

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE®

FALL 2022

Unit 1, Session 1

CONNECTION POINT:

God uses trials to mature your faith.

THE BIBLE MEETS

LIFE: Life can be hard. No one goes looking for difficulties and trials; they have a way of finding us! While no one enjoys going through the hard days, we can experience joy despite the difficulties. The joy does not come from the trial itself but from the realization that God is at work. Trials can play an important role in deepening our faith and our walk with Christ.

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: Mark 10:13-16

Live It Out: Review the Bible story and Mark 10:14 with you child. Pray, thanking Jesus for loving children.

Everywhere Jesus went, people followed Him. One day when Jesus was teaching a crowd, some people brought their children to see Him. The people wanted the children to see Jesus and hear His kind words.

Some of Jesus' helpers saw the people and the children trying to get near Jesus. Jesus' helpers tried to stop the people from bringing the children to Jesus.

Jesus saw what His helpers were doing. He became sad and angry. Jesus said to His helpers, "Let the children come to Me. Do not send them away. God loves children. They are a part of God's special plan. Everyone should love God like the children love Him."

Jesus took the children in His arms. He gently put His hands on them and talked to them. Jesus showed His helpers that He loved children.

KIDS

Scripture: Mark 10:13-16; Luke 18:15-17

Live It Out: Plan an outing with your child to serve different from your family. Encourage him to show God's love to others because all people are important to God.

While Jesus was teaching a crowd, people began to bring their children to Him so that He could touch them and bless them. When Jesus' disciples saw what was happening, they told the people to stop.

But Jesus was not pleased that His disciples tried to stop them. Instead, Jesus invited the children, saying, "Let the little children come to Me and don't stop them."

He told everyone that the kingdom of God belongs to anyone who has faith in Him. He said that people should have the faith of a child, trusting God completely. Then Jesus took the children in His arms and blessed them.

STUDENTS

Scripture: James 1:1-12

- What are some common trials and difficulties we might experience in today's world?
- What keeps us from seeking God's wisdom when we face trials?
- How does focusing on eternity change the way you respond to trials?

Live It Out: Because we live in a world that is under the weight of sin's curse, we will face all kinds of difficult things. Still, God has called us to live with joy. This is possible when we focus on God's blessings in our lives and on eternal life in heaven.

Jesus faced trials like no one else ever has or will, yet He remained faithful through it all. We are called to follow Jesus, not only in the ways He lived, but also in His attitudes and perspectives. Read Luke 9:23 with your student and consider some practical ways God is calling you to take up your cross. Determine how you can put those ideas into action this week.