

BRINGING THE STORY HOME

Week of October 22, 2017

Timeless Truth: god has a great path planned for us that includes joy and intimacy with him; when we choose to take our own route the journey is harder and takes longer.

Bible Basis: Numbers 13-14, 20, Deuteronomy 34

The Story for Kids Weekly Reading:

Chapter 6 – Wandering

Memory Verse: “If the Lord is pleased with us, he’ll lead us into that land. ... He’ll give it to us.” Numbers 14:8



TABLE TALK

NOTE: These questions are designed to help prompt discussion among a wide range of ages. Please adapt them as they best fit YOUR family.

- This week in *The Story* we read about 12 spies who went ahead to look at God’s Promised Land and 10 came back scared. Only Caleb and Joshua were excited about going into the Promised Land. The Israelites complained about Moses’ leadership and wanted to return to Egypt. God became angry with the Israelites for not trusting Him after all He had done for them.
- Why were Joshua and Caleb so confident they could defeat people who were bigger than they were and who lived in strong cities? (*The trusted God; they had faith in His promises.*)
- The 10 spies were too scared to trust God because of what they had seen. Does fear keep you from doing something you want?
- What were the consequences for the Israelites not trusting God? (*They wandered in the desert for 40 years; no adult over 20, including Moses, would enter the Promised Land.*)
- Name one part of your life in which you want to trust God more.

EXTRA MILE

Do trust falls with your family (pair up smaller children with an adult when it is their turn to catch). Have one person stand facing away and with their arms folded across their chest. Instruct them to close their eyes, remain stiff and fall backwards. Have another family member (or two) catch that person before they hit the ground. Take turns.

When you’re finished ask:

- What was the scariest part?
- Was it hard to trust that you’d be safe when you fell backward? Why or why not?
- Why is it hard sometimes to trust God and His Word?
- Can you always trust your family to be there for you?
- Can you always trust God to be there for you?

PRAYER TIME

Dear God, You are an awesome God! Thank you for providing us everything that we need. Help us to see your goodness all around us and grow our trust in you. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.



The Story for Kids 3x Week Reading Plan

DAY 1

Reading: God is Good, pg 44 – 1st break on pg 45 (blue – pg 55- 2nd break on pg 56) (1 1/2 mins)

This reading covers: Numbers 13

Summary: God shows his people the land he has ready for them.

Do together: Sing together this song. If you don't know the tune you can either look it up on YouTube or just read the words. "God is so good, God is so good, God is so good; He's so good to me. God answers prayer, God answers prayer, God answers prayer; He's so good to me. Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord; He's so good to me."

Think about: God showed his people the wonderful land he had ready for them. He wanted to provide good things for them. Have children list ways God has been good to them. Then discuss each item or situation and praise God for them.

Prayer: God, you have been so good to us. Your greatest goodness is seen in the gift of your Son Jesus. Then, you continued to give. Thank you for all of our big and little blessings, and most of all, thank you for you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

DAY 2

Reading: Saying "No" to God, middle of pg 45–2nd break on pg 46 (blue-middle of pg 56-2nd brk on 57) (2 mins)

This reading covers: Numbers 14

Summary: God's people say "no" to going where he wants them to go.

Do together: Play a game of "Yes and No" by asking questions and talking about what it could happen if they answered yes or if they answered no.

1. Would you go on a big roller coaster?
2. Would you walk 20 miles?
3. Would you invite a friend who doesn't know Jesus to come to church?

Think about: What happens when we say 'yes' or 'no' to what God asks us to do? How can we know what he wants us to do? Look in the Bible!

Prayer: Lord, help us to say 'yes' to you and 'no' to anything that is wrong. Show me in the Bible how to obey you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

DAY 3

Reading: Following God Completely – break on pg 46 - end (blue-middle of pg 56-end) (3 1/2 mins)

This reading covers: Numbers 20 and Deuteronomy 34

Summary: While Moses was a very special man, he did not follow God completely.

Do together: Play a game of 'Easy, Hard, Impossible'

- Easy – 1. Walk to the other side of the room; 2. Bend over and touch your toes; 3. Twirl around three times.
- Hard – 1. Add 313 and 22 in your head; 2. Make a sentence out of the letters in the word "stegosaurus"; 3. Tell a joke that makes me laugh.

- Impossible – 1. Jump over the house; 2. Make a bag of gold appear out of thin air; 3. Lick your elbow.

Think about: Following God isn't always easy, but it is always worth it. Like Moses, we will not be able to be perfect, only Jesus was perfect, but we can try! And when we fail, we can confess to God and he will forgive us.

Prayer: God, give us the strength, wisdom, and desire to do what you ask. Show us how to follow you completely every day, and remind us to confess when we mess up. Help us to know your will by reading the Bible and praying every day. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.