

Year 2

Quarter 2

Wisdom from God

Family Devotional

**Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.
Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You
established the earth, and it abides.**—*Psalm 119:89–90*



Answers
BIBLE CURRICULUM

GOD'S WORD FOR ALL GENERATIONS

Answers Bible Curriculum

Year 2 • Quarter 2 • Family Devotional

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For more information write:

Answers in Genesis

PO Box 510

Hebron, KY 41048

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Introduction

Welcome to the Answers Bible Curriculum family devotional. We pray God will use this guide as a tool to help you as parents to train and disciple your children. We encourage you to take time in the evening (or morning) during the week to have an intentional time of family Bible study, worship, and Scripture memory. You could do this every night or a couple nights each week. Make it a habit, and don't let the to-dos and pressures of our busy lives rob you of this precious time together.

While it's true that the church has a God-given responsibility to teach God's Word and lead in worship, God gives the primary responsibility for a child's spiritual development to his or her parents. Below are just a few of the Scriptures that admonish parents to be actively involved in training and teaching their children the things of the Lord:

Only take heed to yourself, and diligently keep yourself, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. And teach them to your children and your grandchildren, especially concerning the day you stood before the Lord your God in Horeb, when the Lord said to me, "Gather the people to Me, and I will let them hear My words, that they may learn to fear Me all the days they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children."
(Deuteronomy 4:9–10)

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.
(Deuteronomy 6:4–9)

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. (Proverbs 22:6)

*And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.
(Ephesians 6:4)*

To use this guide, we suggest you read the lesson summary out loud, and then read each of the Scriptures and discuss the answers among yourselves. Of course, you'll want to adjust the questions based on the ages of your children. If you plan on having a family devotional time each night of the week, you will want to read ahead and split up each lesson into five or six smaller sections.

We have included space for family prayer requests. It is important to spend time in prayer, worshipping the Lord and lifting up the needs of each family member and praying for each one's spiritual growth. You can also use this time to pray for the needs in your church, and missionaries you support. Record the prayer requests, and then review them from time to time to be encouraged and thankful about how God has answered.

As parents, God has given you a great responsibility and privilege to train the next generation. You may not feel up to the task, but remember, our sufficiency is from God (2 Corinthians 3:4–6), and He delights in using the weak and foolish things of the world so that His wisdom and power are manifest (1 Corinthians 1:26–31).



Lesson Summary

Although Saul loved David greatly at the beginning of David's service (1 Samuel 16:21), he soon became envious and despised the talented, courageous, godly young man. Saul's envy toward David began after David's defeat over Goliath, when the women hailed the hero by singing, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands" (1 Samuel 18:7). From that time forward, Saul kept his eye on David, fearing he would take the kingdom.

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines envy as "painful or resentful awareness of an advantage enjoyed by another joined with a desire to possess the same advantage." The Bible has much to say about envy, and we would do well to pay heed and ask God to reveal any envious attitudes we may harbor.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

Galatians 5:16–26

1. What command does Paul give the Galatian believers for overcoming the lusts of the flesh?
2. What are the works of the flesh?
3. Do any of these sins stand out as part of Saul's problem with David?
4. What is required so that we can exhibit the fruit of the Spirit?
5. How can we walk in the Spirit?

Philippians 2:1–11

6. How does Paul want the Philippian believers to think of and treat one another?

7. Who is our example in service to others? What did He do?
8. Does this leave any room for envy or jealousy?

Titus 3:1-7

9. What are some of the qualities that are to characterize believers (vv. 1–2)?
10. What are some of the qualities that characterize unbelievers (v. 3)?
11. What did God do to change us? What did we do?
12. How is the Holy Spirit involved in our salvation and our sanctification?
13. Relate a time when you have been envious of another.

14. How can we change our perspective so that envy becomes a thing of the past, or is at least something we can recognize and repent of?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

2 Samuel 7:22 Therefore You are great, O Lord God. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

Prayer

Thank God for His wonderful salvation. Thank Him for He giving every believer His Holy Spirit, who works in us to conform us to the image of Christ. Ask Him to help you walk in the Spirit, and to submit yourself to God and others in humility.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



Lesson Summary

As we saw last week, David defeated the giant Goliath, demonstrating his trust in God. Despite Saul's opposition, David went on to become king of Israel, as God had promised. After some time, David wanted to build a permanent Temple for the Lord, but he was told through the prophet Nathan that it was God who would build a house for David—an everlasting kingdom.

God's promise to David through Nathan the prophet is called the Davidic Covenant, and is found in 2 Samuel 7 and later summarized in 1 Chronicles 17:1–14 and 2 Chronicles 6:16. This unconditional covenant promised David and Israel that the Messiah (Jesus Christ) would come from the lineage of David and the tribe of Judah and would establish a kingdom that would endure forever (2 Samuel 7:10–16). This promise was unconditional because God did not place any conditions of obedience upon its fulfillment; rather the sure fulfillment of the promises rests solely on God's faithfulness.

One of the great hymns of the church is "Great is Thy Faithfulness." Let's examine what the Bible says about God's faithfulness.

Read and Discuss

Read Psalm 89 and discuss the questions together.

Psalm 89:1–37

1. How long does God remain faithful? Where is His faithfulness established (vv. 1–2)?
2. What are God's saints to praise (v. 5)?
3. How are God's omnipotence and sovereignty related to His faithfulness (vv. 6–18)?
4. What did God promise to King David (vv. 3–4, 28–29, 36–37)?
5. What does God say about His faithfulness to His promise (vv. 33–35)?

6. Read the following passages and discuss what they tell us about God's faithfulness and what He is faithful to accomplish.

- Deuteronomy 7:6–10 –

- 1 Corinthians 1:4–9 –

- 1 Corinthians 10:13 –

- 1 Thessalonians 5:23–24 –

- Hebrews 10:23 –

- 1 John 1:9 –

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

2 Samuel 7:22 Therefore You are great, O Lord God. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

Prayer

Praise God for His amazing grace that is given to sinners. Thank Him for changing you from an enemy to a friend, from a sinner to a saint, from a rebel to a servant, and from a stranger to a beloved child. Ask Him for the strength and boldness to share the good news of Jesus with those around you.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



3

David Disobeys God

Lesson Summary

Last week we looked at God's promise to David—what is known as the Davidic Covenant. It was an amazing promise from the faithful God to bless David and to seat one of his descendants on the throne forever.

This week's account of David—a man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22)—and his utter moral failure gives us a glimpse into the human heart and the grace and mercy of God.

Like David, we are sinners who are often caught by the deceitfulness of sin. Like David, we often try and cover up our sin lest we be exposed. Like David, we have a loving heavenly Father who will not leave us in our sin, but who disciplines His children. And like David, we can receive grace when we repent of our sin and turn to God for forgiveness, which was made possible through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

Roman 8:1; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 10:11–14

1. Do those who are in Christ face any condemnation? Why or why not?
2. Who paid for our sins? Is there any payment left for sins that we must make?

1 Peter 1:14–16; 1 John 3:4–9

3. Why was Jesus manifested?
4. What does God desire for His children?

Hebrews 12:4–11

5. How is chastening (or discipline) different from punishment?

6. What motivates God to chasten His children? What must be true of the one who never experiences chastening?
 7. What is God's goal in chastening His children?
 8. Is God's discipline enjoyable? How should we respond when we experience God's discipline?
 9. What is the outcome for those who abide under God's chastening and allow it to train them?
 10. Share about a time when God chastened you. How did you respond? What was the outcome?

Psalm 32

11. What is true of the one who has been forgiven by God? How should that make us feel (vv. 1-2)?

12. What happens when we harbor sin—when we don't confess our sin? What does God do when we do confess (vv. 3–5)?

13. What does God promise to His children (v. 8)?

14. How are we often like a horse or mule when God tells us what to do (v. 9)?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

2 Samuel 7:22 Therefore You are great, O Lord God. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

Prayer

Thank God for His complete forgiveness in Jesus Christ. Thank Him for sending His Son to take sin's full punishment on the Cross, and that there is now no condemnation for those in Christ. Ask God to correct you when you need it. Ask Him to give you a trusting and obedient heart in the midst of His discipline.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



4

Praises to God

Lesson Summary

The book of Psalms (many of them written by King David) gives us a look into the thoughts and emotions of God's people. More than this, it shows us examples and gives us a pattern to assist us in our own worship and praise of God.

From overflowing joy to the depths of despair, the psalms reflect the full gamut of human emotion. And they always point us to our mighty God as the source of joy, the answer for our difficulties, and the one in whom we can place our hope because He is faithful.

We are going to read several psalms and discover more about why we should praise God and what we should praise Him for.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

Psalm 107

1. Why should we praise God (vv. 1, 8)?
 2. What works of the Lord are men to thank Him for?

Psalm 147

3. Why should we praise God (v. 1)?
 4. What attributes of God are extolled in this psalm?

Psalm 33

5. How are the righteous commanded to praise God (vv. 1–3)?

6. What attributes of God are extolled in this psalm (vv. 4–11)?

Psalm 103

7. For what works does the psalmist bless the Lord (vv. 3–7)?

8. What attributes of God are extolled in this psalm?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

2 Samuel 7:22 Therefore You are great, O Lord God. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

Prayer

Spend time praising God for what He has done for you and for who He is.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



5

Solomon Becomes King

Lesson Summary

When God asked Solomon what he wanted God to give him, Solomon asked for an understanding heart—wisdom—to lead the people. God was pleased with Solomon's request, and He not only granted his request, but He also gave him honor and riches as well.

The Bible tells us of Solomon's great wealth: "The weight of gold that came to Solomon yearly was six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold" (1 Kings 10:14). At current gold prices, that would be more than half a billion dollars of gold each year! 1 Kings 10 goes on to tell us that Solomon had hundreds of gold shields, an ivory throne overlaid with gold, gold drinking vessels, and more. It sums up by stating, "So King Solomon surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom" (1 Kings 10:23).

Today, there are those who teach that God wants His children to be wealthy; that a sign of God's blessing is material wealth; that part of the gospel is financial blessing. But is this biblical? We must go to the Word of God to find the answer.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

Luke 12:15–21

1. What does Jesus warn about in verse 15?
2. Who do you know (or have heard of) that may be similar to the man in this parable?
3. What does it mean to be “rich toward God”?

Luke 12:22–34

4. What does worry or anxiety about where we will get our food or clothing reveal about our faith or how we view God?
5. What has more splendor than all of Solomon’s wealth?

6. What did Jesus command us to do (vv. 31–33)? Why?

Ecclesiastes 2:1–11

7. What did Solomon come to realize later in his life?

8. Who do you know (or have heard of) that may have a similar story as Solomon?

9. Read the following passages and discuss what they tell us about riches and the love of money.

- James 2:1–7 –

- 1 Timothy 6:6–10 –

- Matthew 6:19–30 –

- Hebrews 13:5–6 –

- Proverbs 30:8–9 –
 - Proverbs 23:4–5 –
 - Luke 12:15–21 –
10. After reading all of these passages, summarize a biblical view of wealth and possessions:

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

2 Samuel 7:22 Therefore You are great, O Lord God. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

Prayer

Thank God for all the material blessings that you enjoy. Ask Him for a proper perspective on possessions. Ask Him to keep you from covetousness or greed. Praise Him for the true heavenly riches that you have in Christ.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



6

Parallel Accounts

Lesson Summary

While the lower grades had a review week, junior high through adult learned about the parallel accounts in Scripture and how they confirm the truthfulness of God's Word. When passages are properly understood, there are no real contradictions in the Bible (as many skeptics claim).

As we are bombarded from the media, from friends, or from family telling us that the Bible is not true, we need to often remind ourselves that we can trust the Word of our holy God. The Bible must be the foundation and starting point for all that we think and do.

Read and Discuss

1. Read the following passages and discuss what they tell us about the Bible.
 - 2 Timothy 3:15–17 –
 - 2 Peter 1:20–21 –
 - Deuteronomy 4:2; Proverbs 30:6; Revelation 22:18–19 –
 - Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18 –
 - Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 5:17–18 –
 - Psalm 119:89, 119:152, 119:160 –
 - Hebrews 4:12 –

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

2 Samuel 7:22 Therefore You are great, O Lord God. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

Prayer

Thank God for His perfect Word. Ask Him for faith to believe it and courage to defend it. Ask God to use His Word in your life to conform you to the image of Christ.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



Lesson Summary

The beautiful and ornate Temple constructed by Solomon was the center of worship for the nation of Israel for more than 400 years. It was the place that God had ordained for His dwelling place among men (though He cannot be contained in manmade buildings—1 Kings 8:27; 2 Chronicles 2:6; Isaiah 66:1).

The Temple was the place of atonement—where sacrifices were made to cover sin and provide forgiveness. But, as the book of Hebrews makes clear, those sacrifices could never fully cleanse a person from sin or provide perfect forgiveness. “For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins” (Hebrew 10:4). The New Covenant, established by Jesus’s death, is the only means for complete forgiveness: “For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified” (Hebrews 10:14).

This magnificent Temple built by Solomon was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar. Another was built, but it too would be destroyed. Rather than a physical building for God to dwell in, the New Testament reveals a different kind of temple—a dwelling of the Holy Spirit. Let’s take a look at this temple as it is revealed in the New Testament.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

Ephesians 2:19–22

1. Who is the “you” Paul is addressing in verse 19—those who were formerly strangers and foreigners (see Ephesians 2:11–13)?
2. What analogy does Paul use in this passage when describing the church?
3. What does it mean that God’s household is built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets?
4. What is the significance of Christ being the chief cornerstone?
5. Is Paul talking about a physical building? What or who is the building?

6. Where and how does God dwell (vv. 21–22)?

1 Peter 2:4–9

7. Like Paul, the Apostle Peter also uses a building analogy. What does it mean that we are “living stones” in God’s house?
8. What does it mean that believers are a “holy priesthood”—a “royal priesthood” (vv. 5, 9)?
9. As priests of God, what two things are we to do (vv. 5, 9)?
10. What spiritual sacrifices are we to offer up to God? (See Romans 12:1–2, Philippians 4:14–18, and Hebrews 13:15–16.)
11. In the New King James Version, 1 Peter 2:7a says, “Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious.” What does this mean? Is this true of you?

12. Read the following passages and discuss what they tell us about the temple in the New Testament.

- 1 Corinthians 3:16–17 –
- 1 Corinthians 6:18–20 –
- 2 Corinthians 6:14–7:1 –

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

1 Chronicles 29:11 Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head over all.

Prayer

Thank God for the complete forgiveness available through Jesus Christ. Thank Him that Jesus is your High Priest forever, and His people are the temple of the living God. Praise Him for continuing to build His church, and ask Him to continue to do His work in you that you might offer acceptable sacrifices to Him and proclaim His praises.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



8

Wisdom from God

Lesson Summary

The book of Proverbs provides godly wisdom for many areas of life: money, time, friendship, lust, laziness, theft, personal habits, faith, trusting God, and more. Rather than absolute statements or promises, the proverbs are general truths and principles that will be demonstrated throughout life; they are not intended to reduce life to a mechanical basis. For example, Proverbs 10:2 states, “Treasures of wickedness profit nothing, but righteousness delivers from death.” Does this always come true in our world today? No, and that was a complaint of Asaph in Psalm 73. But, we must realize (as Asaph did at the end of his psalm) that the ultimate application of Proverbs 10:2 is how God will eventually settle accounts, deal with the wicked, and bring true justice.

In the book of Proverbs, God has much to say about the foolish and the wise. We'll look at a sampling of these proverbs to help us understand a little more what true wisdom is (and how to avoid foolishness!).

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages, and then restate the proverb in your own words. What characterizes a fool? A wise man?

1. Proverbs 10:8 –

2. Proverbs 12:15 –

3. Proverbs 13:20 –

4. Proverbs 14:3 –

5. Proverbs 14:16 –

6. Proverbs 14:29 –

7. Proverbs 15:2 –

8. Proverbs 15:5 –

9. Proverbs 15:7 –

10. Proverbs 15:20 –

11. Proverbs 17:10 –

12. Proverbs 17:24 –

13. Proverbs 21:20 –

14. Proverbs 28:26 –

15. Proverbs 29:11 –

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

1 Chronicles 29:11 Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head over all.

Prayer

Thank God for the wisdom found in His Word. Ask Him for humility to receive His words. Ask Him to grant you a true fear of Him and the wisdom that results.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



Lesson Summary

After Solomon's death, his son Rehoboam took his place on the throne. The people requested that Rehoboam lighten the burdensome service his father, Solomon, had put on them (1 Kings 12:1–5). King Rehoboam sought counsel. The elders counseled him to serve the people and speak kindly to them. The young men, however, advised Rehoboam to increase the people's burdens. He took the advice of his peers and announced that he would not lighten the load but would oppress them even more than Solomon had (1 Kings 12:6–11).

The people would have served a just leader, but they rebelled against Rehoboam because of the severity of his answer. We see a vivid picture of God's sovereignty in the affairs of men as we read that "the king did not listen to the people; for the turn of events was from the Lord, that He might fulfill His word, which the Lord had spoken by Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat" (1 Kings 12:15).

This was all in God's plan. He was the one who orchestrated all of these events to fulfill His purposes. God used Rehoboam's foolish actions to cause the people to rebel against his kingship. God used the sinful heart of man to bring about His purpose in the world. And how reassuring to us in a world that is tossed to and fro by many different political leaders to know that our God controls the hearts of kings.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss how each one reveals God's sovereignty.

1. Genesis 50:20 –

2. Joshua 11:20 –

3. 2 Chronicles 20:6 –

4. Psalm 2 –

5. Psalm 33:11 –

6. Psalm 115:3 –

7. Psalm 135:6 –

8. Proverbs 21:1 –

9. Isaiah 40:21–24 –

10. Isaiah 46:8–11 –

11. Jeremiah 27:5 –

12. Daniel 4:35 –

13. Acts 2:23 –

14. Acts 4:25–28 –

15. Ephesians 1:11 –

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

1 Chronicles 29:11 Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head over all.

Prayer

Praise God that He is the omnipotent, sovereign ruler of the universe. Thank Him for how He has worked throughout history to bring His plans to fruition, and how He will be faithful to bring about His plans in the future. Ask Him for the faith to trust Him even when things seem to be out of control or when evil seems to be triumphing.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



10

God Sends Jonah

Lesson Summary

Jonah was commanded by God to go to the pagan nation of Assyria—to its capital, Nineveh. The Israelites hated the Assyrians. They were a cruel nation that worshipped false gods.

Jonah was, no doubt, opposed to sharing the truth with the pagan Gentiles of Nineveh and showed displeasure when God spared them (Jonah 4:1–2). Similarly, at times we may feel that certain people don't deserve to hear the message of the gospel—the message of repentance and faith in Christ. Perhaps we believe them to be pathetic, evil sinners—seemingly without hope. Or maybe they are hostile to Christ or His church, and we'd prefer to see judgment fall on them.

We need to guard against any type of self-righteousness in our own salvation and remember that our sins were the reason Jesus suffered and died. He willingly bore our sins, dying on our behalf, and He calls us to share the hope of the gospel with all people.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

Luke 15:1–10

1. Who was listening to Jesus speak these parables (vv. 1–2)?
2. What is the main point of the parable of the lost sheep?
3. What is the main point of the parable of the lost coin?
4. What do these parables tell us about God's heart for sinners?

2 Corinthians 4:3–6

5. What is the reason Paul gives here for why unbelievers do not believe the gospel?
6. What is our responsibility (v. 5)?
7. What is God's part (v. 6)?

Ephesians 2:1–8

8. What characterizes the life and walk of unbelievers?

9. Whose course are they following? What is their nature like?

10. What types of activities were “we all” engaged in (v. 3)?

11. What did God do for us (vv. 4–7)?

12. How is anyone saved (vv. 8–9)?

13. Should we consider ourselves as better or above unbelievers who are living a life of sin? Why or why not?

2 Timothy 2:24–26

14. What qualities should characterize a “servant of the Lord”?

15. What do we hope for as we share the gospel with unbelievers (vv. 25–26)?

16. Who is holding unbelievers captive to do his will?

Titus 3:1–7

17. What qualities should characterize believers?

18. What qualities characterize unbelievers (and believers before their salvation)?

19. What did God do for us? What part did our righteousness play in our salvation?

20. In summary, how should we view “sinners” and even those hostile toward Christ and the gospel?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

1 Chronicles 29:11 Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head over all.

Prayer

Thank God for His wonderful salvation. Ask Him to give you a heart for the lost like He has. Ask Him to convict you of any prejudice or pride that would hinder you from reaching out to those different from you. Thank Him for the power of the gospel, which can take a rebel under the power of Satan and make him a worshipper in the kingdom of God.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



11

God Uses Elijah

Lesson Summary

Elijah was a prophet of God who ministered in both the Northern and Southern kingdoms. He is known for several miracles God performed through him (stopping the rain, raising the dead, calling fire from heaven, being taken up to heaven in a whirlwind). Elijah had moments of great triumph, such as his showdown with the prophets of Baal, but he also feared for his life at times and despaired over the opposition he faced from Ahab and Jezebel.

One lesson we learn from the life of Elijah is that God always provides for His people. During times of plenty or times of scarcity, God can be trusted to provide “our daily bread.”

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

1 Kings 17:1–16

1. How did God first provide for Elijah by the Brook Cherith (vv. 2–6)?
2. How did God provide for Elijah in Zarephath (vv. 8–16)?

Philippians 4:10–20

3. What was it that the Apostle Paul had learned?
4. In light of the context of this passage, what does verse 13 mean?
5. How did God view the church in Philippi giving toward the needs of Paul (v. 18)?

6. What does verse 19 promise us?

Matthew 6:25–34

7. Why are we not to worry about food and clothing?
8. What things in nature does Jesus refer to as examples of God's provision?
9. Is there a condition to the promise of verse 33? What is it?

Matthew 7:7–11

10. What are we commanded to do in verse 7?

11. How do we know that God will give us good gifts?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

1 Chronicles 29:11 Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head over all.

Prayer

Thank God for His provision in your life. Thank Him for blessings such as your house, job, vehicle, church, and family. Ask Him to meet your needs—to give you your daily bread. Ask Him to help you discern between wants and needs. Praise Him for His sovereign care for His creation and His great love for His children.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



Lesson Summary

After Elijah was taken away, Elisha succeeded him as a prophet of God. And, like Elijah, God was pleased to do many miracles through Elisha. The book of 2 Kings records many of these miracles. He purified water (2:19–22), multiplied oil (4:1–7), raised a dead boy (4:32–37), purified stew (4:38–41), multiplied loaves (4:42–44), and made an ax head float (6:4–7).

The miracle we talked about in this lesson was the healing of the Syrian commander, Naaman (2 Kings 5:1–19). After he washed in the Jordan River seven times, the Lord healed him of his leprosy. When Naaman offered to give Elisha a gift for his healing, Elisha replied, “As the Lord lives, before whom I stand, I will receive nothing” (2 Kings 5:16).

Elisha’s servant Gehazi, however, saw opportunity for profit. In the account of Naaman, his leprosy can be seen as analogous to sin in its universal scope, and his healing as wonderful picture of our salvation in Christ. But in the account of Gehazi, we see the process and consequences of greed or covetousness. It is the picture of religious hypocrisy, of human rationalization, of rebellion and insubordination to authority, of unfaithfulness, and of the downward spiral of sin.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

2 Kings 5:20–27

1. What did Gehazi think of Naaman (“this Syrian”)? What did Gehazi think of the actions of Elisha, his master (v. 20)?
2. What was the first lie that Gehazi told (v. 22)?
3. Why do you think Naaman responded so generously (v. 23)?
4. What did Gehazi do with the items he had received (v. 24)?
5. What was the next lie that Gehazi told (v. 25)?
6. What was God’s punishment for Gehazi’s sin (v. 27)?
7. Read the following passages and discuss what each one has to say about greed and covetousness.
 - Exodus 20:17 –
 - Luke 12:15–21 –

- Colossians 3:5–7 –

- Ephesians 5:3–7 –

Acts 4:36–5:11

8. What did Ananias and Sapphira do (5:1–2)?
9. By lying to the apostles about the price of the land they sold (v. 7), who had they really lied to (vv. 3–4)?
10. What was the punishment for their greed and deceitfulness (vv. 5, 10)?

1 Timothy 6:9–11

11. What is the proper attitude toward possessions?
12. How did Gehazi's actions mirror Paul's admonition (vv. 9–10)?

13. What things do you covet? Has greed ever caused you to lie?

14. What can we do about our sinful desires (v. 11)?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

1 Chronicles 29:11 Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head over all.

Prayer

Thank God that His Word records not only the good and noble actions of men, but also the sinful ones. Thank Him for the good example of grace shown by Elisha in the healing of Naaman. Ask Him to guard your heart from greed and covetousness like that shown by Gehazi. Ask for God's help to pursue righteousness, faith, love, patience, gentleness . . . and contentment.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



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Review

Lesson Summary

This week is a review week. We have covered so much this past quarter! One of the main personalities of the Old Testament time we've been studying is King David. He was a man after God's own heart, and yet he sinned greatly. But his repentance was genuine, and his trust in the Lord was evidenced throughout his life.

David wrote many of the psalms—psalms of praise, lament, thanksgiving, repentance, and trust in God. This week we'll read one of David's psalms that reflect on the joy of one who has been forgiven. All who are in Christ should understand this joy, and be able to sing along with David.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passage and discuss the questions together.

Psalm 32

1. What does “blessed” mean (vv. 1–2)? What are some synonyms?
2. What happens to us when we hide our sin, when we refuse to repent of it (vv. 3–4)?
3. What did God do when David confessed his transgressions (v. 5)?
4. What does it mean that God is our “hiding place” (v. 7)?

5. God is speaking in verses 8–9. What does He promise to do?
 6. How are you sometimes like a horse or mule in your relationship with God (v. 9)?
 7. What is the portion of the wicked? What is the portion of the righteous (vv. 10–11)? See also Psalm 1.

Let us remember and join in the wonderful words of Horatio Spafford as he penned them in the hymn, "It Is Well with My Soul":

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

1 Chronicles 29:11 Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head over all

Prayer

Thank God for His forgiveness in Christ. Thank Him for the joy that accompanies salvation. Ask Him for a heart that is quick to repent of sin, quick to claim His forgiveness, and quick to obey.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:
