

"ADVENT: CHRISTMAS" ISAIAH 9:6

God created everything good, but sin ruined God's perfect creation and people broke the relationship between humans and God. We needed a Savior to rescue us, to redeem us, and to give us peace with God. The prophet Isaiah told the Israelites that one day a child would be born who would be the Messiah. The people waited for 700 years, until Gabriel appeared to Mary, telling her that she would bear a son who would be the Savior. Shortly after, in a barn in Bethlehem, the Jesus was born. He was Immanuel, which means God with us. Jesus, who is God, humbled Himself and became a man. He came to be a light in the darkness, to rescue us from the depth of our sin, and to make God's Kingdom right again.

Discipleship Through Scripture + 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. The story of Christmas is part of the larger story of God's Kingdom.

- How does the story of Christmas tie into the big story of God's Kingdom? How does it address the sin, brokenness, and death that the fall brought into the world?
- How does the story of Christmas affect our future and the hope we have?
- 2. Jesus, who is God, was born as a baby, and would live the perfect life we were meant to live.
 - What prophecies did the birth of Jesus fulfill? Why is this important?
 - Why is it so miraculous that Jesus became a man and was born as a baby? What does it tell us about who God is and His character?
- 3. Jesus is called "Immanuel", which means God with us. Advent season is a time to remember the incredible gift of God becoming a man to save us.
 - Talk through the Advent + Christmas story together as a family. What sticks out? What seems too incredible to true? What gives you hope?
 - How does knowing that God is with us change our hearts? Our hope? Our lives?

What does it mean to have hope in God? Why should we put our hope in Jesus?

Discipleship Through Prayer

- Spend time this week praising God for the beauty of the Advent season and the immaculate joy of God sending His Son Jesus. Pray for God to give us hearts and minds to remember His truths in all of life. Pray for God to illuminate the beauty of the Gospel to you, your family, your friends, and your neighbors. 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 all of our RLA Kids news! Our handle is @RealityLAKids
- Stay connected on big events and announcements by joining the <u>RLA Kids page on RLA Connect</u>
- Continue to be informed through the <u>Family Resources for Current Events</u> page for equipping and resources for all of that.

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

We love hearing from you! You can email <u>kids@realityla.com</u> 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 them 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.)