



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

JEROBOAM DISOBEYED GOD



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [1 Kings 12–13](#) from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

Did you know there are more than 500 different types of approved road signs in the United States? Signs like stop signs, speed limit signs, and road hazard signs are all designed to keep people safe. Can you imagine the chaos if these signs weren't there? Or even worse, think about what would happen if the signs were giving the wrong instructions—like telling you to “Go” instead of “Stop”!

Over and over, God instructed His people to remember His power and faithfulness. Instead of pointing the Israelites to the one true God, Jeroboam pointed the people away from God. Jeroboam led the people to worship false gods. Even after God sent a prophet to confront Jeroboam and his sin, the king continued to sin against God. Ultimately, his disobedience would lead to the destruction of his kingdom.

Like a bad road sign that leads to chaos, our sin leads us away from God and breaks our relationship with Him. Ultimately, our disobedience leads to eternal separation from God. Thankfully, even in our sin, God loved us enough to send Jesus as the One to rescue us and lead us back to God.

Sin always leads us away from God. Jesus came to bring us back to God. Jesus is the true King who gave His life as a sacrifice so we can be forgiven of our sins. Jesus' kingdom will last forever.

***Pray:** Jesus, thank You for being the true King whose kingdom lasts forever. Your life, death, and resurrection has made a way for sin to be forgiven and brings salvation to all who believe in You. Help us to turn away from sin and to follow You. Amen.*



Family Worship Experience

- LEARN SCRIPTURE -

The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.



Family Worship Experience

- SING SCRIPTURE -

Finish your family worship experience by playing the Key Passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Praise God for giving the Bible to show us His power, His goodness, and His faithfulness. Ask God to give you a passion for reading His Word every day. How does reading the Bible help us to know God and trust Him more?

Evenings

Ask God to help you choose friends who point you closer to Jesus. Why is it important to choose friends who point us to Jesus? How can a trustworthy friend help us to grow closer to Jesus?



Family Activities

For Fun

Take the family for a drive to get ice cream or a special treat. On the way, ask kids to point out the various road signs as you pass them. Discuss the message each sign gives to drivers and how that message keeps us safe. Remind kids that God's Word points us toward worship of the one true God, and it ultimately points us to Jesus as the Savior we need.

To Serve

Choose a stretch of road in your community and spend an afternoon collecting trash and litter along the roadside. Be sure that young kids are a safe distance from the road. Talk about how the trash reminds us of sin and how sin ruins the relationship we were created to have with God. Remind kids that Jesus is the sacrifice who brings forgiveness to all who believe in Him.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

ELIJAH SERVED AS A PROPHET



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [1 Kings 16–18](#) from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

In 1975, the world was introduced to the Pepsi Challenge. As part of their advertising campaign, Pepsi set up blind taste tests in supermarkets where participants sipped from two cups—one containing Pepsi and one containing Coca-Cola. Not knowing which soda was in each cup, the participant would choose the drink they liked most. Interestingly, most of the participants chose the sweeter taste of Pepsi, but Coca-Cola continued to be the more popular and better selling brand. Guess that's why Coca-Cola says you can't beat the Real Thing!

When Ahab became king over Israel, all the people turned away from God and worshiped false gods. Even after God sent a drought and famine in the land, Ahab continued to let the people choose to follow false gods or the one true God. So, God's prophet, Elijah, set up a test to show the people who is the one true God. As hard as the others tried to show the power of their gods, no one answered their prayers. When Elijah called on God, He sent fire from the sky that consumed the sacrifice, the wet wood on the altar, and even the dust around it! There was no doubt that He is the one true God!

Psalm 34:8 says, "Taste and see that the Lord is good!" There is no one like God. As we read the Bible and see His power, His wisdom, and His love, we can worship Him because there is nothing as great as Him!

The one true God is not like the false gods. We do not have to work hard to show God we love Him. Instead, He showed His love for us by sending His Son, Jesus. Jesus died to rescue us from sin, and He hears us when we cry out to Him.

***Pray:** God, there is no one like You! You are worthy of all our praise because You are the one true God. Help us to cry out to You when we need help and to trust in Your power to save.*



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Praise God for how awesome and big He is. Focus on His character or attributes that are greater than everything else. How is God all-powerful, all-knowing, and always present? How do those attributes of God help us to trust Him more?

Evenings

Thank God for giving His love based on what Jesus has done and not on our performance. Praise Him for loving us even when we have done nothing to earn His love. How did God show us His love through Jesus? How is God's love greater than all other kinds of love?



Family Activities

For Fun

Set up a taste challenge for your family. Purchase two colas of similar brands. Serve each family member a small cup of each, but don't tell them which soda is in each cup. Share the taste test results with the family and talk about how Psalm 34:8 tells us to taste and see that the Lord is good. Remind kids that the God of the Bible is the one true God and there is no one like Him!

To Serve

Pick a morning to serve water, soda, or other drinks at a local park. Offer the drinks for free to people who may be passing by. Print Psalm 34:8 onto small cards and pass them out with the drinks. Ask God to lead your family into conversations where you can share the good news of Jesus with others.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

ELISHA SERVED AS A PROPHET



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [2 Kings 2](#) from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

One of the most popular events in track & field is the 4 x 100-meter relay. Each team has four runners who each run 100 meters. Runners pass a baton to the next runner—hopefully without dropping it. The fourth and final runner for the team is the anchor. The anchor is typically the fastest and most experienced runner, and it is their job to finish the race for their team!

Just as God had called Elijah to speak His words to the people, God also called a man named Elisha to be His prophet. The work Elijah had started was going to be passed on—like a baton in a relay race—to Elisha. Elisha asked for the same spirit that had powered the work of Elijah, so God gave His Spirit to Elisha to finish his mission. The people saw that Elisha had the same spirit, and they believed Elisha was God’s prophet to share God’s words with them.

Before returning to Heaven, Jesus commanded His followers to carry on with the mission of making disciples and baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Jesus passed the baton to His followers and told them to continue sharing the message of the gospel. All believers have this mission, and they have the Holy Spirit to help them. The Holy Spirit is God living with us and in us. The Spirit helps us to follow God and to carry on the mission of spreading the good news of Jesus to the world!

God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah so Elisha could carry out his mission as a prophet. Years later, Jesus told His followers to wait for the Holy Spirit. God gives believers the Holy Spirit so they can share the gospel with the world.

***Pray:** God, thank You for giving Your Spirit to every believer to help them share the good news of Jesus. You give power and boldness to Your people so the world can know Jesus and believe in Him. Give us Your Spirit and help us to tell others about Jesus.*



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to give you opportunities today to tell others about Jesus. Ask Him for boldness and for His power to help you do the work of sharing the gospel. How does the promise of God's power help Christians have boldness in sharing about Jesus?

Evenings

Thank God for the people who have taught you about Jesus. Thank God for your parents, church teachers, pastors, etc. Ask God to give them power by His Spirit to keep teaching others about Jesus.



Family Activities

For Fun

Take your family to a local track for a fun run. Time each family member running a lap around the track or practice passing a baton while running. Retell the story of Elijah and Elisha. Remind kids that Jesus has passed on the mission of making disciples to all His followers, and He has promised the Holy Spirit to help believers complete that mission.

To Serve

Sit down as a family and talk over the Bible story. Explain to your kids that Elisha needed God's Spirit to help him do the work God called him to do. Take some time and write a short list of ways your family can share God's love this week: invite some neighbors to church, make a sick friend a meal, invite the new neighbors on the street to play, share the gospel with a friend at school, etc. Pray together and ask God to help you live out these things with the help of the Holy Spirit.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

ELISHA PERFORMED MIRACLES



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [2 Kings 4–6](#) from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

To board an airplane, open a bank account, or even use your tickets to the amusement park these days, you must show proof of identification. Something like a driver's license shows your full name and your picture so that the security agents in these places know that you are who you say you are.

There were many prophets in Elisha's time, and not all of them were prophets of the one true God. It was hard for the people to know who was speaking the truth that God had given for the people. To help Elisha's ministry, God gave Elisha the power to perform many miracles—like healing the sick, multiplying bread, and making an ax head float up from the bottom of the river! These miracles were proof that Elisha was a prophet of God just like he said.

While Jesus was in His earthly ministry, He performed many miracles. Jesus healed the sick, cast out demons, gave sight to the blind, and even raised the dead back to life! All of His miracles showed that Jesus is the Son of God. His miraculous works proved that everything He said can be trusted as truth.

Elisha's miracles showed that he was a prophet of the one true God and that God's words were true. In a greater way, Jesus' miracles show that He is the true Son of God.

***Pray:** Jesus, You are the Son of God! We thank You for the miracles that prove You are who You say, and You can do all that You promise. Help us to trust in You as the Son of God and the rescuer who can save us from our sin.*



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Praise Jesus for the miracles He did while on earth. Make a list of miracles and praise God for how they prove Jesus as the promised Messiah. How do you see Jesus' power and compassion through the miracles He performed? How do the miraculous things Jesus did help us to trust in the future things He has promised to do?

Evenings

Ask God to help you be a witness to your friends and neighbors. Ask God to work through you, like He did through Elisha, to help them believe in Jesus as Lord. How did God use the miracles to help Elisha share His truth with others? How has God gifted you to share His truth with others?



Family Activities

For Fun

Go to a park as a family. If you have a kite or pinwheel, take it with you. Look at the trees, fly your kite, play with the pinwheel, or watch the grass and leaves blowing in the wind. Explain how we can't see the wind, but we can see how it affects things around us. Likewise, we can't see God, but He is always at work in the world around us. We can also read about the miracles Jesus has done and know that He is the Son of God!

To Serve

Make a list of the miracles recorded in the Bible. Write as many of the miracles as you can on craft sticks and place those in a jar. When you go through a tough season that causes doubt in God, encourage your family to retrieve a stick from the jar and be reminded of His faithfulness.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

WE ARE TO WORSHIP GOD ALONE



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [Isaiah 44](#) from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

Matty Benedetto is known as the creator of “Unnecessary Inventions”: a store, YouTube channel, and social media account. He invents products that no one needs because they have no purpose. His inventions include things like the Hoverbrella—an umbrella that attaches to a drone and the FurRoller—a contraption that covers your clothing in pet hair so you can pretend to be an animal lover. He has a lab full of useless inventions that never should have been made!

As we read through the history of Israel, we see the people turning away from God and worshiping idols. These idols were nothing but wood or metal. They had no power to help the people, much less the power to save them from sin. Even still, the people chose to worship useless things they had created instead of worshiping the God who had created them!

The Bible tells us that God is jealous for His people. It doesn't mean He is jealous in a sinful way, because God is without sin. It means that God deserves all our worship, and He wants us to enjoy worshiping Him. God loves us so much that He doesn't want us wasting our time making unnecessary inventions to worship; because of Jesus we can worship the one true God!

God alone is worthy of our worship. He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and save us from our sins. We can turn from our idolatry and evil ways to rejoice in the God who saves.

***Pray:** God, thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross and save us from our sins. Help us to believe in Him. Give us the strength to turn away from the other things that want our worship and help us to give it all to You. Amen.*



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to reveal the things in your life that steal the time, attention, and desire that belongs only to God. How have you given your worship (time, passion, desire) to something other than God? Why does God alone deserve our worship?

Evenings

Pray for people groups around the world who have not heard or are unreceptive to the gospel. Ask God to reveal His glory to them so they can dedicate all their worship to Him. How can our family help those who have never heard about Jesus?



Family Activities

For Fun

Provide a bucket of random craft supplies, household items, and building tools—anything you have lying around the house is great! As a family, survey the supplies and come up with an invention to create together. Talk about how your invention might be helpful, but there is probably a better version. Remind kids that a lot of things will compete for our worship but only God is worthy of our worship. We praise Him because He is better than everything else!

To Serve

Take a family fast this week from an item or practice that is often used in your home. It could be a fast from TV, going out to eat, or certain types of food. At the end of the week, talk about how your body and mind craved those things because they have become so important to your daily life. Would we feel the same withdrawals if we went a week without worshipping Jesus? Discuss some practices like singing together, reading God's Word, or serving that would make worshipping God a more regular practice in the life of your family.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

JOASH WANTED TO OBEY GOD



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [2 Kings 12](#); [2 Chronicles 24](#) from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

The mimic octopus is a very interesting creature. It has the amazing ability to change color and shape to look like other sea creatures. When the octopus feels threatened, it often mimics the appearance of a toxic animal like the lionfish or sea snake to scare away predators. When the danger has passed, the mimic octopus returns to her normal colors and goes on about her day.

As we learn more about the life of King Joash, we see that he wanted to follow God, but the sin in his heart led him to worship false gods. Joash turned away from God, so God turned away from Joash. Much like the mimic octopus, a person's own ability to change their sinful heart is only temporary. We might try to do better and make wiser choices, but the sin in our hearts is too pronounced to hide.

The only real, lasting change for our hearts must come from Jesus. His death and resurrection have broken the power of sin. Everyone who believes in Him is forgiven and has been forever changed by His grace!

Joash wanted to obey God. He honored God at first, but in time, his actions showed that there was still sin in his heart. Jesus wants to change our hearts. When we trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior, He gives us new hearts that want to live for His glory.

Pray: God, help us not to trust in our own ability to change our hearts, but to trust in what Jesus has done to change our hearts. Help us to know the eternal forgiveness and joy that comes from knowing Jesus as Lord.



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to help you trust in Him in all situations today. Ask for His help in remaining faithful to Him as you interact with others. How did the people around Joash lead him away from God? Why is it important to trust in what God's Word says is true rather than trust in what others might say?

Evenings

Thank God for His faithfulness to us even when we are not faithful. Praise Him for His patience toward the Israelites when they turned away from Him and for His patience toward your family. How was God patient with the Israelites? Why does God show patience to those who turn away from Him?



Family Activities

For Fun

Play hide-and-seek as a family. After the game, talk with kids about how we cannot hide our sin from God. The only hope we have is found in Jesus. When we place our trust in Him, He forgives our sin, changes our hearts, and gives us eternal life.

To Serve

Work as a family to plant evergreen shrubs in your flower beds or yard. You may also add seasonal plants or flowers to beautify the property. Afterward, talk as a family about the differences between plants and how evergreen shrubs will remain green throughout the year. Talk about the way our good words might make us feel better, but that is only temporary change. Jesus is the only one who can eternally change our hearts.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

ISAIAH WARNED OF GOD'S JUDGMENT



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [Isaiah 22; 48](#) from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

Have you ever been at school or in a building when the fire alarm goes off? The startling sirens are so loud and harsh, but it's all for our good. The alarm gives a warning of the danger that is nearby, and it alerts you to look for safety. As much as we may dislike the alarm, we should be thankful for the protection it gives.

God used the prophet Isaiah to be an alarm for His people. He told them God's judgment of sin was coming soon. The Israelites did not listen to Isaiah's warning, and they suffered great consequences. Although the Israelites didn't listen to the warning of Isaiah, God's message also included hope. Isaiah shared the good news that the people would one day be set free. God loved His people enough to give them a warning and point them toward the hope found in Him.

The Bible tells us that one day Jesus will return, and God will judge all sin. The good news of the gospel is that Jesus has already paid the price for sin and there is salvation for all who believe in Him. We should listen to the warning the Bible gives us and look for the safety that comes through trusting in Jesus.

God sent Isaiah to warn of His coming judgment. A greater day of judgment is coming when God will judge sin for a final time. Jesus came to die on the cross and rise again. Everyone who repents of sin and trusts in Jesus will be safe from God's judgment and have eternal life.

***Pray:** You are holy and righteous, and we know that You are right and fair to judge sin. Thank You for loving us enough to give us warnings and to provide safety for us through Your Son, Jesus. Help us to turn away from sin and turn to Jesus as Lord.*



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Praise God for the warnings He gives us about sin and the hope we have by trusting in Jesus. Thank Him for the patience and love He shows to us while we are still sinners.

Evenings

Pray for those who ignore God's warnings about the consequence of sin. Ask God to be patient with them and to show them the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. Why is it right and good for God to punish sin? How does it feel to know that Jesus took the punishment that we deserve?



Family Activities

For Fun

Practice safety drills in your home. Have a fire drill, tornado, or earthquake drill. Talk with kids about the plans you have in place for emergencies. While no one wants to think about these worst-case scenarios, it is good to have a plan that protects everyone in the family. One day, God will judge sin, but His plan also included good news of Jesus dying on the cross to give eternal life to all who believe in Him.

To Serve

Lead kids to have a yard sale or bake sale to raise money for victims of natural disasters or other crises. Consider making a donation to disaster relief teams in your area. Visit sendrelief.org to donate and learn more about worldwide needs and responses.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

ZEPHANIAH WARNED GOD'S PEOPLE TO REPENT



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [the Book of Zephaniah](#) from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

Have you ever felt that sick-to-your-stomach feeling that comes when you're waiting to be punished for doing a bad thing? You know you did wrong and undeniably deserve the coming punishment, but that knowledge still doesn't make it pleasant! The terrible sick feeling comes because you know the punishment is coming, and you just wish there was some way out of it!

The prophecy of Zephaniah told the people about a future day when God would judge all the sin of the world. He described the frightful day as a time of darkness, wrath, and destruction. Everyone who heard this news got that sick-to-your-stomach feeling because they knew punishment was coming!

But wrapped up in all the bad news of judgment, God provided good news for His people. Zephaniah gave the people hope because God would save all those who trust in Him. He will protect them from the punishment, and He will fix everything broken by sin. On the same day that God will judge sin, He will make all things right and new for His children! That's just what the doctor ordered to get rid of the sick feeling in your stomach!

Zephaniah prophesied about the Day of the Lord—a day when God will judge the world for its sin and Jesus Christ will return. Jesus will make everything like new, and everyone who trusts in Him will be safe.

***Pray:** We know, God, that You will one day judge the world for sin. We all deserve to be punished for our sin, but we thank You for showing Your love by sending Jesus to die on the cross. You have promised to save those who trust in Jesus, and through Him You will make all things new.*



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Praise God for the promise to one day fix all things broken by sin. How does this promise help us worry less about when we are wronged or hurt?

Evenings

Pray for urgency and excitement to share the gospel with others. Why should the Day of the Lord make us more eager to tell others about Jesus? How can we provide hope to those who fear God's judgment of sin?



Family Activities

For Fun

Mark your calendar for a "Special Day" later this week, but don't tell kids why the day is special. Talk about the day often and remind kids that it is coming. When the day comes, surprise the family with a trip to get their favorite dessert. As you enjoy dessert, talk about how the Day of the Lord is a day of hope and joy for those who believe in Jesus. Explain to kids what it means to trust in the Lord and how they might respond if God is leading them to believe.

To Serve

Set reminders on your phone for several moments throughout the week. Use these moments to text or call fellow church members and ask how you can pray for them. After praying for their needs, remind them that the Day of the Lord is coming. Jesus will fix all that is broken and make all things new.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

WE ARE TO REPENT OF SIN



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [Matthew 3](#) from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

Have you ever seen one of those TV shows where people buy an old, run-down house and make it look totally new again? It's always fascinating to see how they can take something that everyone believed was ruined and make it into something beautiful and special. But that is nothing compared to the work God does to bring dead hearts back to life!

John the Baptist pointed people to Jesus. He lived in the wilderness, ate locusts and honey, and he told the people to prepare for the coming Messiah. As John saw Jesus coming toward Him, he called Jesus the lamb who takes away the sin of the world. John knew Jesus is the Messiah that brings new life to dead things.

If we repent and believe in Him, Jesus forgives our sin and changes our hearts. We are credited with His righteousness and our changed hearts want to follow and obey Him. Those who are dead in their sin find new life in Jesus! It is the greatest restoration project you could ever imagine!

John called people to repent. When we realize that our sin deserves God's punishment and trust in Jesus to save us. We can turn from our sins and live for Jesus. Jesus changes our hearts so we can love God and people.

***Pray:** Jesus, You are the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Help us to turn away from sin and turn to You. Give us opportunities like John to point others to You.*



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Pray for your teachers, classmates, co-workers, or family members who need to hear about Jesus. Ask God to give you the opportunity this week to tell them who Jesus is and what He has done to save us.

Evenings

Take time to repent and ask God for forgiveness of sin. Ask for His help in turning away from the sins that are repeated in your life. What does it mean to repent? Why is it good to confess sin to God and to one another?



Family Activities

For Fun

Plan a trip to a flea market or secondhand store. Work as a family to select an item that you think you can “flip” into something new and better. It could be a new coat of paint on a lamp or a complete re-purpose of an old coffee table. Over the next few weeks, work on the renovation project and discuss how Jesus gives the ultimate restoration and renovation by giving us new hearts when we believe in Him.

To Serve

Volunteer as a family to renovate an elderly neighbor’s flower beds or paint part of his or her house. Talk with kids about how this project reminds us of the work Jesus does in the hearts of those who believe in Him. While we were dead in sin, Jesus died for us to give us new life if we repent and believe in Him!



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

JONAH WARNED OF GOD'S JUDGMENT



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of the Book of Jonah from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

If you were a Jewish man in the 900 B.C., the last place on earth you wanted to visit was the city of Nineveh! Nineveh was full of Assyrians—a group of wicked and violent people who did not follow God. Going to Nineveh to tell them about God was a dangerous—and possibly a deadly mission. No wonder Jonah didn't want to go!

The real reason Jonah didn't want to go to Nineveh was because he felt like these wicked people didn't deserve God's forgiveness. They were wicked and cruel, so how could God show them mercy? What Jonah didn't understand is that God cared for the people of Nineveh as much as He cared for the rest of the world.

God wanted to see the Ninevites turn away from sin and trust in Him. So much so, that God used a big fish to get Jonah back to Nineveh when he tried to run away. Finally, Jonah reluctantly preached the message God had given and warned the people about God's judgment. The people repented and God spared their lives.

The Bible tells us that God shows mercy on whomever He wants to show mercy. Jonah didn't think the Ninevites deserved God's mercy, but the truth is that none of us deserve His mercy. But God loved the world so much that He shows us His mercy through Jesus. Unlike Jonah, Jesus was willing to accept the mission God gave Him. Jesus came to save the sinners who God cared so much about.

God called Jonah to go to his enemies and call them to turn away from their sin, but Jonah refused. Instead, he ran away. Later, God sent Jesus to His enemies to call us to repentance. Jesus willingly obeyed. Jesus died on the cross to rescue us from sin.

***Pray:** God, thank You for showing mercy that we do not deserve. Thank You for sending Jesus to make Your mercy available to those who believe in Him. Help us to remember that Your mercy is great and extends to all who repent and believe.*



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to help you see people the way He sees them. Instead of judging them for their wrong behaviors, ask God to help you see them as loved by Him and in need of a relationship with Him. How does seeing people this way show us the greatness of God's mercy?

Evenings

Thank God for the ways He has shown His patience, mercy, and loving kindness to your family. Thank Him for the ultimate display of mercy when Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sin. How has God shown His mercy to you? How does God's mercy compel you to show mercy to others?



Family Activities

For Fun

Take your family fishing or simulate fishing using sticks, string, magnets, and paper clips. See who can catch the biggest fish. If you catch any fish, release them back to the water to lead into a discussion on mercy. Ask kids to retell what they remember from the story of Jonah. Discuss how Jonah did not want God to show mercy to the people of Nineveh, but God's mercy is greater than anything we can imagine. Talk as a family about ways God has shown mercy to you.

To Serve

Host a meal or dessert party for your neighbors. Give each family member a job to help make the night a wonderful experience for others. After the party, talk about the hard work, sacrifice, and time it took to love others. Emphasize how it was worth it because of the relationships you made or deepened. Remind kids that God often calls us into hard things, but serving God is always worth it.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

NAHUM WARNED OF GOD'S JUDGMENT



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of the Book of Nahum from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

In 1962, Marvel Comics introduced the character of Dr. Robert Bruce Banner, but you probably better know him as The Incredible Hulk! Dr. Banner was a shy, quiet physicist who transforms into a raging muscular green giant every time he gets angry. You definitely didn't want to make Hulk angry because the comic always said, "The madder Hulk gets, the stronger Hulk gets."

When we read how the prophet Nahum describes God as jealous, avenging, and wrathful, it can make us think God is like The Incredible Hulk—a guy who just gets angry and destroys things. That's not how God is at all! Nahum also describes God as "slow to anger and great in power." While God must punish sin, He is patient and desires to show mercy to all who will trust in Him.

God is jealous for our worship because He alone deserves it. He doesn't want to share His glory with anything else, and He rightly gets angry when He sees people worship anything other than Him. The prophet Nahum reminded God's people that He will punish sin, but He will bring peace and protection to those who love and worship Him.

Nahum brought a message of comfort to God's people, reminding them that God loves His people and will protect them from their enemies. Jesus also brought a message of comfort, salvation, and peace to His people. All of the enemies of God and His children were defeated at the cross. One day, God will finally judge all evil.

***Pray:** God, You deserve all our worship, and You will not allow Your glory to be shared with anything else. Help us to remember that You are right to punish sin, but You are patient and want to show mercy to those who trust in You.*



Family Worship Experience

- LEARN SCRIPTURE -

The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.



Family Worship Experience

- SING SCRIPTURE -

Finish your family worship experience by playing the Key Passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Pray for those who may misunderstand God's character. Ask God to show them His love and mercy to help them believe in Him. Why does God want people to worship only Him? How can God's character be jealous and loving at the same time?

Evenings

Thank God for showing us His character through the Bible. Make a list of the attributes or the stories that teach us who God is and what He is like. How can we know God better? How does knowing more of God's attributes help us to trust Him?



Family Activities

For Fun

Play a game of Hungry Hungry Hippos® together as a family. Play the board game or research online how to play a real-life version of the game. Remind kids that the point of the game is to get as much food for your hippo as possible. After the game, talk about how God desires all our worship for Himself. While God will one day punish those who choose to worship anything other than Him, He is patient and wants to see all people come to know Him.

To Serve

Write a letter or send an email to a missionary family your church supports, or connect with a missionary at IMB.org. Use the letter to encourage them as they share God's message of hope to people. Make a card or piece of artwork to include with the letter that references the words of Nahum 1:7.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

GOD'S PEOPLE WERE TAKEN CAPTIVE



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [2 Chronicles 36](#) from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

Time and time again, the kings of Judah chose to disobey God. And even though God loved His children like a father, the people did not listen to His warnings, and they forgot about their God. God judged the people of Judah for their sin. They were attacked by the armies of Babylon and lived as slaves in a foreign land.

The northern kingdom of Israel was attacked and conquered by the Assyrians. The southern kingdom of Judah was attacked and conquered by the Babylonians. Because they had disobeyed, God's people were slaves in other countries for centuries. But what about God's promise to Abraham to bless all nations through his descendants? What about the promise to David that his descendants would sit on the throne forever? Had God forgotten about these promises?

Isaiah 40:8 says, "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever." These words remind us that every promise God has spoken is true, and He will always keep His promises. When God poured out His judgment on the people for their sin, the kingdom of Judah was no more. But even then, God was working out His plan to send a greater king to save His people. God would send His own Son, Jesus—who was from the family of Abraham and David—to bring forgiveness and peace to all who trust in Him.

God was right to punish His people for their sin, but He kept His promise to provide a king through David's family. Ultimately, God punished our sin through His Son, Jesus, and made Him our King forever.

***Pray:** God, we know that You always keep Your promises. Help us to trust in You even when we don't see how You're working. Thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross and to save all who believe in Him.*



Family Worship Experience

- LEARN SCRIPTURE -

The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.



Family Worship Experience

- SING SCRIPTURE -

Finish your family worship experience by playing the Key Passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Pray for the leaders of your city, state, and country. Ask God to give them knowledge to do their work and wisdom to obey Him. How did the sins of Judah's kings affect the people? Why is it important for us to pray for our leaders?

Evenings

Thank God for His promises and His faithfulness to always keep those promises. Make a list of the promises you can remember from the Bible. Make note of the promises God has already fulfilled. How do these fulfilled promises help us to trust in His ability to keep all His promises?



Family Activities

For Fun

Play "Simon Says" as a family; however, when "Simon" says to do something, everyone should do the opposite. Make the motions easy for younger kids but work up to harder actions as the game progresses. Talk about how the Israelites faced consequences when they didn't listen to God. End the discussion by reminding kids that Jesus took our punishment and provided us a way to be brought back to God's presence.

To Serve

Lead family members to take turns serving the rest of the family at dinnertime. The chosen servant should prepare the table, serve the food, take drink orders, refill cups when needed, and clean up after the meal. Discuss the sacrifices the chosen family member had to make to serve the family. Take time to talk about the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus to serve us and save us from sin.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

EVERY PERSON MATTERS



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [Psalm 139](#) from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

Have you ever heard the phrase, “Moms have eyes in the back of their head”? The saying is meant to remind kids that Mom sees all and knows all! Of course, they don’t really have eyes back there, but a mom knows her child well enough to know when something bad might happen to them or when they might be doing something bad!

The reason a mom knows so much of what’s going on is because she loves her child, pays special attention to her child, and she wants what is best for her child. This is just a glimpse of how much God loves His children! David’s psalm reminds us that God knows when we sit down, stand up, and everything we think or do. He sees all and knows all because He loves His children and wants what is best for them.

It is amazing to think how much God loves us, and He wants us to show that same love to others. When a person loves their neighbor, a parent loves their child, or a brother shows love to his sister, the world sees a glimpse of the love God has for them. We want to keep loving others so they can see how much God loves them and wants to save them through Jesus.

Every person matters. God created us and cares for us. He sent His Son, Jesus, to save us from our sins. As we love and follow God, He calls us to love others and show respect to everyone.

***Pray:** Lord, You know everything about us. You love us and care for us all the days of our lives. You created us in a wonderful way for a wonderful purpose, so please help us to know You and to walk in the plan You have for us.*



Family Worship Experience

- LEARN SCRIPTURE -

The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.



Family Worship Experience

- SING SCRIPTURE -

Finish your family worship experience by playing the Key Passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to show you who needs love and encouragement today. Be on the lookout for people you encounter and how you can show God's love to them. How does showing love to others help them know God? How does loving them remind you of how much God loves you?

Evenings

Praise God for the wonderful way He created you. He knew you before you were born and made plans for your life. Ask Him to help you fulfill the purpose He has for you. How does it feel to know that God made you just the way He wanted you to be? How does this change the way you look at yourself and others?



Family Activities

For Fun

Look at photos of each family member when they were babies or young kids. Talk about how they've changed or how some features might still be similar, like hair color or dimples. Read Psalm 139 together. Remind kids of how God has created them in a wonderful way. Tell your child that God has a purpose for their life and wants to have a relationship with them.

To Serve

Parents, start a love challenge for your family next week. Give heart cutouts to kids each time you catch them showing love to others. After they receive a heart, encourage kids to be looking for others showing love and pass the heart on to them. Keep passing out hearts until the challenge is over.