

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2018



BIBLE STORY:

2 Samuel 7

BIBLE VERSE:

2 Samuel 7:28

BABIES—PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

God's words are true. (BT)

God keeps His promises. (PS)

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

God made a promise to David that would last forever. (YK)

God made an everlasting covenant with David. (OK)

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

Galatians 1:1-10

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

Galatians 1:8

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *Galatians 1:6-7*

MONDAY: *Galatians 1:8-9*

TUESDAY: *Galatians 1:10*

WEDNESDAY: *Galatians 1:11-12*

THURSDAY: *Galatians 1:13-14*

FRIDAY: *Galatians 1:15-17*

SATURDAY: *Galatians 1:18-20*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study *2 Samuel* and *Galatians* together as a family:



- **David, a man after God's own heart.** David had lived a life full of adventure and peril. Through all of the hardships and trials in David's life, he hung on to one truth that motivated and drove him—God is the one true God. David knew what God's provision looked—and for that matter, felt—like, and he lived in such a way that his actions and attitudes honored the God whom he served. As a way to honor God, David desired to build a temple, a solid structure, for the ark of the covenant to rest in. The ark symbolized God's presence among His people and David wanted God's presence to have a real home in which to live.
- **Nathan the prophet.** Nathan was a previously unknown prophet. Because he was close to David, Nathan knew that David's true desire was to worship the Lord. When David shared his plans to build a temple for the ark, Nathan gave David his blessing to begin the task and simply told David to do what was in David's heart. Nathan had neglected to consult the Lord on this task, however, and that evening Nathan was told in a dream that David would not be the one to build the temple after all.
- **God's covenant with David.** David's desire was to build a more permanent place for God's presence to dwell rather than in the tent in which it resided. God was not a God in need of a dwelling place at this time; He already had a dwelling place. God was more concerned with rescuing people from sin, and that rescue would come through David's family line. God blessed David with a promise of eternal kingship. God promised David that through his family line God would one day send a king above all kings to rule forever on David's throne.
- **The hope continues.** God had appointed David as the king of Israel and had given David a great promise. Paul, the apostle, was also appointed by God to share the gospel message with the Gentiles. Paul encouraged the believers to receive the peace of God that came through the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2018



BIBLE STORY:

2 Samuel 9

BIBLE VERSE:

Ephesians 4:32

BABIES—PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

Be kind and loving to others.

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

*We can be kind to others. (YK)
Because God has been kind to us, we should
be kind to others. (OK)*

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

Galatians 2:11-21

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

Galatians 2:19b-20

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *Galatians 1:21-24*

MONDAY: *Galatians 2:1-2*

TUESDAY: *Galatians 2:3-5*

WEDNESDAY: *Galatians 2:6-8*

THURSDAY: *Galatians 2:9-10*

FRIDAY: *Galatians 2:11-12*

SATURDAY: *Galatians 2:13-14*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study 2 Samuel and Galatians together as a family:



- **Kindness is a way of life.** David lived his life with kindness being a pattern that shaped his relationship with others. Scripture gives many examples of David's kindness to both Jonathan, his best friend, and Jonathan's father, Saul, the king of Israel. David and Jonathan's friendship was severed when Saul decided to rid himself of David. Before David and Jonathan separated, these two men committed to one another that they would always care for one another's families.
- **Mephibosheth honored in David's court.** Mephibosheth was Jonathan's son who had been injured in a fall while he was very young. Mephibosheth was injured in both feet so he could not walk and he had no way of caring for himself. Once David discovered through members of his court that Mephibosheth was Jonathan's son, David called for Mephibosheth to come. Mephibosheth came to the palace, completely unaware of David's intention, and bowed before him. David commanded Ziba, one of Saul's former servants, to return the lands that belonged to Saul and give them to Mephibosheth. Ziba and his family were instructed to farm the land for Mephibosheth and give the proceeds to the young man.
- **People are made in God's image and deserve respect.** Mephibosheth was the grandson of Saul, and as such, could have had a rightful claim to the throne in Israel. It appears David was not concerned about any threat Mephibosheth posed to his reign as king. Rather, David was most concerned about Mephibosheth's welfare and David's promise to Jonathan.
- **God's grace is for everyone.** David showed grace to Mephibosheth, even though Mephibosheth could have been a threat. Paul taught the Galatian church that God's grace on them was also free from their heritage. The church had been taught that outward signs of being a Jew were required for Gentiles who became believers. Paul assured the church that God's grace was all-sufficient and not contingent on Jewish tradition.

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2018



BIBLE STORY:

2 Samuel 22:1–23:5

BIBLE VERSE:

2 Samuel 22:31

BABIES–PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

God helps us. (BT)

Our help comes from God. (PS)

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

We can thank God. (YK)

We can thank God for His many blessings. (OK)

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

Galatians 3:1-14

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

Galatians 3:11

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *Galatians 2:15-18*

MONDAY: *Galatians 2:19-21*

TUESDAY: *Galatians 3:1-4*

WEDNESDAY: *Galatians 3:5-6*

THURSDAY: *Galatians 3:7-9*

FRIDAY: *Galatians 3:10-12*

SATURDAY: *Galatians 3:13-14*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study 2 Samuel and Galatians together as a family:



- **God is worthy of our praise.** David is one of the most prolific authors of psalms in the Bible. David's songs of praise and thanksgiving to God are loved by those who read them. David understood his relationship with God and continually wanted to offer praise to God for God's blessings. As Christians, we should follow David's lead and offer praise to God for the many things He has done for us.
- **God has delivered us.** God is a God of deliverance. God delivered David safely from his enemies. David fought many battles and through all of them, God sustained and protected David. David praised God for providing deliverance from David's enemies. God also delivered David from his sin. Deliverance from sin caused David to offer up songs of praise and thanksgiving to God. God's deliverance for us, too, is both physical deliverance but more importantly, spiritual deliverance to those who have faith in Christ.
- **God's grace is free and cannot be earned through human action.** David was fully aware that the grace God had shown him was not based on anything that David had done for God. David knew that he was flawed and sinful, and anything God had done was based on God's grace alone. The same is true for believers today; God's grace is given freely and there is nothing we can do to earn God's favor on our lives.
- **Good works do not bring salvation.** The church in Galatia had been infiltrated by numerous false teachers who were teaching about a false salvation. These false teachers taught a works-based salvation that required human involvement to bring about their salvation. Paul taught the opposite, that salvation was offered as a gift from God and no one could work to earn salvation.
- **Trusting in Jesus brings rescue.** Sadly, the church in Galatia had reverted back to the old way of thinking, putting their trust in fulfilling the law. Paul taught the church that they had put their trust in the wrong things. Paul was clear that the law could not now, nor could it ever, rescue them; rescue only comes through faith in Jesus Christ.

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2018



BIBLE STORY:

1 Chronicles 15:1-29; 16:1-37

BIBLE VERSE:

1 Chronicles 16:34

BABIES—PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

Give thanks to God and praise Him.

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

*We can praise God because He is good. (YK)
Our good and great God is worthy of honor
and praise. (OK)*

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-7

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

Galatians 4:7

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *Galatians 3:15-18*

MONDAY: *Galatians 3:19-20*

TUESDAY: *Galatians 3:21-23*

WEDNESDAY: *Galatians 3:24-26*

THURSDAY: *Galatians 3:27-29*

FRIDAY: *Galatians 4:1-3*

SATURDAY: *Galatians 4:4-7*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study *1 Chronicles* and *Galatians* together as a family:



- **David could not build the temple, but wanted to move the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem.** David knew from talking to God that God did not want David to build the temple since David had seen many battles and wars in his lifetime. David also knew that his son, Solomon, would be the one to build that temple. David wanted to move the ark from the place it rested, Kiriath-jearim, to a place in Jerusalem to prepare for the temple construction. The ark, many years earlier, had been captured by the Philistines and subsequently returned. The ark was on a piece of land owned by a man named Abinadab, and David made preparations to have the ark moved.
- **God be praised!** Once the ark had been returned to Jerusalem, David led the nation of Israel in worship of the one true God. David personally led the procession into Jerusalem and praised God through dancing and the playing of musical instruments. David, as the head of the nation, was exuberant in his praise and some who observed the celebration did not like David's enthusiastic actions. David, however, was more concerned with worshiping God than what others thought of his mode of worship. David praised God because God is worthy of worship and praise.
- **Our relationship with God brings us to worship Him.** David's close relationship with God is what brought about his desire to worship. David's heart for God also gave David a pure worship experience, not affected by his surroundings or the eyes of those who watched him, but completely focused on God. Paul encouraged the Galatian church to also focus their attention on their relationship with God and let that relationship create an overflow of worship.
- **Christians make up a unique community that cannot be found anywhere else.** Paul showed the Galatians that local congregations are made up of believers with different backgrounds and experiences with Christ. Paul applauded the fact that the Christian community is unique in its ability to merge these various people into a community with a single focus and goal—Jesus Christ.

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2018



BIBLE STORY:

1 Chronicles 22:2-19; 28

BIBLE VERSE:

1 Chronicles 28:9b

BABIES–PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

God will help us obey Him.

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

*We should love and obey God. (YK)
We are called to know God, serve Him, and seek Him always. (OK)*

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

Galatians 4:8-20

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

Galatians 4:31

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *Galatians 4:8-11*

MONDAY: *Galatians 4:12-14*

TUESDAY: *Galatians 4:15-17*

WEDNESDAY: *Galatians 4:18-20*

THURSDAY: *Galatians 4:21-27*

FRIDAY: *Galatians 4:28-31*

SATURDAY: *Galatians 5:1*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study *1 Chronicles* and *Galatians* together as a family:



- **David provided for the temple construction.** David took great care to provide what would be needed for the construction of the temple. Since David was not going to build the structure himself, he commissioned others in his kingdom to begin the preparations. The people began collecting items such as gold, bronze, precious gemstones, cedar logs, and many other things in order to be ready when the time came to build the temple. The Bible tells us that David collected so many items that they could not even be counted.
- **David provided for his young son Solomon.** The Bible tells us that while this collection was happening, Solomon was young, likely a teenager. David knew that Solomon was young and prayed that God would give Solomon the wisdom he needed to rule a kingdom. David took measures to have draftsmen draw up blueprints or plans for the temple so Solomon would have everything he needed to begin the construction process.
- **Passionate hearts bring passionate worship.** David lived his life with passion. His passion for honor to his friend Jonathan, brought about David's kindness to Mephibosheth. David's passion for God gave him a desire to build a temple for the ark of the covenant. David's passion for his son, Solomon, led David to provide everything Solomon would need to faithfully honor God.
- **Freedom comes through faith in Jesus Christ.** Paul taught the Galatian churches that they should have a passion for Jesus Christ. Similar to the passion David had for God, our passion for Christ should bring us closer to others to share the message of Christ with them as well. David's passion led him to worship God without hindrance. Our passion for Jesus Christ should lead us to share the message of salvation with others so they, too, can experience the freedom that comes through faith in Jesus Christ.

FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 7, 2018



BIBLE STORY:

Genesis 15:1-6; 17:1-9,15-22; 21:1-7

BIBLE VERSE:

Genesis 17:7

BABIES—PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

God had a special plan for Abram.

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

God always keeps His promises. (YK)

God fulfills His promises in His perfect time.

(OK)

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

Galatians 5:13-26

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

Galatians 5:22-23

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *Galatians 5:2-4*

MONDAY: *Galatians 5:5-6*

TUESDAY: *Galatians 5:7-10*

WEDNESDAY: *Galatians 5:11-12*

THURSDAY: *Galatians 5:13-15*

FRIDAY: *Galatians 5:16-18*

SATURDAY: *Galatians 5:19-21*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study *Genesis* and *Galatians* together as a family:



- **A new home.** God told Abram to gather his family, pick up his household goods, and move to a place God would show him. The Bible tells us that Abram did exactly as God instructed him. Abram had no knowledge of what God's plan was, but Abram was faithful to God. God had a special plan for Abram in Canaan, the new land God had called him to.
- **More than the stars in the sky.** When Abram arrived in Canaan, God met with Abram and issued a covenant to him. Abram was an older man when he moved, and yet God promised Abram that his family would one day grow more numerous than the stars in the sky. Abram believed what God said was true and God credited Abram's belief as righteousness. God changed Abram's name to Abraham, which meant "father of a multitude."
- **God had a plan to fulfill His promise to Abraham.** Though difficult for Abraham to see at first, God had a plan to fulfill the promise he had made. Abraham and his wife, Sarah, tried to take matters into their own hands, but God's promise to Abraham would be fulfilled through Abraham and Sarah's own son. Eventually, Sarah became pregnant and gave birth to Isaac, the son through whom God's promise would be fulfilled.
- **Faith or works?** Abraham's faith, or belief, was credited to him as righteousness from God. Unwilling to learn from Abraham's example, the Galatian churches had reverted back to believing their righteousness came through their human works. Paul continued to encourage the churches by telling them that works were important, but could not secure salvation. Paul's explanation highlighted the importance of works as evidence that someone had been saved. The church members needed to remember that good works were a sign of salvation and not a method for salvation. Paul's words to the Galatian churches are also valid words for us today. Many times those around us teach that good works are required to earn salvation, when in fact the works a Christian does are a reflection of the salvation that has already come.

FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 14, 2018



BIBLE STORY:

Genesis 26:1-6,12-33

BIBLE VERSE:

Genesis 26:24b

BABIES—PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

Kindness to others shows God's love.

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

Isaac trusted God to care for him. (YK)

*Isaac trusted God and chose to seek peace.
(OK)*

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

Galatians 6:1-10,14-15

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

Galatians 6:9

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *Galatians 5:22-23*

MONDAY: *Galatians 5:24-26*

TUESDAY: *Galatians 6:1-2*

WEDNESDAY: *Galatians 6:3-5*

THURSDAY: *Galatians 6:6-8*

FRIDAY: *Galatians 6:9-10*

SATURDAY: *Galatians 6:11-13*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study *Genesis* and *Galatians* together as a family:



- **The son of promise.** Isaac, the son God had promised to Abraham and Sarah, grew up in Canaan. As Isaac grew, God blessed him, and eventually Isaac became very wealthy. Isaac had many servants and livestock and lived comfortably in the land. One day the Philistines began harassing Isaac and his servants and drove Isaac to move away from where he lived and to find new lands to graze his livestock.
- **Choose peace.** Isaac moved to an area where his father had previously lived. The Philistines, probably out of jealousy, had covered up the wells Abraham had dug so that Isaac could not use them. Isaac and his men set to digging the wells the Philistines had filled in. Once the wells had been dug again, Isaac and his men were once again challenged and told to move on. This happened two more times before Isaac finally found peace in the land. God blessed Isaac and his family with rest, and God's promise to Abraham continued.
- **Peace through pure motives.** Isaac pursued peace with his neighbors because he knew that God would be honored through peace. Isaac's motives for peace may have been purely to honor God and not for personal gain. Isaac endured a few challenges as he continued to pick up and move, yet Isaac never wavered in his commitment to peace among the people.
- **Salvation through peace.** Isaac pursued peace with the Philistines. Paul challenged the churches in Galatia to pursue peace with others because of their relationship with God. Paul's challenge encouraged the church members to seek out those in their congregation with whom they had broken relationships. Paul's message taught that mature believers seek to restore broken relationships through peace. Paul's words helped the church know that love for God and a pure heart will help lead others to know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 21, 2018



BIBLE STORY:

Genesis 27-28; 32:1-32; 33:1-20

BIBLE VERSE:

Jeremiah 29:11

BABIES—PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

God loves people and cares for them.

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

*God can use us even though we sin. (YK)
God can redeem our sin and create something good. (OK)*

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

James 1:2-15

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

James 1:2-3

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *Galatians 6:14-16*

MONDAY: *Galatians 6:17-18*

TUESDAY: *James 1:1-4*

WEDNESDAY: *James 1:5*

THURSDAY: *James 1:6-8*

FRIDAY: *James 1:9-11*

SATURDAY: *James 1:12*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study *Genesis* and *James* together as a family:



- **The twin sons of Isaac.** Isaac and his wife, Rebekah, had twin sons, Esau and Jacob. As youngsters, Jacob tricked Esau and took his birthright and a special blessing reserved for the oldest son. In fear for his life, Jacob moved away to live in a foreign land with his uncle Laban. While living with Laban, Jacob married and had 11 sons.
- **More family strife.** Jacob had been living with Laban for quite an extended period of time and their relationship had begun to be strained. Jacob, as his father and grandfather before him, had been blessed by God. Jacob's wealth continued to increase despite Laban's attempts to take that wealth away.
- **Return home.** Years later, Jacob began his return home and sent men to find his brother, Esau, to determine Esau's current attitude toward Jacob. Jacob was told that Esau was coming to meet Jacob and Esau was bringing with him 400 men. Fearful of Esau's intentions, Jacob separated his family into smaller groups and continued his journey. After wrestling with a man all night, Jacob could not prevail, but the stranger blessed Jacob and gave him a new name, Israel, which meant, "he struggles with God."
- **Trials will come.** The lives of Jacob and Esau, along with Isaac and Abraham, were filled with trials and struggles. God's promise to sustain Abraham's family through those struggles continued to hold true. Even through trials, God was faithful to His promise to Abraham. James wrote a letter to the Jerusalem congregation that had been scattered because of intense Roman persecution, assuring the church that trials would come to those who were followers of Jesus. The good news that James shared was the same good news shared with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—God's promises last forever, and even through trials and suffering, God is still at work.

FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 28, 2018



BIBLE STORY:

Genesis 37:1-36; 39:1-6; 41

BIBLE VERSE:

Genesis 50:19-20

BABIES—PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

*God helped Joseph. (BT)
God had something important for Joseph to do.
(PS)*

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

*God is with us in tough times. (YK)
God is always with us, even when we suffer.
(OK)*

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

James 1:19-27; 2:1-4

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

James 1:22

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *James 1:13-15*

MONDAY: *James 1:16-18*

TUESDAY: *James 1:19-21*

WEDNESDAY: *James 1:22-25*

THURSDAY: *James 1:26-27*

FRIDAY: *James 2:1-4*

SATURDAY: *James 2:5-7*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study *Genesis* and *James* together as a family:



- **All in the family.** Joseph was the second youngest son of Jacob. Jacob had 12 sons in all and Joseph was very special to him. Jacob gave Joseph special gifts and his brothers became jealous of the way Jacob treated Joseph. Joseph's brothers decided they would rid themselves of Joseph. One day when Joseph went to check on his brothers, they took him, threw him into a pit, and destroyed a special robe that Jacob had given to Joseph. The brothers killed a lamb and used its blood to stain the garment to convince Jacob that his son Joseph was dead.
- **God's plans at work.** A band of traders came near the place where Joseph was being kept. The brothers, upon seeing this caravan, decided to sell Joseph to the traders instead of killing him. The traders took Joseph to Egypt. In Egypt Joseph was sold to a man named Potiphar. Later, Potiphar's wife accused Joseph of a crime and Joseph ended up in an Egyptian prison. In prison, Joseph met two men and interpreted dreams for them. Later, one of the men remembered Joseph when Pharaoh had dreams and no one could interpret the meanings.
- **From prison to the palace.** Joseph was summoned by Pharaoh and was able to interpret Pharaoh's dreams. His dreams meant that the nation would be plunged into a famine that would last for seven years. Joseph encouraged Pharaoh to find someone to put in charge of collecting grain, and Joseph was placed in charge.
- **Obey God in all things.** Joseph's life characterized a life that was lived in obedience to God. Joseph's faithfulness caused people to take notice of the way he lived his life. James wrote to early believers that they should also respond in obedience to God's work in their lives. James tells the believers that when Jesus makes a change in a person's life, that change should encourage complete obedience to God's Word and His ways.

FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 4, 2018



BIBLE STORY:

Genesis 42-45

BIBLE VERSE:

Genesis 50:19-20

BABIES-PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

Love one another. (BT)

Love and forgive others. (PS)

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

God used the bad times in Joseph's life to create good for his family. (YK)

Even when we can't see it, God is using our tough times to create good for us. (OK)

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

James 2:14-26

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

James 2:17

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *James 2:8-11*

MONDAY: *James 2:12-13*

TUESDAY: *James 2:14-17*

WEDNESDAY: *James 2:18-19*

THURSDAY: *James 2:20-26*

FRIDAY: *James 3:1-2*

SATURDAY: *James 3:3-6*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study *Genesis* and *James* together as a family:



- **Trust in God.** Joseph always trusted God to provide for him. Joseph had been in some unexpected situations and he always displayed a monumental trust in the one true God. Joseph's brothers sold him into slavery, yet he trusted in God. Joseph served in Egypt, and he trusted in God. Joseph ended up in prison, still he trusted in God. Joseph served Pharaoh, and he trusted in God. No matter the circumstances, we, too, can trust in God.
- **Pursue peace.** One day Joseph was confronted with the brothers who previously sold him to the traders. Joseph was unrecognizable to his brothers, and since they had no idea who he was, Joseph decided to test them and see if their hearts had changed. Joseph accused the brothers of espionage and eventually held one in custody while the others returned home. Before long, Jacob's family needed more food, so Jacob sent the brothers back to Egypt along with Benjamin, Jacob's youngest son. When the brothers returned, Joseph again challenged their motives and then revealed his true identity to them.
- **God's plans are always perfect.** It is likely that Joseph struggled many times to understand God's plans. Even if he struggled, we know that Joseph remained faithful and trusted that God had permitted what was happening to him. Joseph's comment to his brothers helps us see that he probably did feel that way. Joseph told his brothers that it was not they who sent Joseph to live in Egypt, but God Who had planned for Joseph to go to Egypt in order to save a remnant of people from the famine. God's plans are perfect, and through Joseph's obedience, God saved a people for Himself.
- **Faith in God causes life change.** James taught the believers that faith in God causes visible change in a person. If a person's life has not changed in response to God's Spirit, the person should evaluate that relationship with Him. Joseph exemplified a God-led life change and he should be an example to all of us.

FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 11, 2018



BIBLE STORY:

Galatians 2:15-21; 3:1-29; 5:13-26; 6:1-10

BIBLE VERSE:

Galatians 6:9a

BABIES—PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

Help other people know and love Jesus.

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

We can only be saved by repenting of our sin and trusting Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

(YK)

We cannot earn our salvation in any way.

Salvation comes only by faith in Jesus. (OK)

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

James 3:1-12

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

James 3:1

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *James 3:7-12*

MONDAY: *James 3:13-16*

TUESDAY: *James 3:17-18*

WEDNESDAY: *James 4:1-3*

THURSDAY: *James 4:4-5*

FRIDAY: *James 4:6-10*

SATURDAY: *James 4:11-12*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study Galatians and James together as a family:



- **Justified by faith alone.** Paul's letter to the Galatians introduced them to a new concept: justification. The word *justification* means that God declares a person innocent. When God looks at someone who is justified, instead of seeing him as a sinner, God sees only the risen Jesus whose sacrifice on the cross covered the person's sin. Justification is an important concept for people to know and understand.
- **Confusing teachings of the Judaizers.** Judaizers were Jewish teachers who had infiltrated the early church. Judaizers taught that Gentiles who had become followers of Jesus had to take on physical signs of Jewishness to bring themselves more in line with Jewish believers. Paul clearly taught that the teachings of the Judaizers were false, and that because God had justified the new believers, there was no reason for the Gentile believers to do anything more. Salvation comes through faith in Christ alone. Because of Christ's justification, God views all believers equally.
- **Maintain your first love.** Paul started the Galatian church on one of his early missionary journeys. Though Paul had previously applauded the people for their faith in Christ, in this letter, Paul goes on to sternly admonish the church for falling away from the faith he first preached to them. Paul was angry with the church for being led astray by the Judaizers, and he let the church know that they needed to put their trust in Christ and in God's Word to avoid being led astray by false teachings.
- **Remain strong in your faith.** Paul told the Galatians that after they adjusted their belief and put their faith back in Jesus Christ, alone, they should remain strong in this faith. James also shared with the believers that faith in Christ should be strong, and he encouraged them to remain in that strength as well. James challenged the believers to prove their faith by using words that honor God and edify others.

FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 18, 2018



BIBLE STORY:

James 1:2-8,19-27; 2:14-26; 3:1-18

BIBLE VERSE:

James 1:22

BABIES—PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

Do what the Bible says.

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

We must obey God's Word. (YK)

Those who believe in God should obey God's commands. (OK)

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

James 4:6-17

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

James 4:17

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *James 4:13-14*

MONDAY: *James 4:15-17*

TUESDAY: *James 5:1-3*

WEDNESDAY: *James 5:4-6*

THURSDAY: *James 5:7-8*

FRIDAY: *James 5:9*

SATURDAY: *James 5:10-11*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study James together as a family:



- **James, the brother of Jesus.** We know from Scripture that after Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph had other children. James, the author of this book, was one of Jesus' half brothers. Though he grew up with Jesus, James did not become a believer in Christ until after Jesus' resurrection. James eventually became the pastor of the church in Jerusalem. When the church members were scattered because of a massive persecution against them, James wrote this letter to encourage the believers and give them instructions to help strengthen their faith.
- **Actions speak louder than words.** James encouraged the believers to be faithful to God and reminded them that the way they acted should reflect their love and obedience to God. James listed a few things that believers should do to keep their actions in line with their words. James encouraged a deep understanding of the Scriptures and assured the people that they should not simply hear the words of God, but should put those words into action.
- **Faith without works is dead.** James clarified for believers Paul's previous words which held that actions of someone's hand were not what brought about salvation, but the actions one did were an indication of faith in Christ. Faith in Christ brought about good works, not the other way around. James also taught that the words people speak should match up with the actions that they do.
- **Follow God in all obedience.** James had some harsh words for the believers because he saw that they had been openly critical of others, and he wrote to help them remember that God is the one Who judges men. It was not the responsibility of the church to sit in God's seat as judge. James continued to teach that obedience to God showed a person's faith in Christ.

FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 25, 2018



BIBLE STORY:

James 4:1-17; 5:7-18

BIBLE VERSE:

James 4:8a

BABIES—PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

Remember Jesus and live like Him.

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

We should be humble. (YK)

God blesses those who are humble. (OK)

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

James 5:7-9,13-20

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

James 5:16

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *James 5:12*

MONDAY: *James 5:13-14*

TUESDAY: *James 5:15*

WEDNESDAY: *James 5:16*

THURSDAY: *James 5:17-18*

FRIDAY: *James 5:19-20*

SATURDAY: *Genesis 25:19-26*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study James together as a family:



- **A Christian life should be focused on honoring God.** James continued his letter to encourage the believers to live their lives in such a way as to honor God. James reiterated the idea that faithful living was an extension of one's faith and not the source for one's faith. A life committed to honoring God would bring about actions that would indeed honor God.
- **Prayer is important.** James shared with the church the importance of prayer. James began this section of his letter by telling the church that they did not have the things they needed because they had failed to ask God for them. God willingly gives to believers the things they need and blesses those who ask. James encouraged the believers to ask with boldness for the things they needed from God. James went on to tell the church that prayers did not need to be selfish in nature, but should also be focused on the specific needs of those in the congregation. James wanted all believers to remember that prayers for others were effective and honored God.
- **Life is short.** James characterized life in general as but a vapor. James told the church that human existence, though it appears long in our finite human minds, is but a moment in time for God almighty. Considering the brevity of life, James appealed to the believers to live their lives in ways that honored God so that more people would become followers of Him as well.
- **Wait for the Lord.** James ended his letter with an admonition to wait patiently. On the heels of his teaching on the brevity of life, James assured the believers that Christ indeed was going to return—the believers needed only to wait patiently for His return. That did not mean that the believers could sit idly by waiting for Christ's return, but they should be diligent to share with others so more people could become followers of Him, too.