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# FAMILY FAITH TALK

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## Big Idea

God promised to restore the world and his relationship with people.

## Scripture

Genesis 12:1-3. (Use a Bible to read these verses aloud.)

## Engage

Ask your children if you have ever made them a promise that you didn't keep. If you have, tell them you are sorry. If you haven't, you are a superhero parent! Remind your child of a promise you did keep, like promising to take them on a trip somewhere. Let your child know that people sometimes don't keep their promises, but that God always keeps his promises.

## Explore

Remind your child about how the first people disobeyed God and allowed sin and brokenness to enter the world. Read Genesis 3:14-15. Point out to your child that this is God's first promise that He is going to do something about the sin problem in this world. Then read Genesis 12:1-3. Abram (who later had his name changed to Abraham) was part of a people who didn't follow God. However, God called him to come out from among his people and to follow Him. God promised to make Abram into a great nation and to bless all the world through him. In this great promise, God was referring to sending someone through the line of Abraham that would fix our sin problem. Of course we know now that the person is Jesus. Jesus willingly took our punishment for sin on the cross. We know God accepted His death in our place because He raised Jesus from the dead. By trusting in Jesus, we can receive forgiveness of sin.

## Embrace

Tell your child that God doesn't leave people in their "messes," but he instead meets people in their need and offers them a solution. God didn't immediately fix the sin problem of Adam and Eve, but He made a promise that one day when the timing was right, He was going to send someone to fix the world. God asked people to believe in His great promise. Let your child know that God was faithful to his promise to Adam and Eve, Abraham, and all those who believed in the promise. Let your child know that they can trust in God's present and future promises because He has been faithful to His past promises.

## Extend

Make a practice of keeping your promises to your children. If your child reminded you of any promises you have not kept, find a way to make it up to them. In keeping your promises to your children, you point them toward the God who always keeps his promises.

## Example Prayer

Father, thank you that you always keep your promises. Thank you that you don't leave us in our sin and brokenness, but made a promise to fix the world and you kept that promise in Jesus. Help me to trust your word each day, in Jesus' name, Amen.

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# FAMILY FAITH TALK

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## Big Idea

Throughout many generations, God assured his promise to people who put their faith in Him.

## Scripture

Exodus 20:1-17

## Engage

Get a mirror and let your child look into the mirror. Ask them whose image they see. Point out how when they look into the mirror they see their eyes, mouth, hair, eyebrows, nose, etc.

## Explore

God's special people became slaves in the land of Egypt. God raised up a man named Moses to bring His people out of slavery and into the land that he promised to Abraham many years before. After God delivered His people out of slavery by Moses, he gave his people the "Ten Commandments" as a mirror for them to know His character. The purpose of the commandments were not to earn His favor; they already had His favor by believing in his promise to fix the world through a deliverer. People can never earn God's favor by being "good." The Ten Commandments were given for God's people to look deeply into the character of God. People who trust in God will want to obey the commandments.

## Embrace

Ensure that your child understands that God promises His favor to His people who trust in Him throughout all generations. People do not earn God's favor by keeping rules that God gave to Moses. The commandments helped give other nations a view of the character of God by looking at the actions of His special people. Today, the commandments help give us a view of not only God's character, but also our need for a Savior. Thankfully, Jesus fully pleased God in His life and provides us forgiveness of our sins in His death.

## Extend

As you or your child read stories of Old Testament people, take the opportunity to talk about how God kept His promise to them. Also, take note of how they trusted or failed to trust in God.

## Example Prayer

Father, thank you that you are holy and set apart. Thank you that you are truly good and righteous. Thank you that you sent your son to take away our sin if we trust in Him. Help us to live for you and share your good news with others, in Jesus' name, Amen.

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# FAMILY FAITH TALK

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## Big Idea

God set apart a nation to bring salvation for all people.

## Scripture

1 Kings 15:5

## Engage

Ask your child to name 3 things they would do first if they were made King or Queen of a nation. Depending on what they say, talk about how that would either be really good for all the people or really bad. Tell your child 3 things you would do first if you were made King or Queen. Talk about how a ruler can choose to do things that are good only for themselves, or to do things that are good for all the people in the nation.

## Explore

God's special people really wanted a King so they could be like other nations, so He allowed them to have Saul as their King. Unfortunately, Saul chose to do things that were selfish and not what God asked him to. God removed Saul as King and placed David as King. David had seen God be faithful to him as a shepherd boy, and he followed God. Read 1 Kings 15:5. David was a good ruler and enjoyed God's favor.

## Embrace

Just as David led the nation to follow God, we too can seek to be faithful to God. Let your child know that we can be part of God's special people by trusting in Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins. Just as David was not perfect, we will not be perfect. But we trust in Jesus who was perfect in our place. We can enjoy the blessings of God's people because we have trusted in the eternal King, Jesus Christ.

## Extend

Whenever earthly leaders make mistakes or the world seems to be in turmoil, remind your child that King Jesus is in complete control of the world and will take care of His special people.

## Example Prayer

Father, thank you for allowing us to be part of your special people by trusting in Jesus. Thank you that are in complete control of this world and that you will always be with your people. Help us to trust you more as we seek to further your Kingdom, in Jesus' name, Amen.

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# FAMILY FAITH TALK

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## Big Idea

God uses people to remind others of His promises.

## Scripture

Jonah 3

## Engage

Take some sticky notes or note cards and leave clues for your child where you will be “hiding.” Go and wait for your child to follow the clues to find you. When they find you, talk about how easy it was for them to find you by using the written clues. Talk about how hard it would have been for your child to find you if you hadn’t given them the clues.

## Explore

Although God is not “hiding” from us, He does give people “clues” on how to connect with Him. In a sense, we who follow God can be the “clues” for other people. We are like the sticky notes that tell people which way to go. Read Jonah 3.

## Embrace

Talk about how God’s word came to Jonah and he had to speak it to the people of Nineveh in order for them to know that they needed to repent to avoid destruction. Ask your child what happened when Jonah spoke to them. Reread Jonah 3:5. Focus on how the people believed God. If the people would not have believed, they would have rejected God, not Jonah. Like Jonah, we are able to share God’s good news with people. We are able to tell people that God kept his promise to fix the world from sin by sending His son Jesus to take our punishment. Ask your children who they know that might need to hear about God’s great promise that was fulfilled in Jesus.

## Extend

Look for opportunities to share the good news of the gospel with people you will be encountering during this season. Take time to pray as a family for people you know have yet to embrace the gospel.

## Example Prayer

Father, thank you that you use people like Jonah to share your word. Thank you that you can use our family to share your word. Show us who we need to share your word with, in Jesus’ name, Amen.