

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE®

SUMMER 2020

Unit 1, Session 4

CONNECTION POINT:

We can endure suffering because of our hope in Christ.

THE BIBLE MEETS

LIFE: Most people do not enjoy pain, conflict, or rejection, but these things happen to all of us. Christians are not immune; in fact, living a life of obedience to Christ can result in just such rejection and suffering. Thankfully, we do not face suffering alone. Christ is with us, and our sure and certain hope in Him will sustain us. The hope we exhibit in the face of such suffering points to the One in whom we place our hope.

LIVE IT OUT: Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out.

FAMILY CONNECTION

Use these discussion starters to help foster a spiritual conversation with your family.

PRESCHOOL

Scripture: Acts 11:19-30

Live It Out: Review the Bible story. Remind him that people at church help others. Plan a ministry project with your family. Include your children in planning and doing the project.

The people in the Jerusalem church heard about a new church in Antioch. They sent Barnabas, who encouraged the people in the new church to serve God, teach about Jesus, and learn about Him. Many people began to believe that Jesus was God's Son.

Barnabas brought Saul to Antioch to help teach the people. More people in Antioch began to believe in Jesus. The people who believed in Jesus were called Christians.

Some men from Jerusalem came to the Antioch church. A prophet named Agabus, told the church that soon the people in Judea would not have enough food to eat.

The people in the Antioch church decided to help. Everyone in the Antioch church gave as they could. They were happy to give. Barnabas and Saul took their gifts to the people in Judea.

KIDS

Scripture: Acts 11:19-30

Live It Out: Involve your child in a church project to help people. Working in a food pantry, distributing food, or doing yard work are jobs in which your child could participate.

Many believers in Jesus moved away from Jerusalem. Some moved far away. They began to tell their neighbors about Jesus, but they only told people who were Jews about Jesus.

Some of Jesus' believers began to tell Gentiles about Jesus. Believers in Jerusalem heard that Gentiles were believing in Jesus. They sent Barnabas to go to Antioch.

Barnabas was glad to see many Gentile believers. He encouraged them to keep believing. Many more people began to believe in Jesus.

Barnabas found Saul. He brought Saul back to Antioch. For a year, they met with the believers and helped them know more about God.

The disciples were first called Christians at Antioch. When the Christians in Antioch heard that other believers would not have food, they sent help to them.

STUDENTS

Scripture: 1 Peter 3:8-17

- List some good practices for turning away from evil—for resisting temptation—on a daily basis.
- In what ways have you seen people suffer as a result of their faith in Christ?
- How can we honor Christ in our interactions with those who cause us pain, conflict, or rejection?

Live It Out: Jesus suffered, even to the point of giving His life, because of His great love for God's people. How have you suffered for Jesus? Take some time to sit down with your student and share your testimony including a time when you suffered. Explain how you remained committed through difficult times. We are not exempt from suffering as Christians, but we are assured hope in Him. Ask your student if he or she is facing something difficult and pray over the situation together.