

CAMP

THROUGH THE

Entire Bible

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FAMILY CAMP GUIDE

WEEK 3

Family CAMP devotions are a way to come together as a family and interact with God's Word. We will go through the entire Bible together this summer! Don't miss the opportunity to CAMP with your family each week using this simple family devotion guide.

How do we CAMP as a family?

Come together
Access God's Word
Make conversation
Pray



C: Come Together

Come together and remove distractions. Prepare your heart and mind to hear from God's Word together today by opening the compass app on your phone or getting out an actual compass if you have one.

Ask your family members to close their eyes and point NORTH. Have them open their eyes and tell them how close they are. Next, ask them to point EAST. Check their accuracy with the compass. The compass is a guide that does not change. We can trust that the compass will always show us true north, so that we can find our way.

In this week's Family Devotion, we will learn how leaders of Israel lost their way when they stopped following and listening to God. We will see that when we do not follow God, our sin has consequences. Just like when we are lost and need a compass to show us the way, God's people were divided and needed a king- a guide- that would lead them God's way.

A: Access God's Word

Access God's Word by reading today's Bible passage together and the daily devotion aloud.

Open your Bible and read aloud 1 Kings 11:9-13, 12:3-20.



Sin Has Consequences

Solomon took the throne when his father, David, was too old to be king of Israel. Solomon asked God for wisdom to rule well, and it was given to him. Solomon was the wisest person to ever live, but he didn't always act wisely. Solomon was not nice to his people and worshiped false gods. God warned Solomon to turn from his sin, but he didn't, so there would be consequences.

When Solomon died, his son, Rehoboam, became the next king. Jeroboam, one of King Solomon's former advisors, came to the inexperienced Rehoboam and asked him to consider making life easier for the Israelites so things would be peaceful in the kingdom. Instead of asking God for direction, or listening to Jeroboam who was older and wiser, Rehoboam asked his young friends what they thought. They told Rehoboam to raise the taxes more and make the working conditions harder! Rehoboam's foolish decision to be unnecessarily mean caused a rebellion that split the kingdom of Israel.

The 10 northern tribes kept the name Israel and elected Jeroboam as their king. Rehoboam remained the king of the smaller, southern part, consisting of the remaining two tribes and became known by the name Judah.

God divided Israel into two kingdoms as consequence for sin. King Solomon was very wise, but far from perfect. God is patient with sinners but He hates sin. Whether it is punishing His child for sin or keeping a promise He made years ago, He will always do what He says.

We can be thankful that God keeps His promises. God knew His people needed a perfect king, so even when they were divided and having to walk through the consequences of their sin, He promised to send them the exact King they needed - the Messiah.

Hundreds of years later, God would send His own Son, Jesus, to be that King. Jesus is the perfect King who brings God's people together from all over the world: the north, south, east, and west. He loves us and made a way for us to know God and follow Him in all that we do. In trying to find our way through life's journeys, we need to remember that God is the compass that guides us. But we have to choose to listen and follow Him. God alone shows us the truth, the life, and the way!



When we choose sin, we may have to walk out consequences. But, just like the Kingdom of Israel, we are never left alone. God is always faithful to show us His way.

M: Make Conversation

Make conversation around today's Bible passage and devotion by asking the questions provided. The goal of this time is to discover together the truths from God's Word and the daily devotion. Think of ways that you and your family can put this truth into action.

1. What are some rules that God has made that people should obey?
(The 10 Commandments are a great list of rules God has given us, not because He thinks any of us can keep them, but because we can't come close, and that should point us to our desperate need for a Savior. See also Matthew 22:37-40. What God really wants is our love. We can obey without love, but if we love Him, we will want to obey Him.)

2. How did Solomon sin? (Solomon didn't do what was right even though he knew what was right because of the great wisdom God gave him. He gathered too much wealth, married hundreds of women, and worshiped the false gods of his many wives.)
3. How did Rehoboam sin? (Not asking God for wisdom, not heeding wise advice from elders, and being mean to his people instead of being willing to serve them.)
4. Why did God allow Rehoboam to stay king over Judah? (God promised David that a member of his family would be on the throne forever and that the Messianic King would also come from his family. God's covenant to David was not broken by Solomon's sin. God keeps His promises even though we sin.)
5. If God was going to let Rehoboam stay king, why divide Israel at all? (Sin always has consequences. God loves us even when we sin, but He loves us too much to always protect us from the consequences of our sin. Through Jesus, we can have salvation and freedom from sin forever.)
6. Discuss the importance of obedience, asking advice from the right people, and why it is so important to remove sin, as it not only affects you, but many people around you.
7. What does this passage teach us about God? (God has promised that whoever believes in Him will have eternal life. That is an eternal promise. If you are a believer, nothing can keep you from going to heaven. God will discipline His children when they sin, but when He does, it should cause us to repent, turn away from sin, and walk in obedience with God.)
8. God has given us rules to follow in His Word. Why do you think God has rules? (God doesn't give us rules to restrict our freedom; He gives us rules to help us have true freedom. He gives us rules because He knows if we follow them we will be free from regret, shame, pain, and heartbreak.)



P: Pray

Guide your family through a prayer to end your time together.

Praise God for time to study the truth and wisdom in His Word together!

Thank God for all that He has blessed you with even when we disobey and try to do things our own way.

Confess the times you have pride and choose your way instead of God's way.

Ask God to help you obey and to make good/wise decisions.

Ask God to help others begin to understand that you are the strength and wisdom they need as they see us surrender our lives to You.



Family CAMP Activities

9. Red Light, Green Light:

- Players all line up at a starting point. A leader stands at the finish line and will call out colors. The goal is to be the first one to reach the finish line.
- When the leader says “GREEN LIGHT!” every player runs. When the leader yells “RED LIGHT” every player has to stop and freeze immediately. If anyone moves during RED, they are OUT. “YELLOW LIGHT” can be called for a super slow motion walk.
- After a few rounds, have an additional family member go to the finish line as a “fake” leader. This fake leader will call out colors as well, BUT only the instructions of the true leader of the game count!
- Connect this activity to this week’s devotion by showing the importance of listening to the true leader and not others.



10. Kerplunk or Jenga:

Both of these games require players to take risks and exercise wisdom. Play either game a few times as a family. Connect this activity to this week’s devotion by saying, “We have to be careful and make good choices about what piece to pull when it’s your turn in this game. Otherwise, it all comes crashing down. What were some of the choices the kings in this week’s passage made about their kingdoms and what were the outcomes? What could they have done differently?”

11. Obeying God in Your Family:

Part of obeying God as kids is honoring and obeying the parents or guardians He has given to love and raise you faithfully (Exodus 20:12, Proverbs 1:8). When these adults give boundaries and enforce rules, they are also obeying God who has instructed them to “bring up children in the training and instruction of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:4). The easiest rules and expectations to follow are the ones that are clearly, concisely, and regularly communicated in your families. Spend some time as a family coming up with the following:



Top Five (or 8 but no more than 10) Rules and Expectations for The _____ Family. Post these on your refrigerator and somewhere else in your house. You probably won’t be able to cover every single family rule in this activity, but this is a great way to clearly communicate what is most expected in your family. Make sure these are reasonable, definable, clear, measurable, and enforceable.