

Hey parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles—anyone wanting to help the kids you know learn more about who God is and how to JOIN Him as He redeems the world!

We have posted this information to serve as a guide and tool for you to teach truth to your kids, young or old, at home.

ARE YOU A MIDDLE SCHOOLER?: scroll down and complete the **MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILY** section for each post.

DON'T MISS IT!: Just for fun . . . check out the **Fun Photo Challenge** below!

“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.”

—A.W. Tozer

APRIL 26

Because God is faithful, I can be obedient



Adventure Mountain Families:



TEACH IT

--Review with your kids last week's lesson, focusing on the "formula": LOVE = SACRIFICE. See if they can verbalize the main idea that loving others will always include a sacrifice. If your family made a "refrigerator chart" (see **Create It** section in April 19 download) go over your recorded acts of love and sacrifice again. For **EXTRA CREDIT**—continue the chart for another week!!!

THIS WEEK'S MAIN IDEA: *Because God is Faithful, I can be obedient.*

--To get started with a discussion of this main idea, make sure kids can define the word “faithful.” Ask: What do we mean when we say “God is faithful”? Can WE be faithful too? What are some ways we can be faithful?

--Discuss the meaning of the word “obedience.” Ask: What is obedience? Was Jesus obedient to God, His father? How was He obedient (see [John 5:19](#) and [Philippians 2:5-11](#))? How can we be obedient to God?

--Help your kids CONNECT the two words: “faithful” and “obedient” to create today’s main idea:

BECAUSE God IS faithful, I can be OBEDIENT to Him.

“I can obey God, BECAUSE I know that He is always good, just, and loves me. HIS faithfulness makes it possible for me to whole-heartedly obey HIM!”

Note: Kids (as well as our culture) often “switch” the cause/effect of today’s main idea. It’s worth the extra effort, especially if you have older students, to make sure your kids understand the cause is: GOD’S FAITHFULNESS. The effect is: MY OBEDIENCE. Unfortunately, our kids are often taught by the culture in which they live, that IF you obey GOD, He will have to be faithful to you (i.e. give you what you want, answer your prayers, etc). It is an extremely important paradigm for children to realize that: God IS faithful. Period. BECAUSE of HIS faithfulness, we can then offer Him our obedience knowing that it is the best life-choice for us. We can invest our obedience to God BECAUSE He is a FAITHFUL father, not because our obedience will then cause God to respond to us in a desired way.

EXPANDING THE MAIN IDEA:

--Below, in the **READ IT** section, are 5 Bible stories which highlight this week’s main idea. Spread the reading of these stories out throughout the week. (***To help students focus, give them a pieces of paper and crayons and have them illustrate the stories as you read. Be sure and send a pic of your artwork to mary@fbccs.org; or text to 719-502-1321***). After reading each story, ask the following 3 questions and then summarize the story:

--**Question 1:** How was the character in our today’s story obedient to God?

--**Question 2:** Did the character in our story believe and trust in God’s faithfulness?

--**Question 3:** How did God show His faithfulness in today’s story?

--**Summarize:** Have kids restate the main idea by inserting the character’s name into this week’s main idea: i.e.: “BECAUSE God is faithful, *Joseph* could be obedient to Him.”



Read It

--**DAY 1:** Joseph from the Old Testament: Genesis 37 –Genesis 50. This is such a long passage, we have included some links below with kid-sized version and some videos which cover the life of Joseph. From The Jesus Storybook Bible—“The Forgiving Prince”: Joseph

--**DAY 2:** Daniel: Daniel 6 (an interesting highlight: notice that at the end of Daniel 6, Daniel’s obedience has caused the king of Babylon to realize that GOD IS FAITHFUL!!!). From The Jesus Storybook Bible: “Daniel and the Scary Sleepover”: Daniel

--**DAY 3:** A Little Boy’s Lunch: Matthew 14: 13-21; Mark 6:30-44 or Luke 9:10-17. From The Jesus Storybook Bible: “Filled Full”: Boy’s Lunch

--**DAY 4:** A Widow’s Offering: Mark 12:41-44 or Luke 21:1-4 (video link below)

--**DAY 5:** (a BAD example of this week’s main idea) Jonah: Jonah 1-4. Again, this is a long passage so check out the story book suggestions and links below to get a kid-friendly telling of Jonah. From The Jesus Storybook Bible: “God’s Messenger”: Jonah

The Jesus Storybook Bible by Sally Lloyd-Jones, serves as our Bible storybook resource for these lessons. Don't have a copy of that story book? Email mary@fbccs.org and we will get you a copy!



Watch It

Daniel and the Lion’s Den

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZV3eQ2PBqHE>

The Widow’s Offering

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vW-uWMZB23o>

Jonah and the Big Fish

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ytd74b7U2TE>



Create It

Below are some crafty ideas that you can do with everyday objects from home!

-Jonah and the paper plate

- All you need is a paper plate, paper, tape/glue and markers/crayons!
- Cut the plate into the shape of a whale (the mouth cut out can be used as the tail!)
- Color the whale
- Using paper, make a mini Jonah and glue/tape him in the whale's belly



-Daniel's Lions

- Do you have a paper plate, scissors, and a brown marker?
- You can make a lion with a big mane!
- Just cut the sides of the paper plate to make the mane



SNAP It

Fun Photo Challenge:

Snap a picture of you being Joseph, Daniel, the widow, or Jonah. Ok...you can be a lion or a whale too! Or, simply take a picture of your creation!

Then, send it to mary@fbccs.org



MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILIES:

THIS WEEK'S MAIN IDEA:

-- **BECAUSE God IS faithful, I can be OBEDIENT to Him.**

*"I can obey God, BECAUSE I know that He is always good, just, and loves me.
HIS faithfulness makes it possible for me to whole-heartedly obey HIM!"*

DISCUSS AS A GROUP OR FOR PERSONAL CONSIDERATION:

--Our culture often "switches" the cause/effect of today's main idea. The me-centric version of this truth would be: "*Because I am obedient, God is faithful*"; the focus shifts from a characteristic of God to my performance. Danger! Make sure you understand the cause is: GOD'S FAITHFULNESS. The effect is: MY OBEDIENCE. NOT--*IF* you obey GOD, He will

have to be faithful to you (i.e. give you what you want, answer your prayers, etc). Truth--God IS faithful. Period. BECAUSE of HIS faithfulness, we can then offer Him our obedience knowing that it is the best life-choice for us. We can invest our obedience in God BECAUSE He is a FAITHFUL father, not because our obedience will then cause God to respond to us in a desired way.

BIBLE STUDY FOR GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL STUDENT: These studies have been assigned one a day; but could easily be considered in one-sitting as a group discussion.

Below are 4 examples of obedience to God, *because* of belief in God's faithfulness. Review the details of each character's story (or read the highlighted passages describing the character's obedience); and then answer the questions

--**DAY 1:** Joseph from the Old Testament: Genesis 37 –Genesis 50. The story is long, although worth the “read”; but maybe just create a summary of highlights from Joseph's eventful life.

--How was the character in our today's story obedient to God?

--Did the character in our story believe and trust in God's faithfulness?

--How did God show His faithfulness in today's story?

--**True or False? (summary):** “BECAUSE God is faithful, *Joseph* could be obedient to Him.”

--**DAY 2:** Daniel: Daniel 6 (an interesting highlight: notice that at the end of Daniel 6, Daniel's obedience has caused the king of Babylon to realize that GOD IS FAITHFUL!!!).

--How was the character in our today's story obedient to God?

--Did the character in our story believe and trust in God's faithfulness?

--How did God show His faithfulness in today's story?

--**True or False? (summary):** “BECAUSE God is faithful, *Daniel* could be obedient to Him.”

--**DAY 3:** The Lunch: Matthew 14: 13-21; Mark 6:30-44 or Luke 9:10-17.

--How was the character in our today's story obedient to God?

--Did the character in our story believe and trust in God's faithfulness?

--How did God show His faithfulness in today's story?

--**True or False? (summary):** “BECAUSE God is faithful; *the boy and disciples* could be obedient to Him.”

--**DAY 4:** Jesus: John 5:19 and Philippians 2:5-11

--How was Jesus obedient to God?

--Did Jesus trust in the faithfulness of His heavenly Father?

--How did God show His faithfulness in the life/death of Jesus from today's passage?

--**True or False? (summary):** “BECAUSE God is faithful; *Jesus* could be obedient to Him.”

--**DAY 5:** (a BAD example of this week’s main idea) Jonah: Jonah 1-4. Again, this is a long passage so you could just summarize the highlights from Jonah’s eventful life.

--How was the character in our today’s story obedient to God?

--Did the character in our story believe and trust in God’s faithfulness?

--How did God show His faithfulness in today’s story?

--Is there a connection between Jonah’s lack of obedience and his lack of trust in God’s faithfulness? If Jonah had trusted God’s goodness and character completely, how might his story been different?

--**True or False? (summary):** “BECAUSE God is faithful; *Jonah* could be obedient to Him.”

Summarize: We can invest our obedience to God; we can offer our obedient lives as “living sacrifices (Romans 12); we can trust God with risky acts of obedience; BECAUSE God is a FAITHFUL father.