

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 21 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Based on Reading from Acts 16:13-15



Preschool – Kindergarten

Scripture: Acts 16:13-15

Read or tell the story.

Say: Lydia loved and worshiped God. When she saw God’s helpers needed a place to stay she invited them to her house. Sharing our home is one way we can show our love to God.

Applying the Story: Discuss ways to take care of the house...(sweep, mop, dust, pick-up toys, make bed, etc.) Do one or more of these activities together.

Decide who to invite to your house for a play date, dinner, etc.

Activity: Make an invitation together and deliver/mail it.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Scripture: Acts 12:1-17

Read this from a Children’s Bible or your Family’s favorite Bible.

Activity: Make paper chains together as a family, one chain for each person. (Cut stripes of paper and glue/tape/staple loops that are linked together.)

Experiencing the Story: Act out the story and use the chains for Peter.

Applying the Text: God took care of Peter and removed his chains. The chains were a problem for Peter, they kept him from preaching about Jesus.

- Everyone share a problem they are facing.
- Everyone hold their chains and put their hands through the ends.
- Compare the chain to the problems you talked about.
- Discuss how we can pray and God can solve any problem.
- Pray about the problems you shared.
- Pull on the chains and break them apart.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 22 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Based on Reading from Acts 20:32 & 35



Preschool – Kindergarten

Scripture: Acts 20:32 & 35

Read this from a Children’s Bible or your Family’s favorite Bible.

Say: God’s message of Grace builds us up. Grace means getting things not for being good or anything else we do. It is good things for us just because.

Activity: Use blocks or any other building material. Start building a tower, for every block you use name a gift from God to us.

Continue building and name gifts of grace we can give others.

Wrap-it-up: See how big the tower is. God builds us strong like this tower by giving us good gifts and we can build up others by giving to them.

Plan who you will give to this week.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Scripture: Acts 20:32 & 35

Read or tell the story.

Discuss: What does grace mean? (unmerited favor)

List as many ways you can think of that gives us grace.

Activity: Build a tower out of blocks/legos/cups, one block for every way God shows grace to us.

Discuss and list the ways we can support the weak. Build a second tower using the new list.

Wrap-it-up: God builds us up and we can then build others up. Ask God to help us support others.

Plan who you will give to this week.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 23 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Based on Reading from Acts 22 – 26



Preschool – Kindergarten

Explain: Paul loved Jesus and told others about him. Some people did not like to hear about Jesus and wanted Paul to stop. Paul loved Jesus too much and kept telling everyone about Jesus.

Activity: Make a “telephone” by using two paper cups and yarn/string. Poke a hole in the bottom of the cups and thread the yarn through and tie a knot. Talk into the cup telling each other how much you love Jesus.

Wrap-it-up: It is good to tell others about Jesus and his love. Choose who you will tell this week about how you love Jesus. (Maybe you can play the telephone game with friends.)

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Read or Summarize Acts 26: Paul tells about his conversion and becoming a follower of Jesus, and tells of his commitment to follow and love God.

Activity: Talk about the ways we can share our love of Jesus to others. Draw a picture or act out your favorite ways to tell others about your love of Jesus.

Wrap-it-up: Choose who you will tell this week about how you love Jesus and why?

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 24 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Based on Readings: Acts 27 – Romans 3



Preschool – Kindergarten

Text: Romans 3:23, 24

Activity: Ahead of time wrap a gift for each child. Give it to them at a time they might not expect. Especially at a time you find them doing something they are not allowed to do.

Say: Do you know why I gave you this gift? Is it because you never do anything wrong? (No) I gave you the gift because I love you, even if you do things you shouldn't. That reminds me of Jesus. Jesus loves us and gave us a great gift, the gift of life with Him forever. Jesus did not give this gift to us because we are always good, but because he loves us. Let me show you where Jesus says this in the Bible.

Read: Romans 3:23, 24

Pray together and thank Jesus for such a great gift.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: Romans 3:23, 24

Activity: Ahead of time wrap a gift for each child. Give it to them at a time they might not expect. Especially at a time you find them doing something they are not allowed to do.

Say: Do you know why I gave you this gift? Is it because you never do anything wrong? (No) Did I give it to you because I know someday you will never make any mistakes? (No) I gave you this gift because I love you. I love you when you do things you shouldn't and when you do what you should.

I was reading in the Bible in the book of Romans about a great gift Jesus gave us. Let's look at chapter 3 and read it together.

What is Jesus' gift? (Salvation, Eternal Life) What kinds of people get this gift from Jesus? (All people, even those who sin and make wrong choices.)

Let's pray together and thank Jesus for such a great gift.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 25 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Based on Reading from Romans 4-8



Preschool – Kindergarten

Text: Romans 8:35, 37-39

Activity: Talk about the things that are hard for us and things that scare us. Or talk about other bad things that have happened in our lives. Draw pictures of them. Then draw a big heart and write the “Love of God” inside.

Read or paraphrase the text. Then place the heart over the pictures.

Wrap-it-up: The Bible tells us that no matter what is happening in our lives that nothing can keep us from the LOVE OF GOD. Nothing in the whole world can keep God from loving us.

Pray and thank God for the wonderful love God gives us.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: Romans 8: 35, 37-39

Talk about the things that keep us from loving God. Draw some pictures of those things.

Ask: What things keep God from loving us?

Read the Text. These Bible verses say that nothing keeps God from loving us. How do you feel about that?

Activity: Get some super glue or other strong glue. Glue a heart representing Gods love over the pictures you drew. God’s love is so strong that it will never leave us even if we do things that keep us from loving Him. He will never stop loving us or be separated from us.

Think of ways you can show God you love him and are grateful for His love.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 26 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Based on Reading from Romans 9 -13



Preschool – Kindergarten

Text: Romans 10:9, 13 & 17

Explain: Paul loved Jesus and told others about him. Some people did not like to hear about Jesus and wanted Paul to stop. Paul loved Jesus too much and kept telling everyone about Jesus.

Activity: Play hide and go seek. What did it feel like to be lost? How did you feel when you were found? Read the text (explain and words that are beyond age comprehension.)

Wrap-it-up: When we live without Jesus in our lives we are lost and in a tight situation. When we sin and do bad things that separates/keeps us from Jesus. But we just read in the Bible that if we say that Jesus is our friend we will be saved. The Bible says not just a few will be saved, but EVERYONE who calls to Jesus. When someone saves us we call them our savior. Would you like to pray and ask Jesus to be your friend and Savior?

Pray: Invite Jesus to be your friend and Savior.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: Romans 10:9, 13 & 17

Read or Summarize Acts 26: Paul tells about his conversion and becoming a follower of Jesus, and tells of his commitment to follow and love God.

Activity: Have everyone in the family tell a story about being lost or stuck in a tight situation. Don't forget to talk about being found, how and who saved you. What did it feel like to be lost? How did you feel when you were found? Read the text.

Wrap-it-up: When we live without Jesus in our lives we are lost and in a tight situation. When we sin and do bad things that separates/keeps us from Jesus. But we just read in the Bible that if we say that Jesus is our friend we will be saved. The Bible says not just a few will be saved, but EVERYONE who calls to Jesus. When someone saves us we call them our savior. Would you like to pray and ask Jesus to be your friend and Savior?

Pray: Invite Jesus to be your friend and Savior.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 27 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Based on Reading from Romans 14 –
1 Corinthians 2



Preschool – Kindergarten

Text: 1 Corinthians 1:25

Activity: Do: Play with a puzzle or alphabet game or sing the ABC's.

Say: You are really growing and learning a lot. Every day you know more, some day you may even know more than Mommy or Daddy. Even though we know lots of things, God is so wise he knows much more!

Do: See how much weight everyone in the family can pick up.

Say: Wow, you are growing stronger every day. Who do you think is the strongest? The Bible says God is the strongest. Read the text (1 Corinthians 1:25). I am glad God is wiser and stronger than us. We can always count on God to know what's best for us and protect us with his strength.

Pray: Pray and thank God for His strength and wisdom.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: 1 Corinthians 1:25

Activity: Play a trivia game or practice math facts, me states, etc...(any game that challenges knowledge). Have a contest to see how much weight each person can pick up or push/pull. (Be careful no one over does it!)

Debrief: You are growing smarter and stronger every day. There may be a day when you are smarter/stronger than your parents. But there is someone you will never out grow in smarts and strength – can you guess? Read the text together.

How do you feel about the strength and wisdom of God? I am glad we have a God we can never outgrow!

Pray together.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 28 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Based on Reading from 1 Corinthians 3 – 7



Preschool – Kindergarten

Text: 1 Corinthians 3:5-9

Materials needed: Pot, soil, seed and water.

Activity: Plant a seed together in a pot or in the ground. If in the ground mark the spot well so you can water and watch for the seed to grow. While working on planting talk about how nice it is to work together. One of you puts in the seed another waters. **Ask:** Who makes the seed grow? We can do our part to help the seed, but only God makes the plants to grow.

Continue caring for the seed, and watch the miracle of the growth unfold.

Wrap-it-up: God also grows people. God wants people to grow to love him more and more every day just as the seed will grow more every day. Mommies and Daddies and Grandparents, and teachers at church (add the names of all who spiritually influence your child) all help us learn about God, and God gives us His love every day to help us grow to be like him. We can help others grow by telling them about God's love too, just like we helped the plant by watering and caring for it. Discuss who you would like to tell about God's love for them.

Pray: Invite Jesus to be your friend and Savior.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: 1 Corinthians 3:5-9. Read the text together.

Activity: (see above).

Pray: Pray that God will help the plant grow and to help us all to grow to love God more.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 29 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Based on Readings from 1 Corinthians 8-12



Preschool – Kindergarten

Text: 1 Corinthians 8:1b

Activity: Go outside and collect rocks or sticks. Use the collection to build a tower, while building the tower, practice saying loving words to each other.

Wrap-it-up: Our loving words to each other builds us up strong just like the tower we built. It says in the Bible that “Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.” Let’s practice building our family up with loving words and actions. Talk about the things we do and say that show love.

Pray: Ask God to give you more love to share every day.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: 1 Corinthians 9:24,25. Read the text together.

Activity: Go outside and run a race, or multiple races, some with obstacles, short races, long races.

Pull-it-together: Talk about who won and how it feels to win. Did anyone try to lose on purpose? Do the athletes in the Olympics train to lose or win? In the Bible Paul talks about running a race. Read the text. What race is Paul talking about? In our life with God we are to give it our all, just like Olympic athletes try their hardest.

Pray: Ask God to be with us that we may do our best to give God glory every day.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 30 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Based on Reading from 1 Corinthians 13 – 2
Corinthians 1



Preschool – Kindergarten

Text: 1 Corinthians 13:12

Activity: Collect some pictures of people you love who do not live in your house. They could live close or faraway. Also gather a picture of those who live in your house. Look at the pictures of the people. Talk about what you like and love about them. Then look at the pictures of the people who live in your house, then look at the people who live in your house in person. What differences do you notice?

Discuss: Would you rather look at a picture of the people you love or be with them in person? What is missing when we look at the picture? (personal touch, their smell, etc.) What is good about pictures? (helps us to see and remember when we cannot be with the ones we love, etc.)

In the Bible a man named Paul talks about how we can see God, like in a mirror or picture, but someday we can see him face to face. The Bible is like a picture of God, this is how we learn about him. What would you like to learn about God when you can see God in person?

Pray: Thank God for giving us a picture of himself in the Bible so we remember what he is like until we can see him in person.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: 1 Corinthians 13

Activity: Read the text – often referred to as the “love chapter” together. Then work together to illustrate the chapter in story board form (a sequence of pictures). This might be a week project. Once the art work is finished, hang the pictures where everyone can see them.

Debrief: Talk about ways you can continue to share love in your family and to others outside your home. Use the pictures to remind your family to love one another and those outside your family.

Pray: Ask God to help you to learn to love like the love described in 1 Corinthians 13.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 31 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Based on Readings 2 Corinthians 2-6

Preschool – Kindergarten



Text: 2 Corinthians 2:14,15

Activity: Plan and make a parade around the yard or in your house. Dress up for your parade, make music with instruments, etc. Explain that people put on parades because they want to celebrate. We want to celebrate that we love Jesus, Jesus loves us and we are happy to follow Jesus. When we follow Jesus we get to be in Jesus' parade every day.

Wrap-it-up: Read the text and then hold an open jar of perfume or other aromatic. Also find something that does not smell too good. Let the kids smell both. The Bible says that when we follow Jesus in His parade every day we are like the good smells. People want to be around good smelling things, and then other people will want to follow Jesus too and be in His parade.

Pray: Thank you God for letting us be in your parade. Help others to join us as we follow you every day. Amen.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: 2 Corinthians 5:7

Activity: Have children wear blindfolds. Tell them you will take them on a journey (outside or around the house) and they will be blindfolded. They will not be left alone but they need to follow the sound of your voice throughout the journey. Do not let them run into anything, if necessary gently guide them with your hand away from danger. You may want to switch and let them take you on a journey!

Wrap-it-up: Read the text. How did you like this activity? Was it hard to follow without seeing? Did you trust that you would be safe? Why? Why not? When we follow Jesus, the Bible says we walk by Faith, that means we don't always know where we are going but we follow Jesus' voice, (can be heard in the Bible, godly parents and teachers, prayer). This may be hard, but we can walk with confidence because we know Jesus loves and cares for us.

Pray: Thank you God for leading us as we walk by faith. Amen.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 32 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Based on Readings 2 Corinthians 7 – 11

Preschool and Elementary



Text: 2 Corinthians 9:11

Read the text. This text talks about the members of the early church being generous, or giving freely to help Paul and the others spread the good news about how much Jesus loves people.

Activity: Talk about how your family gives to the church and talk about new ways that you can give and be generous to help other people learn about the love of God.

Mission/giving opportunity for Children and Families: Preparing and giving backpacks to children in need. The church will be collecting backpacks and back to school supplies to give to Alpha House so that children in need will be able to start school with the supplies they need. Bring the backpacks and supplies to the church on Sunday, August 29 where we will bless and send them. This will happen at all three services. Bring your backpack too and we will bless all the children in the church.

IHN-ALPHA HOUSE SCHOOL SUPPLY WISH LIST - Fall 2010

Really need:

- BACKPACKS, really sturdy STRONG backpacks in neutral colors
- Zip-around binders
- Pencil cases (zipper pouches with 3 holes or boxes)
- Erasers (fun ones and pencil ends)
- Small pencil sharpeners
- Dividers for 3 ring binders
- Flash Drive Memory Sticks(for storing computer school work)
- Kid scissors
- Glue sticks
- Washable markers (fine or thick)
- Calculators (simple and scientific)
- Highlighters
- Mechanical pencils (plastic click ones)
- Pens (black or blue)
- Composition books or journals
- Note Cards
- Colored pencils

Don't need ANY:

- Pencils
- Paper folders
- Crayons
- Spiral notebooks
- Loose leaf paper
- Regular 3 ring binders

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 33 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week: 2 Corinthians 12 –
Galatians 3

Text: Galatians 3:26-28



Preschool – Elementary

Activity: Look on line, go to the Library, or your own resources and look for information about the way people live in different parts of the world. Look up any area of the globe that interests you. Perhaps spend a short time every day this week learning about different ways of life from what you know.

Wrap-it-up: Read the text or paraphrase for the very young. Paul reminds the people of Galatia in a letter that now that they follow Jesus they are to love all people the same, just as Jesus did. People who live many different ways are loved by Jesus and Jesus' followers love all people too. Discuss: How do we show love to other people, even when they are not just like us?

Pray: Dear God, help us to love other people, those who are the same as us and those who live differently. Amen

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 34 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading: Galatians 4 – Ephesians 2



Preschool – Elementary

Text: Ephesians 2:13

Activity: If possible go outside and have a child stand far away. Then tell them how much you love them and what you like about them. Use a normal voice. Do not shout so they can hear. Then shout did you hear me? Next send another person to bring the child close to you. Repeat what you said. Then ask if they were able to hear. Do this multiple times giving everyone in the family a chance to play all the different roles.

Wrap-it-up: Read the text. God loves us so much and wants us to hear and know His words of love. That is why God sent Jesus to bring us close to God. Jesus loves us and wants us to be close to him.

Pray: Huddle in a family hug. Thank God for bringing us close to him through Jesus and ask God to help your family grow in love toward each other and others outside the family.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 35 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading: Ephesians 3 – Philippians 1

Preschool and Elementary



Activity: Ask your child to do something that is too hard for them. Like jump up and touch something high, jump over a large gap, especially something they would like to do but their size or skill level is not developed for them to do all by themselves. Have them try the activity again with your assistance. You might even want to try several different activities and then help them accomplish all the tasks.

Wrap-it-Up: There are things that you are not able to do on your own. But with help you were able to do more than you thought possible. That reminds me of a text in the Bible. Read Ephesians 3:20-21. This says with God's help we can do more than we ever thought we could. Just like when I helped you. God helps us to do great big things for him.

For older kids: What big things do you think God might ask you to do? Are you willing to try hard or big things with God's help?

Pray: Dear God, please help us remember that with you we can do more than we can imagine. Thank you. Amen.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 36 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:
Philippians 2 - Colossians 2



Preschool – Kindergarten

Text: Philippians 4:4

Activity: Collect musical instruments (these could be pots and pans, make shakers with beans or rice in a jar, etc.) and give everyone in the family one. Create your own marching band. Sing your favorite songs about God and Jesus as you march around rejoicing in the Lord.

Wrap-it-up: Read the Bible text. The Bible says we should rejoice, which is a way of being happy in the Lord. When we are happy we can thank God and rejoice that God is with us and when we are sad, we can still make music and a marching band because God is with us when we are sad too.

Pray: Dear God, help us rejoice always because you are with us. Amen

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: Philippians 4:19

Activity: School is beginning this week. What are the things you need to do a good job? Take a sheet of paper (the larger the better) and stick it on the wall or fridge and have everyone take turns writing what they need for this school year for it to be successful. After making the list read the text for the day.

Wrap-it-up: Wow, the Bible says that God will fully satisfy every need! God has so much goodness that God wants to pass that on to you this school year. How do you feel about that kind of God? What would you like to tell God?

Prayer: Pray through the list and ask God to give what we need to honor God in all we do this school year.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 37 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:

Colossians 3 – 1 Thessalonians 3



Preschool

Text: Colossians 3:14

Activity: Collect a brown shopping bag for each child to make a coat. Cut down the middle on one side. Cut a neck hole out of the bottom of the bag and two arm holes on the sides. If the bag is printed on, turn it inside out. Have everyone work together to decorate the coat to remind you to love one another and to be loving to each other. (You could also use a t-shirt and fabric paint.)

Wrap-it-up: Read the text. Put on the “Love Coat”. The Bible says the most important thing for us to do is to love each other. When we wake up in the morning we want to remember to put on our love to share and not just our clothes. What are ways we can show love in our family? To others?

Pray: Thank God for the Love God gives, and ask for more love to share with others.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: Colossians 3:12-14

Activity: Read the text. God wants us to wear some important character traits. What were they again? Make a t-shirt decorated to remind us of these traits God wants us to wear. Use fabric paint or permanent markers. If you don't want to use a t-shirt, follow the directions above for using a brown shopping bag. If you want to spread this devotion out over the week, work on one character trait a day.

Wrap-it-up: What does it mean to clothe yourself with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience and love? What does this look like in life? What areas do you need to grow into more?

Pray: Ask God to help you wear these Godly character traits. Ask for help in areas of weakness.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 38 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:

1 Thessalonians 4 – 2 Thessalonians 3



Preschool – Kindergarten

Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:15

Activity: Collect some toys to demonstrate things that might upset us when we are playing with a friend. Ask and demonstrate some of these examples: What do you want to do when someone knocks your blocks down when you don't want them too? What do you want to do when a friend takes your doll (car) away? What do you want to do when someone breaks one of your toys on purpose? (Come up with your own that fits your child.)

Wrap-it-Up: Sometimes we want to do bad things back to people who hurt us or upset us. Let's read the Bible. Read or paraphrase the text. God wants us not to do bad things to people who do bad things to us. God wants us to still do good to them. What can we do when they do the bad things we just talked about? (Practice responding with good to bad acts.)

Pray: Dear God, help me do good to others even when they do bad things to me. Amen.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:15

Activity: Brainstorm and act out situations where people have done bad things to hurt you or your stuff. Then role play how you might want to react.

Read the text. Role play the same situations and respond according to the words given in the Bible.

Wrap-it-up: Discuss what is the easiest response when people do bad things to you? Why? What is the hardest? Why? Why do you think God asks us to respond by do good when others act badly?

Pray: Ask God to help the family to good even to those who do evil to us. Pray about any specific situation you might be facing.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 39 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:
1 Timothy 1 -5



Preschool and Elementary

Text: 1 Timothy 1:14

Activity: Take a cup (place a pan under it or go outside) and start pouring water into it. Ask your child/children to tell you when the cup is full and you should stop pouring. When they tell you to stop, don't. Keep pouring until the water is running over and overflowing. Allow everyone in the family to have a turn pouring and filling the cup to overflowing.

Wrap-it-up: Read the text. Paul who wrote this letter to his friend Timothy said that the grace, which is God's free gift to us is overflowing with him. That same love and gifts God gives to us and they are overflowing. Just like the water that spilled over the cup, God's love for us does not stop, it overflows.

Pray: Thank God for his overflowing love and ask him to help you share that love with others.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 40 of the New Testament Reading Plan



Reading for the week:

1 Timothy – 2 Timothy 4

Text: 2 Timothy 3:14 &15

Preschool

Activity: Collect: your Bible and a children's Bible. Show your Bible to your child. Explain that the Bible is God's word to us. The words and the stories in the Bible help us learn about God. Read a short story from the children's Bible. Then choose a simple Bible text, perhaps one of your favorites. Start memorizing it together. Ideas to help children to remember: make up a song and put the text to music, clap out a rhythm, or make up signs for the key words (or go online and find the American Sign Language signs.)

Wrap – it –up: Say: Timothy who was a young leader in the early Christian Church learned about the Bible when he was young. You can learn about God in the Bible too.

Pray: Dear God, help me to learn your word in the Bible. Amen.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Activity: Collect: your Bible and a children's Bible or the Child's Bible they read. Show your Bible your child and compare it to theirs. What looks the same what seems different? Explain that the Bible is God's word to us. The words and the stories in the Bible are very important and they help us learn about God. Read one of your favorite stories or texts in the Bible. Explain why you like it to your child. Then choose a text to memorize together. Ideas to help children to memorize: put the words to music, a tune you know or just make one up, write the words on pieces of paper and jump/step from word to word saying them out loud, or go online and learn the American Sign Language signs to the key words in the text. Practice several days during the week till the text is committed to memory.

Wrap-it-up: Read the text. Explain that Paul wrote a letter of encouragement to a young leader in the early Christian church whose name was Timothy. Paul reminded Timothy that the scripture that he learned as a child would continue to help him as a leader. Choose more scriptures to learn by memory that will be helpful to you.

Pray: Thank you God for the Bible. Help us to learn more of it every day. Amen.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 41 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:

Titus, Philemon, Hebrews 1



Preschool – Kindergarten

Text: Philemon 4

Activity: Have your child draw pictures of the people they want to pray for. Think of those who show love and caring to others. Think of people to share about the love of Jesus. Draw some pictures with them. Send a card to someone and let them know you are praying for them.

Wrap-it-up: Talk about who you drew and why you want to pray for them. Read the text for this week. Paul prayed for his friends, he thanked God for them and asked God to help them share the love of God and to help them love God more.

Prayer: Pray for the people you drew that God would be with them too.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: Philemon 4, 5

Activity: Read the text. Talk about the people you know that love and care for people in church and those who share their love of Jesus with others. Draw a picture of something they do to show love and care. Make a note card to send to the people you talked about to let them know you are praying for them as they serve God.

Wrap-it-up: One way that we can help people is praying for them and asking God to be with them.

Prayer: Pray for the people you talked about. Pray for specific things you want to help them to do.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 42 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:
Hebrews 2-6



Preschool – Kindergarten

Text: Hebrews 2:1

Activity: Play a game of “Simon Says” and/or “Eye Spy”. Focus on how important it is to pay attention.

Wrap-it-Up: When you play a game like we just did you have to pay attention to do a good job. Some times in life it is very important to pay attention. When should we pay close attention? (Work together to make a short list of important times to pay attention.) Read the text. The Bible reminds us to pay close attention to what Jesus says so we can stay close to him. How can we pay close attention to the Bible?

Pray: Thank Jesus for the Bible and ask him to help you always pay attention to his words.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: Hebrews 2:1

Activity: Play a game that requires paying close attention to details, “Simon Says”, “Eye Spy”, “Connect Four”, “Clue”, and/or any game your family enjoys. During the games remind everyone to focus and pay attention to what is happening.

Wrap-it-Up: When you play a game like we just did you have to pay attention to do a good job. Some times in life it is very important to pay attention. When should we pay close attention? (Work together to make a short list of important times to pay attention.) Read the text. The Bible reminds us to pay close attention to what Jesus says so we can stay close to him. How can we pay close attention to the Bible?

Pray: Thank Jesus for the Bible and ask him to help you always pay attention to his words.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 43 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:
Hebrews 7 – 11



Preschool & Elementary

Text: Hebrews 9:14

Materials: Glass cups, food coloring (any color), eye or medicine dropper, bleach, and baking soda.

Activity: Fill one or more cups with water. Then add four drops of food coloring. It might be fun to use different colors. Stir in the color until well mixed. Add four drops of bleach to the solution. The color will fade. Then add 1 tsp. of baking soda. Stir the solution. The color will completely disappear.

What to Say during the activity:

We can be like these cups of clear water. When we sin/do things that are wrong, we are no longer clean and pure. (Add a few drops.) Sin can change our hearts. If we sin some more they can get even darker from the sin. (Add two more drops.) How do you feel after you do something wrong? Do you want your heart to stay this way? (NO.) Now put four drops of bleach in the water. Look, the color is lightening. Next add the baking soda and stir. Look the color is all gone and the water is clear.

Read the text. The Bible says that Jesus will purify our conscience/heart/mind. Jesus has the power to make us pure and clean after we sin. I am so happy that Jesus will do that for us. What do you want to ask Jesus to do for you? Let's pray about that.

Pray: Thank you Jesus for making us pure by the gift of your life. We love you. Amen.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 44 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:

Hebrews 12 – James 3

Preschool & Elementary

Text: James 1:27

Read the text: Who are the people who might need our help and care? When we hear about the love of God for us, we want to share love with other people.

Activity: Talk about Operation Christmas Child and how your family can bless and help others by putting together a Christmas box. Work together as a family to collect items and pack a box or two.

Pray: Ask God to bless the people who will receive the gifts in the box. Pray that they will learn about God and know about God's love. Thank God for the opportunity to help others.



Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 45 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:

James 4 – 1 Peter 3

Preschool & Elementary

Text: James 5:16

Read the Text together.

Say: One way to prepare our hearts for the mystery of Christmas is to pray. The Bible says that our prayers can be powerful and effective. That means they can really work! Let's think of all the things we want and need to pray about.

Activity: Start working on assembling an Advent Prayer Chain. Think of people and things you want to pray for as a family. By the end you will need 27 different prayers to cover the days of Advent. Cut strips of paper and write one prayer item on each strip and then loop one strip around another to make a paper chain. This activity can be spread out over a few weeks in preparation for Advent. It could also be fun to finish on Thanksgiving. Starting Nov. 28 open one loop per day and pray for the person or situation on the strip, this paper chain will serve as a type of Advent Calendar.

Pray: God, please help us to pray for the things you care about. Thank you for listening to us when we pray. Be with us on our journey to Thanksgiving and Christmas. Amen.



Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 46 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:

1 Peter 4 – 2 Peter 3

Text: 1 Peter 5:7



Preschool – Kindergarten

Activity: Talk about the things that you worry about, maybe things that scare you. Draw pictures or write them down on some sheets of paper. Take shoe box or other small box and decorate it. Label it “Things I give to Jesus.” Read the text.

Wrap-it-up: The Bible says to give our worries and cares to Jesus because he cares for us. Let’s put the worries that we put on paper in the box. Now Jesus will care about those things and we do not need to worry. Jesus is bigger than any of our troubles and He will care for us.

Pray: Dear Jesus, thank you for caring for my worries. Help me not to worry about those things. I love you. Amen.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Activity: Collect a backpack (one for each child and if possible the adults too) and some rocks or heavy books. Name the worries/anxieties you have. Have each child wear the backpack. Put a rock or book into the backpack for every worry. Fill it up until it is too heavy or you run out of worries.

Wrap-it-up: How would you like to carry this backpack around with you all the time? When we have worries it is like carrying a heavy weight in our hearts. Read the text. The Bible says that we can give all these worries to Jesus because He cares for us. Take your backpacks off. Isn’t that better? Why don’t we pray and give all our worries to Jesus?

Pray: Jesus, that you for taking our worries and fears. Please help me to trust you to care for all the things that worry me. I love you, Amen.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 47 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:

1 John 1-5

Preschool & Elementary

Text: 1 John 1:5

Say: During Advent, the time we get ready for the Mystery of Christmas, we light candles, one for every week of Advent and then one on Christmas. What other lights do we see at Christmas? (We also decorate the tree with lights, and there are lots of Christmas lights outside decorating houses and stores.) Let's read our text. God came to us in the tiny baby Jesus. And Jesus is light. When we use lights at Christmas it reminds us of Jesus who is the light.

Activity: Start finding the lights you will use at Christmas for decorations, plug them in and see if they work. Prepare your Advent candles or other Christmas candles. Light them and let the children enjoy the light. Take a walk or a drive to look at lights and remember that they remind us of Jesus who is the light. Or take a walk in the dark with a flashlight and talk about God who is the light for us when things seem dark or when we are afraid.

Wrap it up: Keep an eye open for light during the holidays and continue to remember God is light.

Pray: Thank you God for sending Jesus as a baby to be a light for us. We love you. Help us love the light. Amen.



Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 48 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:

2 John – Revelation 2

Text: Revelation 1:8



Preschool – Kindergarten

Activity: Materials needed: alphabet puzzle or alphabet cards. Play with the puzzle/cards. Mix up the letters and then put them back in order/put puzzle together. Look for the beginning, what letter is that? Look for the ending, what letter is that? Read the text.

Wrap-it-up: In the Bible Jesus says that he is the Alpha and the Omega. That is like saying he is the A and the Z of our alphabet. That means Jesus is at the beginning of things and at the ending. Jesus is with us all the time from the beginning of our day to the end and then back to the beginning. Jesus is with us always.

Pray: Thank you Jesus for being with us all the time. We love you, Amen.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

(You may want to use both Preschool and Elementary activities for Elementary aged kids.)

Activity: Materials needed: calendar. Look at the calendar. Find the current date. What things did you do today? Look backward on the calendar and find another date. What did you do on that date? Now look ahead on the calendar and choose another date. What do you plan to do on that date? (If you don't have plans yet, make some together.) Read the text.

Wrap-it-up: The Bible says that Jesus is the one with us now, the one who was with us before today and the one who will be in the future. What day is Jesus with us? (All the days.) That covers all of the dates on our calendar. How do you feel about Jesus who is around at all times?

Pray: Jesus, thank you for being with us at all times. Help us remember you are near. Amen.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 49 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:
Revelation 3 – 7

Preschool & Elementary

Text: Revelation 7:11-12

Activity: Gather instruments, or things to make instruments. Read the text. The words of verse 12 are a worship song to God. Make up music to go with the words and sing it together. Maybe even make a parade to offer up an offering of praise.

Wrap-it Up: Advent is a great time to thank God for sending Jesus and to worship him by making songs of joy. Sing the song all week long.

Prayer: Thank you for being a wonderful God who loves us. Amen.



Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 50 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:
Revelation 8-12



Preschool – Kindergarten

Text: Revelation 11:15

Activity: Collect pictures of the earth or a globe. Explain this is the planet we live on, show where Michigan is on the globe. Show the earth and talk about all the things that live on our earth. (Animals, plants, people, etc.) Look at the different countries. All these different countries have different rulers or leaders.

Wrap-it-Up: Read the text or say, the Bible tells us that Jesus is the true ruler of the world. At Christmas we remember that Jesus came as a baby to be the savior and ruler of the world. Sing, “He’s got the Whole World in His Hands.”

Pray: Dear Jesus, thank you for being the best ruler because you are a loving God. Amen.

Elementary Grades 1st – 6th

Text: Revelation 11:15

Activity: Look at a globe or map of the world. Identify the different countries and who their leaders/rulers are. What kind of leaders are they?

Wrap-it-up: Some rulers are good and others are not. Let’s read a text which talks about the true ruler of the world. Read Revelation 11:15. What does this say? Jesus is the Messiah and the true ruler of the earth. At Christmas time we celebrate the birth of Jesus the Messiah. Because Jesus came to be our savior he now is the ruler of the world. What kind of ruler to you think he will be? How long will He reign? How do you feel about that?

Pray: Thank you Jesus for coming into the world to save the world and be the best ruler ever. Amen.

Faith at Home Devotions

Use with Week 51 of the New Testament Reading Plan

Reading for the week:

Revelation 13 -17

Preschool & Elementary

Text: Revelation 15:3

Activity: Read the text. Take a walk around the house or outside and point out all the great and amazing things God has done or made, for older children try to make the list as long as possible.

Wrap-it-up: Christmas is a wonderful time to notice and remember all the wonderful things God has done and to thank him. Keep adding to the list all week long.

Prayer: Say a prayer of thanks for the amazing deeds God has done.

