



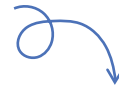
# God's Story:

## A SUMMER IN THE GOSPEL TOGETHER





## FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE



**Remember this:** God made everything, and everything He made is good.

**Read this:** Genesis 1:1–5;19–21

**Say this:** God made everything. He made this world to be perfect. In the beginning of creation, flowers were brighter. There was no sadness. Everything was perfect. God looked at it all after He made it and said everything He made was good. Knowing God made everything is really important because it means God thought of everything and it is all good in the way He made it. It also means everything belongs to Him. That should make us more careful and give us comfort at the same time.

It should cause us to take more care because if everything belongs to God that means our home, our yard, our pets and our world are not ours but God's. Why does that matter? Because if those things are borrowed, shouldn't we treat them differently?

Consider for a moment: Have you ever borrowed something? How did you take care of it? You were more careful because you know that it belongs to someone else, right? On the other hand, how do you treat your own things? Are you often more careless? God has called us to take care of the world He made. His world. We should be nervous in a good way. We should be always aware that everything is God's and we get to enjoy it because God loves us and made everything for our good and His glory.

Knowing God made everything should also bring us comfort because even though we are called to care for the world around us, including our pets, our yard, the forest down the street and the park we play in, our confidence regarding our ultimate protection and care can be found in God's work. For instance, think about a time you made something, maybe in art class, maybe a sandcastle or a fort. What did you do? You protected it so it wouldn't get ruined or destroyed. You took care of it because you made it and because you made it, it's yours.

The Bible tells us God cares for the birds of the air and the flowers of the field. Why? Because He made them. This gives us great comfort because ultimately, caring for the world is God's work, and we get to help with. It should also comfort us that God cares for the birds and flowers He made. Because if He cares for them, how much more will He care for us?

**Pray this:** Creator God, thank you for all the beautiful things you created for our good and your glory. Help us never forget you made everything, and you protect and care for everything. Help me take good care of the good gifts I have been given. Help me to love and care for the world around me, including my family, friends, pets, yard and room. Thank you for the beauty of this world you made just for us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Sing this:** "This is my Fathers World."



## MEMORY VERSE

**Genesis 1:1-2 :** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

# Week 1

# CREATION: GOD MADE EVERYTHING



## MAKE A SONG



### Song Creation | Make a Song from the Memory Verse

#### 1. Feel the verse out loud.

Read it together slowly. **Ask:** What mood does this verse put you in? Is it quiet and mysterious, or big and powerful? Should the song move fast or slow? Loud or soft? There are no wrong answers. Just notice what you feel.

#### 2. Pick one verse or a few phrases and a melody.

Choose the line that grabs you most. Maybe in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth, or the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then borrow one of these tunes or a song your family loves and sing the verse to it:

- "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"
- "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"
- "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" (Try it as a round!)
- A song your family already loves

You don't have to use every single word. Let it be a little clunky. That's part of making it yours.

#### 3. Record it.

Sing your song into a parent's phone before you forget it. One take is fine.

#### 4. Play it in the car.

Every time you get in the car this week, play the recording. Keep going until everyone knows it by heart (and possibly until it drives someone a little crazy)!

### *A note on writing the song:*

Pick one verse or a few phrases, not the whole passage. Trying to set everything at once gets clunky fast. Focusing on one section makes a much better song.

The words don't have to be exact. Learn the memory verse separately. Write the song to be singable, not a perfect transcript.

After the first two weeks, feel free to write your own melody. The following suggested songs are just a framework to get you started.



## SUMMER CHALLENGE



Go for a nature walk with your family.

Everyone say the memory verse in the car on the way to church.

Help an elderly friend or neighbor with their yardwork.

Have a picnic in your backyard and keep a list everything you hear and see in creation.

Go for ice cream as a family.

Go to a park to play.

Make something out of playdough.

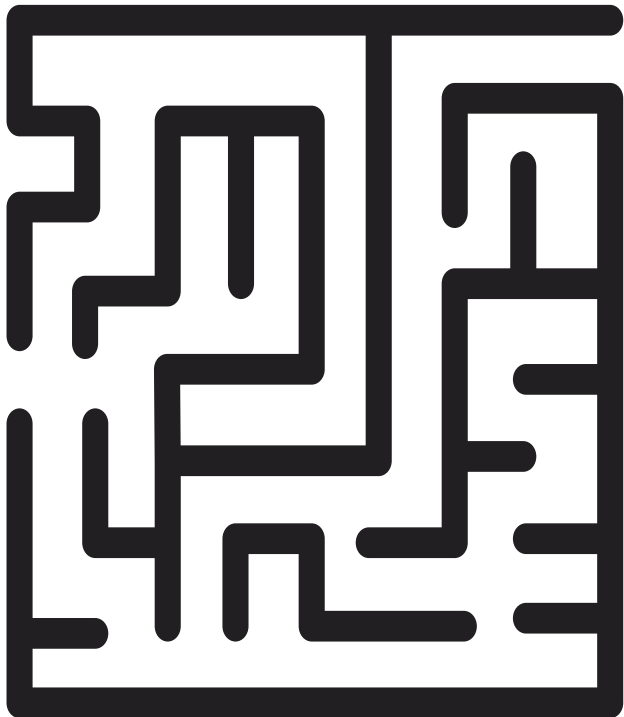




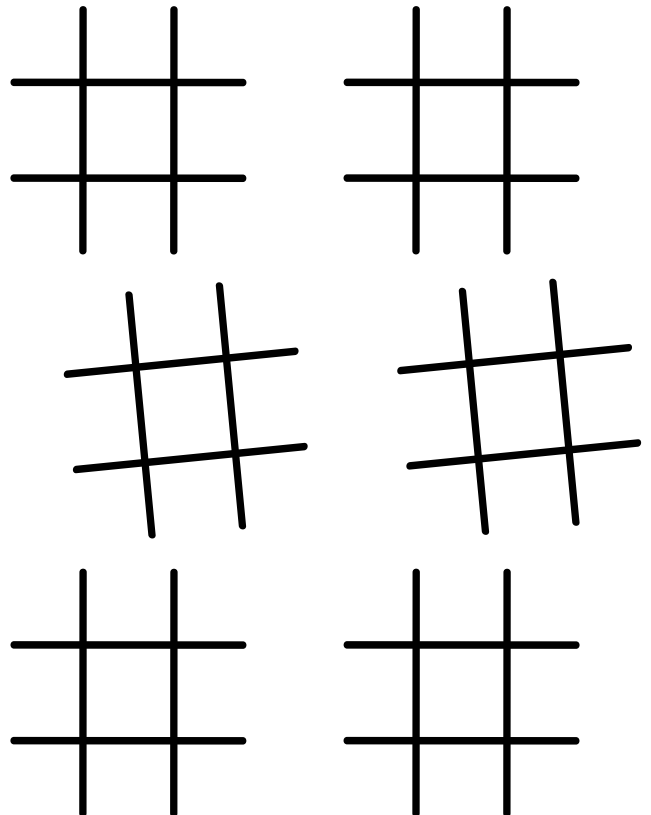


**MAZE**

**FINISH THE ILLUSTRATION**

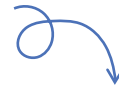


**TIC TAC TOE**





## FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE



**Remember this:** God made people to know Him, love Him and reflect Him.

**Read this:** Genesis 1:26–28

**Say this:** All of God’s world points to the beauty of the One who made it. Have you seen a beautiful sunset, a majestic mountain or a peaceful stream? What would you say is the most beautiful thing you have ever seen? All of the beauty God created fills our hearts with wonder at the amazingly awesome world He made to point to Himself, our good and perfect God. After each thing God made, He stopped and said what He made was good.

But things went differently when He created people. What God did in the passage we just read is so important and so significant. When God created the first people, He said “Let us make man in our image and after our likeness” (Genesis 1:26). He created men and women not only to point to Himself like He did with the rest of the animals, trees, water, and sky, but also to know and represent Him on Earth.

God created us with the ability to know Him, to love Him and to trust Him. This is something a fish, a tree and a mountain stream can’t do. God wants us to enjoy the world He made and to know and love Him above all.

Just as we said last week, we belong to God because He made us. That means we can take comfort knowing that on our best days we are loved and on our worst days we are cared for. We have to tell ourselves this a lot, don’t we? Because sometimes, we forget. We think we’re in control and that we have to handle everything. We make the mistake of thinking we’re the most important people in the world. But we aren’t. God is.

Our true story of God reminds us today that we were created on purpose by a loving God who desires that we know Him, love Him and that we would reflect that love to all of creation. When we forget the truth of who God is we will believe a lie about God and ourselves. When we forget who God is and who we are, things go bad quickly.

**Pray this:** God, thank you for making this big beautiful world including me. I know that you created me to love you and to show others the love you have shown me in Jesus. Help me trust you when I have a difficult day. Help me follow you even when I don’t understand. I love you. Thank you for loving me first. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

**Sing this:** “All Creatures of Our God and King”



## MEMORY VERSE

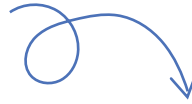
**Genesis 1:1–2 :** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

# Week 2

# CREATION: GOD MADE ME



## MAKE A SONG



### Song Reinforcement | Make it Stick

#### 1. Add hand motions.

Go through the song word by word (or phrase by phrase) and make up a motion for each one. Say: In the beginning — what does that look like? Or, The Spirit of God was hovering — how would you show that with your hands?

#### 2. Teach the song to someone.

Pick one person outside your family (a grandparent, neighbor, friend, cousin) and teach them your song, motions and all. You don't have to perform it perfectly. Just share it.



## SUMMER CHALLENGE



Have each member of your family draw a portrait of another member.

Make or write something encouraging for someone outside your family.

Create a gift or craft for someone and use it as a way to show love.

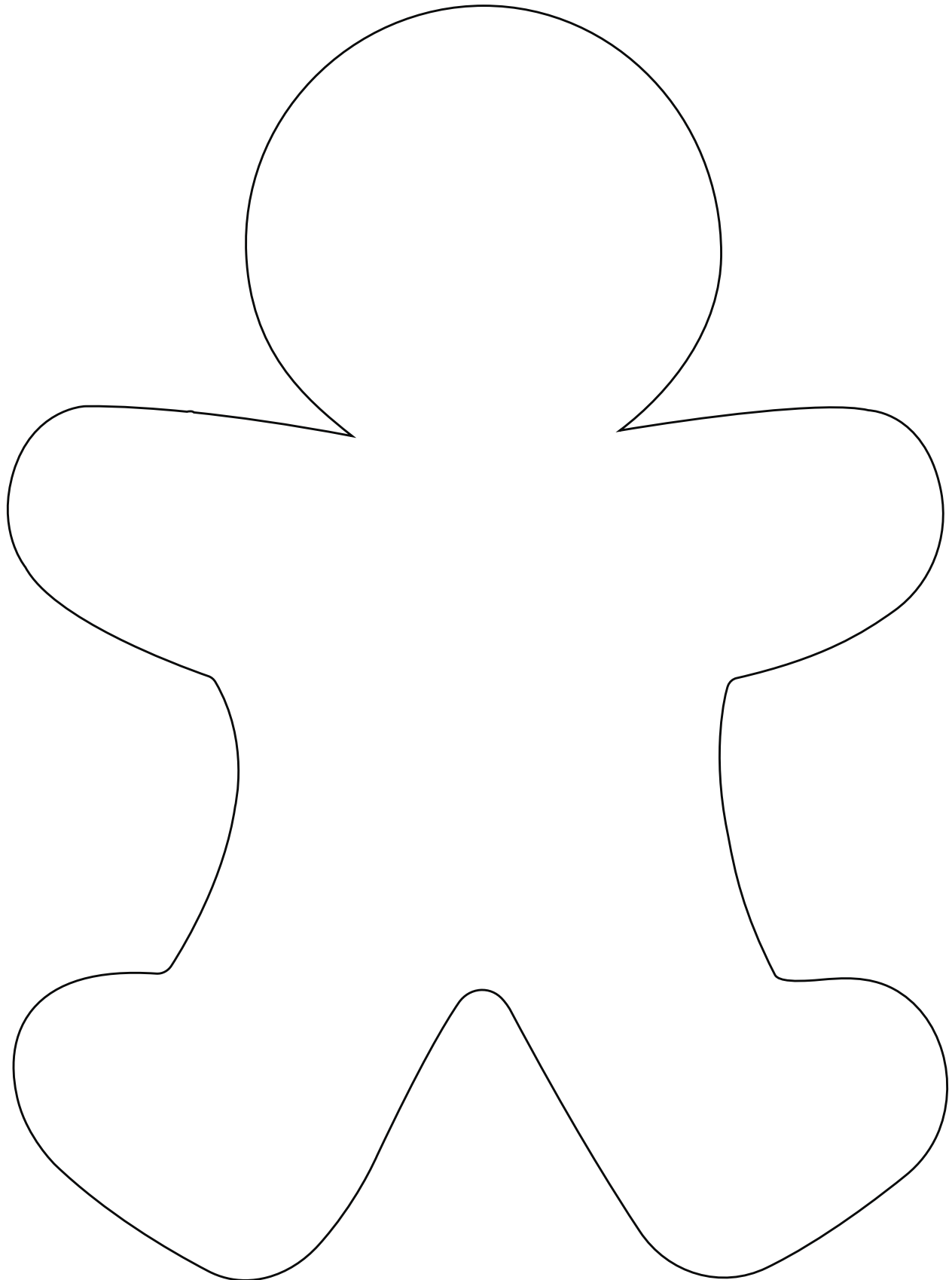
Sit in a different spot at church. Meet someone you don't know.

At dinner, ask each person to share one way another family member reflects God's goodness.

Play a game together as a family.

Go on a prayer walk and pray for the people in the homes around you.





# FALL: SIN CAME INTO THE WORLD



## FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

**Remember this:** People believed a lie, disobeyed God, and sin brought brokenness into the world.

**Read this:** Genesis 3:1-9

**Say this:** Adam and Eve, the man and woman God created, lived in a perfect world free of sin, sadness and death. God gave them one command to follow. Can you imagine our family having only one rule? What are some of our rules? *[Allow time to share.]* Yes we have several but God only had one. It was: "Do not eat the fruit of the tree of knowing." Easy right? It wasn't.

The Bible says that the snake was more clever than any other animal. It approached Eve and told her a terrible, terrible lie. He asked, "Did God really say?" This is the hiss of the Serpent, the lie of the enemy from the beginning of time that we still hear today. It's a lie that makes us question, "Did God really say?" and, "Is God really good?" The snake got Adam and Eve to question God's instruction to them. And then Adam and Eve did the very thing we talked about last week. They forgot the truth of who God is and believed a lie about God and themselves.

This lie led them to not only not believe what God said, but also made them question God's goodness and wisdom that was on display all around them in every piece of fruit they ate, every

blade of grass that softened the earth, and in every drop of water that God created just by speaking. It was a sneaky lie, a clever lie that sounded true but wasn't true at all.

All of creation was saying to Adam and Eve that God is good, God is all powerful and there is no reason not to trust Him. But the lie went into their ears and deep into their hearts and they believed God was keeping them from something good.

God wasn't doing that. He was loving, protecting and growing them to know Him and the world He made. But Adam and Eve didn't want God's way. They wanted their own way more. So, they disobeyed God's word and chose to do what they thought was best instead. In disobeying God's word they brought sin and death into the perfect world God had made.

**Pray this:** God forgive me for the ways I have disobeyed your word to me. Forgive me for trying to do what I think is best rather than trusting in your plan. Help me to ignore the hiss of the snake, the lies that would turn me from you. Help me to live my life for you and to obey to your plans for me. In Jesus' name, amen.

**Sing this:** "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

## MEMORY VERSE

**Romans 5:6-8** : For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

# Week 3

# FALL: SIN CAME INTO THE WORLD



## MAKE A SONG



## SUMMER CHALLENGE

### Song Creation | Make a Song from this Verse

#### 1. Feel the verse out loud.

Read it together. Spot the big contrast: nobody would willingly die for a bad person. But God did. **Ask:** Does your song start heavy and build toward hope? Or does it land on grace right from the start?

#### 2. Pick one verse or a few phrases and a melody.

Verse 8 is a natural anchor: *while we were still sinners, Christ died for us*. It's practically a chorus already. Try setting that line first, then see if the verses before it lead in. Melody ideas:

- "Amazing Grace (fits the theme perfectly)"
- "How He Loves"
- "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
- A song your family already loves

Try making verse 8 your repeating chorus. The contrast in verses 6–7 can be the verse that leads into it.

#### 3. Record it.

Sing your song into a parent's phone. One take. Clunky is fine.

#### 4. Make up a dance.

You've been singing it, now move to it. Put on the recording and let everyone make up their own moves. Then try to agree on a dance you can all do together. It doesn't have to be good. It just has to be yours.

Truth or Lie Game — Say simple statements and let kids guess whether they are true or false.

Obstacle Course Obedience Game — Blindfold a family member and guide them through obstacles by learning to listen to the voice of the person guiding them.

Have a family movie night.

Swim in a Lake or Go to a Pool.

Do one hidden act of kindness for a sibling, neighbor or friend.

Trust Walk — Blindfold one family member at a time and have another gently guide them through the yard or a room.

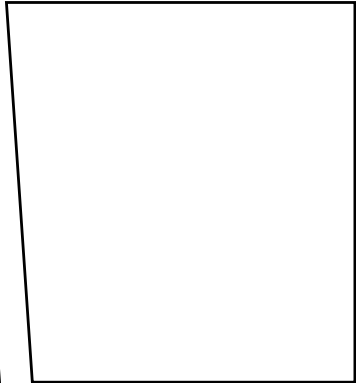
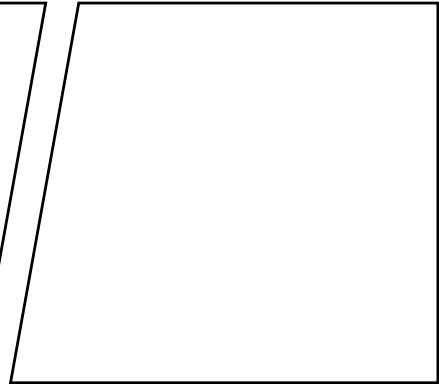
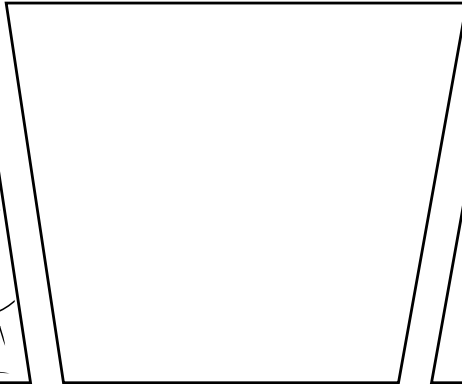
Build a Blanket Fort.



## TRUE OR FALSE?

1. Alabama: It is illegal to wear a fake mustache that causes laughter in church. (True)
2. Alaska: In Fairbanks, it is illegal to serve alcohol to a moose. (True)
3. Alaska: It is illegal to land your spaceship in a field of flowers. (False)
4. Arizona: In Mohave County, if anyone is caught stealing soap, they must wash themselves with it until it is all used up. (True)
5. Arkansas: Only tractors are allowed to park next to a farm. (False)
6. California: It is illegal to whistle for a lost canary before 7 a.m. (True)
7. Colorado: You can only wear a hat if you are also wearing a dress. (False)
8. Connecticut: A pickle is only legally considered a pickle if it bounces. (True)
9. Delaware: It is illegal to dock your pirate ship on a Sunday. (False)
10. Florida: It is illegal to sell your children. (True)
11. Georgia: It is illegal to keep a donkey in a bathtub. (True)
12. Hawaii: It is illegal to eat inside an active volcano. (False)
13. Illinois: In the city of Chicago, it is illegal to eat in a place that is on fire. (True)
14. Iowa: One-armed piano players must perform for free. (True)
15. Kentucky: It is illegal to carry ice cream in your back pocket. (True)
16. Tennessee: It is illegal to ride your llama into town. (False)
17. Texas: You must eat at a restaurant once a month. (False)
18. Maine: If a lobster catches you in its claw, you must give it a gold coin. (False)

COMPLETE THE COMIC



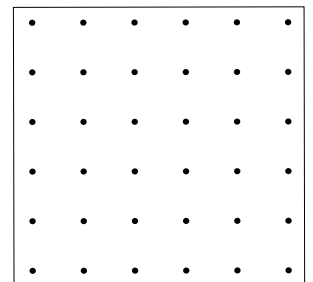
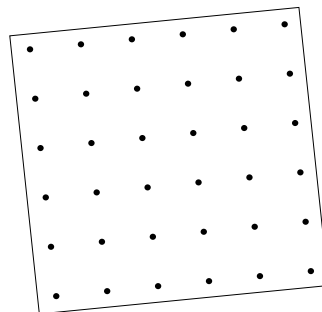
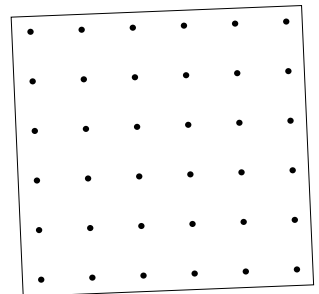
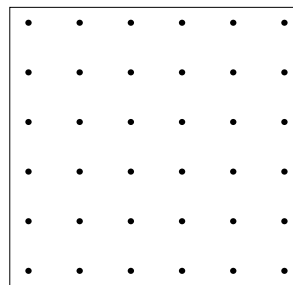
FINISH THIS DRAWING



Finish this picture! Turn this shape into something creative.

DOTS & BOXES

Find a partner.  
Take turns connecting two dots, either side-to-side or up-and-down.  
When someone makes a box, write their initial.  
The player with the most boxes at the end wins!



FALL: 

# SIN SEPARATES, BUT GOD FORGIVES



## FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

**Remember this:** Sin leads us away from God, but God welcomes back sinners who turn to Him.

**Read this:** Luke 15:11–32

**Say this:** The story of the lost son always reminds me of how kind and gracious his father was. Last week we talked about how sin came into the world through Adam and Eve’s disobedience. They listened to the lie of the snake and believed things about God that were not true.

Today we read a story of a boy who left his father’s home to find happiness his own way. This story reminds us that we all need God’s help. What we need more than anything else in this world is forgiveness. Paul tells us in Romans that all of us have sinned. We have all disobeyed God on accident and on purpose. We have broken His commands. Like Adam and Eve, we have believed things about God that are not true and decided that our own happiness is what we should chase after.

The most amazing part of this story is not the sin of the son but the kindness of the father. In verse 20 it says, *But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.*

The forgiveness of the father is so moving because he could have said, “See, I told you so.” But he didn’t. He ran to his son. He was filled with love and compassion. He hugged and kissed his son. This is the kind of grace-filled love that is available to us as sons and daughters of God. We serve a good God who, when we turn to Him, runs to us with arms wide open.

We all need forgiveness. Think of this week. Have you said something unkind, thought something wrong or treated someone rudely? Wanting something that isn’t yours, lying, taking something without permission, or getting so angry that you never want to speak to someone again are all actions that break God’s law.

If we can’t keep God’s commands no matter how hard we try, then what purpose do they have? There are three things the law does for us: It shows us how perfect God is. It shows us our sinfulness. And it shows us our need for a Savior.

God sees us in our sin, in our inability to keep His commands, and instead of just saying, “I told you so” He runs to us through sending His own Son as a Savior. God doesn’t want us to be distant like the prodigal son who ran away. He wants to be near, so much so that He comes to us! If not for the law, we would never see how sinful our hearts are or how much we need to be forgiven.

Let’s pray the following prayer together. I’ll pray a line and you repeat after me.

**Pray this:** Lord thank you that you are a good father. *[Everyone repeat.]* I realize I need your help, your grace and your forgiveness *[Everyone repeat.]* Please forgive me for my sins *[Everyone repeat.]* Help me to love you more than anything else. *[Everyone repeat.]* Teach me to follow you. *[Everyone repeat.]* When I do sin, help me to turn quickly toward you. *[Everyone repeat.]* Thank you that you love me and by grace allow me to turn to you. *[Everyone repeat.]* Thank you for your love toward me in Christ. *[Everyone repeat.]* In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, amen.

**Sing this:** “Jesus Loves Me”

# Week 4 | FALL: SIN SEPARATES, BUT GOD FORGIVES

## MEMORY VERSE

**Romans 5:6–8** : For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

## MAKE A SONG

### Song Reinforcement | Make it Stick

#### 1. Add hand motions.

Work through the song phrase by phrase and create a motion for each idea. Pay special attention to the contrast: what do you do with your body for “still weak” and “still sinners”? What do you do for “Christ died for us”? Let your body show what the words mean.

#### 2. Make a music video and send it to someone who loves you.

Film yourselves performing the full song with motions and dance. Try to do it from memory if you can. Then send the video to one person outside your family, someone who will love seeing it. No editing required.

## SUMMER CHALLENGE

Bake bread or cookies and celebrate God’s mercy.

Make a family list of ways God has been kind.

Make a “forgiven” sign or banner.

Have a family bonfire. Ask each person to write out a sin they struggle with and then throw it in the fire to remember God’s forgiveness.

Act out the parable of the lost son.

Wave hello at everyone you see today.

Invite a family who is new to your church over for lunch after service.

COLOR THE ILLUSTRATION



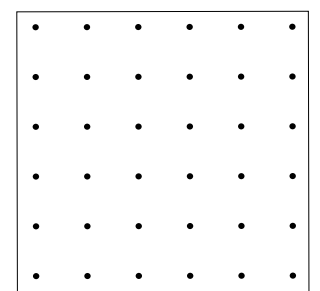
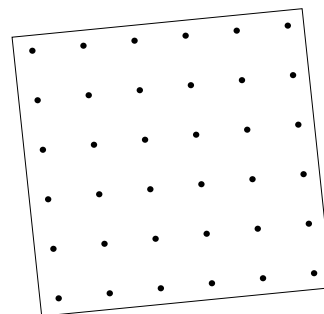
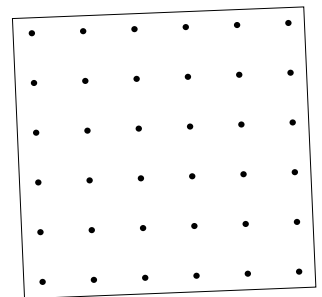
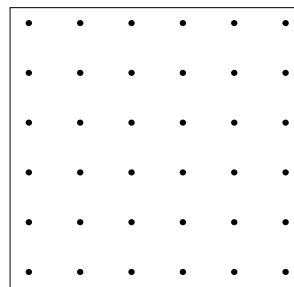
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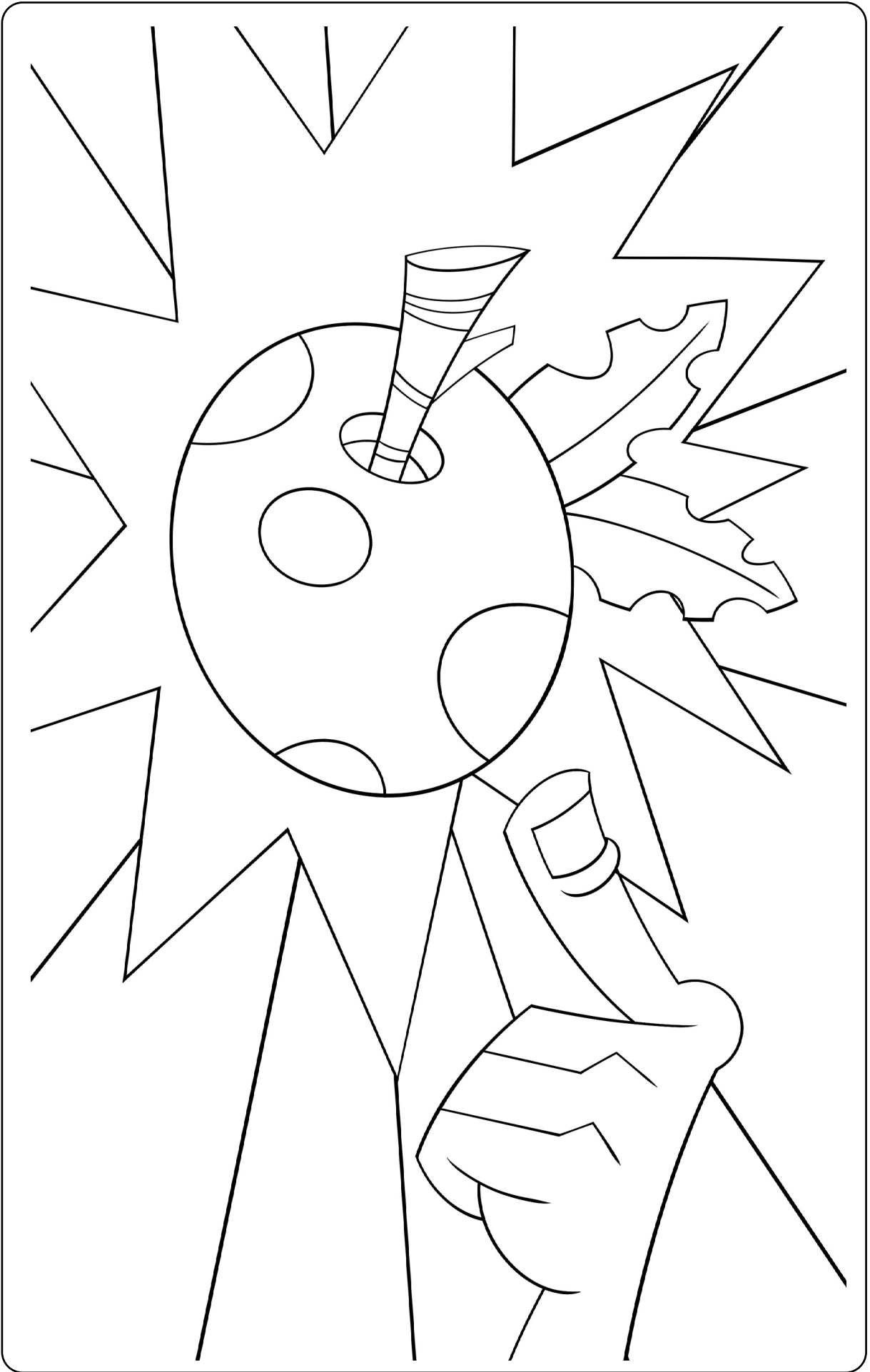


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**DOTS & BOXES**

Find a partner.  
Take turns connecting two dots, either side-to-side or up-and-down.  
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## FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE



**Remember this:** Jesus obeyed perfectly where Adam and Eve failed.

**Read this:** Matthew 4:1-11

**Say this:** In this passage, we see the devil come to Jesus just like the snake came to Adam and Eve. What happened? Did Jesus give in to the temptation? No, He didn't. He trusted His Father. Jesus obeyed perfectly where Adam and Eve failed.

Jesus came to Earth as a baby and grew to be a man. He lived a perfect life, died in our place, rose again and went back to heaven to be with His Father. Why is that important? Because even though Jesus came to die for our sins, He also came to show us how to live.

This is really important because, like we talked about last week, our greatest need is forgiveness. The other thing we need God's help with is knowing how life works best. In our story today, Jesus shows us a few things that are important.

We see Jesus do two things that are very important, and they were the very two things that Adam and Eve failed to do. The first thing we see Jesus do is trust His Father. When tempted to do something to fix His immediate need, He did not take matters into His own hands. He was hungry. He had been praying and fasting. But instead of seeking His own happiness and doing what He thought was best like Adam and Eve did, He trusted His Father.



## MEMORY VERSE

The last way the devil tempted Jesus was to tell Jesus that if He bowed down and worshiped him, he would give Jesus all the kingdoms of the world. Jesus resisted. He didn't give in to the lie of the snake. Where Adam and Eve distrusted God's commands, Jesus perfectly obeyed.

Jesus did all of this to show that He perfectly obeyed God, something we don't and can't do. Because we see how perfectly Jesus lived His life, we also see that His death was not deserved. He truly died for us. He did what we could not, dying in our place, paying the price for our sins, not His own, because we could not pay it ourselves.

The final thing Jesus shows us through His obedience is how life works best when we do two simple things: trust and obey. This is what we are called to do: hear the voice of God, trust that He cares for us and obey His commands.

Trust and obey, for there is no better way to be happy in Jesus.

**Pray this:** God, you showed us how life works best by sending your Son, Jesus, to perfectly keep the law for us. We cannot and do not keep the law perfectly, but Jesus did. Help our hearts that want so many things that are not you, to trust you and obey you. Even when it is difficult, let us look to Jesus' example of trusting and obeying you in every moment. Remind us afresh today, of the sinless of Jesus, the sinfulness of our hearts, and our need for a Savior because of that. We pray this in Jesus' name, amen.

**Sing this:** "Trust and Obey"



**John 3:16-17 :** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

# Week 5 | REDEMPTION: JESUS LIVED FOR US



## MAKE A SONG



## SUMMER CHALLENGE

### Song Creation | Make this one your own

#### 1. Feel the verse out loud.

Almost everyone in your family has probably heard John 3:16 before. So ask a different question this time: If you've heard this verse before, what part of it hits you differently today than it did the last time you heard it? What word matters most to you right now? Let that be the heart of your song.

#### 2. Pick one verse or a few phrases and a melody.

Because this tends to be a familiar verse, putting it to a new melody is a chance to make it yours in a way it never quite has been before. You've now had a few weeks at this. If you want to try writing your own melody from scratch, go for it. Or borrow one of these:

- "You Are My Sunshine"
- "This Little Light of Mine"
- A song your family already loves
- Or make up a melody of your own!!

Bonus challenge: try verse 16 as the verse and verse 17 as the chorus, or flip it.

#### 3. Record it.

Sing your song into a parent's phone. One take.

#### 4. Put on a parade or a concert.

Costumes are welcome. March up and down the hallway singing your song at the top of your lungs, or dim the lights or turn them on and off as you give it your best rock star performance. The goal is volume and commitment.

Play an obedience game like Red Light, Green Light.

Make a crown that says "Jesus is King."

Build a simple "path" with chalk and talk about following God's way.

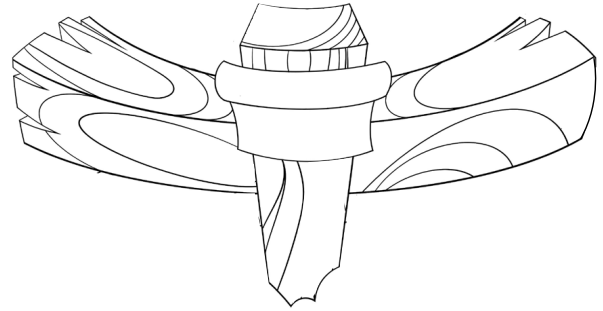
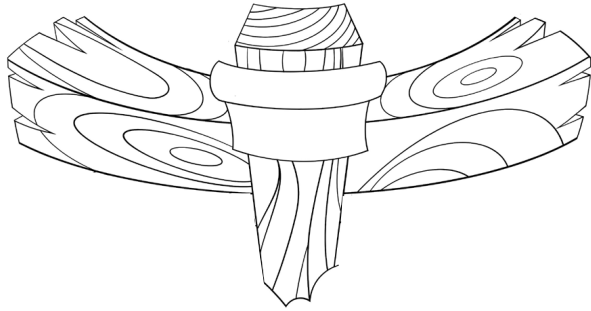
Set a family challenge to obey quickly and joyfully for one day.

Serve someone in the family without being asked.

Go on a hike and talk about Jesus in the wilderness.


Call a grandparent or older church member and ask them to tell you a story of how they obeyed God when it was hard.





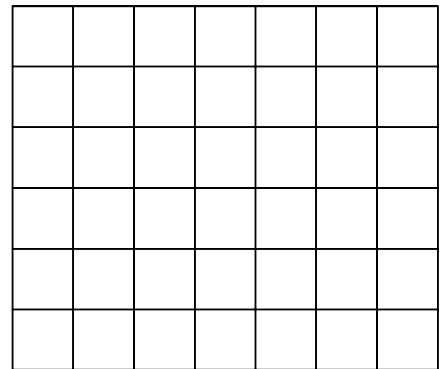
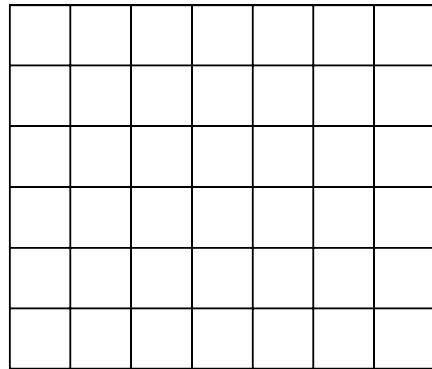
WHAT'S DIFFERENT?

**REBUS PUZZLE**

1	<b>FAST</b>
2	<b>HEAD HEELS</b>
3	
4	<b>JOKE</b> <hr/> <b>U</b>

1. Breakfast 2. Head over Heels  
3. Eyeshadow 4. Jokes on You

**CONNECT FOUR**



Find a partner. Take turns putting an "x" or "o" in boxes. You must put your shape in the lowest box in the column. The first player to get four in a row in any direction wins!



## FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE



**Remember this:** Jesus died in our place so our sins could be forgiven forever.

**Read this:** Luke 23:32–49

**Say this:** This is one of the hardest passages in the Bible to read. I read how Jesus was beaten and crucified. How does this story make you feel? *[Let your kids respond.]* It hurts my heart, makes me sad, that Jesus suffered so much. It also makes me angry, because He didn't deserve to die. Last week we talked about how He obeyed God perfectly. We break God's commands but Jesus never did. He did nothing wrong and didn't deserve to die.

It also makes me thankful — not thankful that He died a painful death — but thankful He died for me and that He died instead of me. Paul says in 2 Corinthians 5:20–21: *Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

Paul is saying that when we place our trust in Jesus, something amazing happens.. Jesus takes our sin and gives us His perfect righteousness. He takes our sins and gives us His perfection.

Knowing God loved us enough to send His Son to rescue us should give us boldness. It should also humble us because we know we have done nothing to deserve God's love. We are loved and forgiven because of His grace, not because we are good.

We see the grace of God on full display in the passage we read today. The criminal was on the cross beside Jesus because he had broken laws. But by God's grace, he understood who Jesus was and said, *Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.* How Jesus responded was so graceful. Jesus said to him *Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise (vv. 42–43).*

How gracious is Jesus. He loves us not because we are good, but because we are His.

**Pray this:** Lord thank you that Jesus paid the price for my sin. Help me never forget that while I was a sinner Christ died for me. Help me to tell others about the goodness of God for them in Jesus. Help me remember that I can know you not because I am good or perfect or better than the next person, help me remember that I can know you only because Jesus paid the penalty of my sin. My heart is filled with gratitude. I pray this in the name of your Son Jesus, amen.

**Sing this:** "Jesus Paid it All"



## MEMORY VERSE



**John 3:16–17 :** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

# Week 6

# REDEMPTION: JESUS DIED FOR US



## MAKE A SONG

### Song Reinforcement | Make it Stick

#### 1. Freeze dance.

Put on your recording and dance. When it stops, everyone freezes. The last person to freeze has to say as much of the verse as they can from memory. Keep going until the song is done. By the end of this week, try to play the whole thing without using the recording as your cue.

#### 2. Add a verse from your family's own story.

Your song covers the passage. Now add one more verse that has been important in your life. Finish this sentence together: "God so loved [your name / your family / your neighborhood]..." What would you add? Write it, sing it at the end of your song, and record the whole new version.



## SUMMER CHALLENGE

Use chalk to draw and decorate a cross on the sidewalk or your driveway.

Watch the sunset and thank Jesus for His sacrifice.

Share a family story of sacrifice or serving.

Each adult should take turns telling their kids the story of how they came to faith.

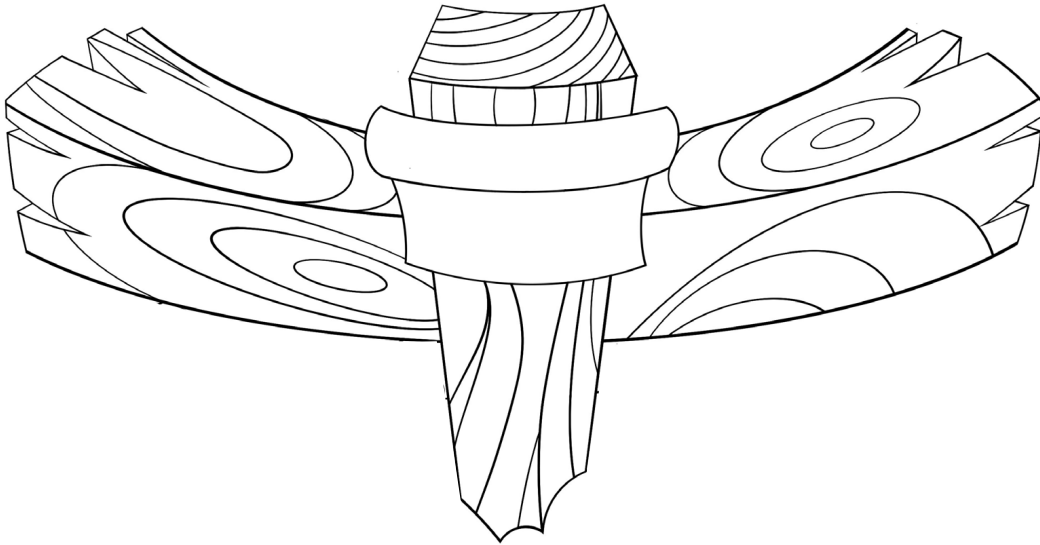
Make a thank-you card to Jesus with words or pictures.

Light a candle at dinner and remember Jesus' love.

Say a prayer of thanksgiving to Jesus for His life and death for you.



COLOR THE PICTURE



**REBUS PUZZLE**

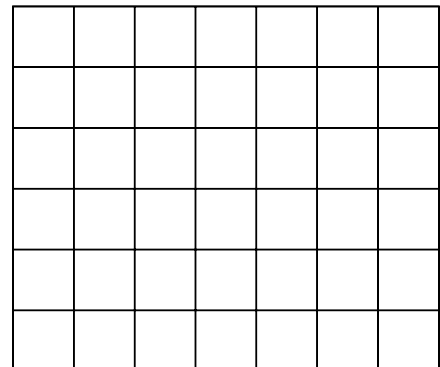
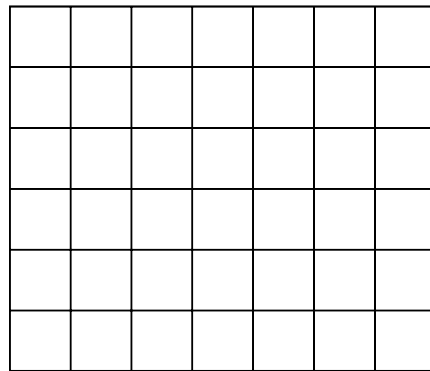
1. thanks **THANKS**  
**THANKS** thanks  
 thanks thanks  
 thanks **THANKS**

2. **GOOD**

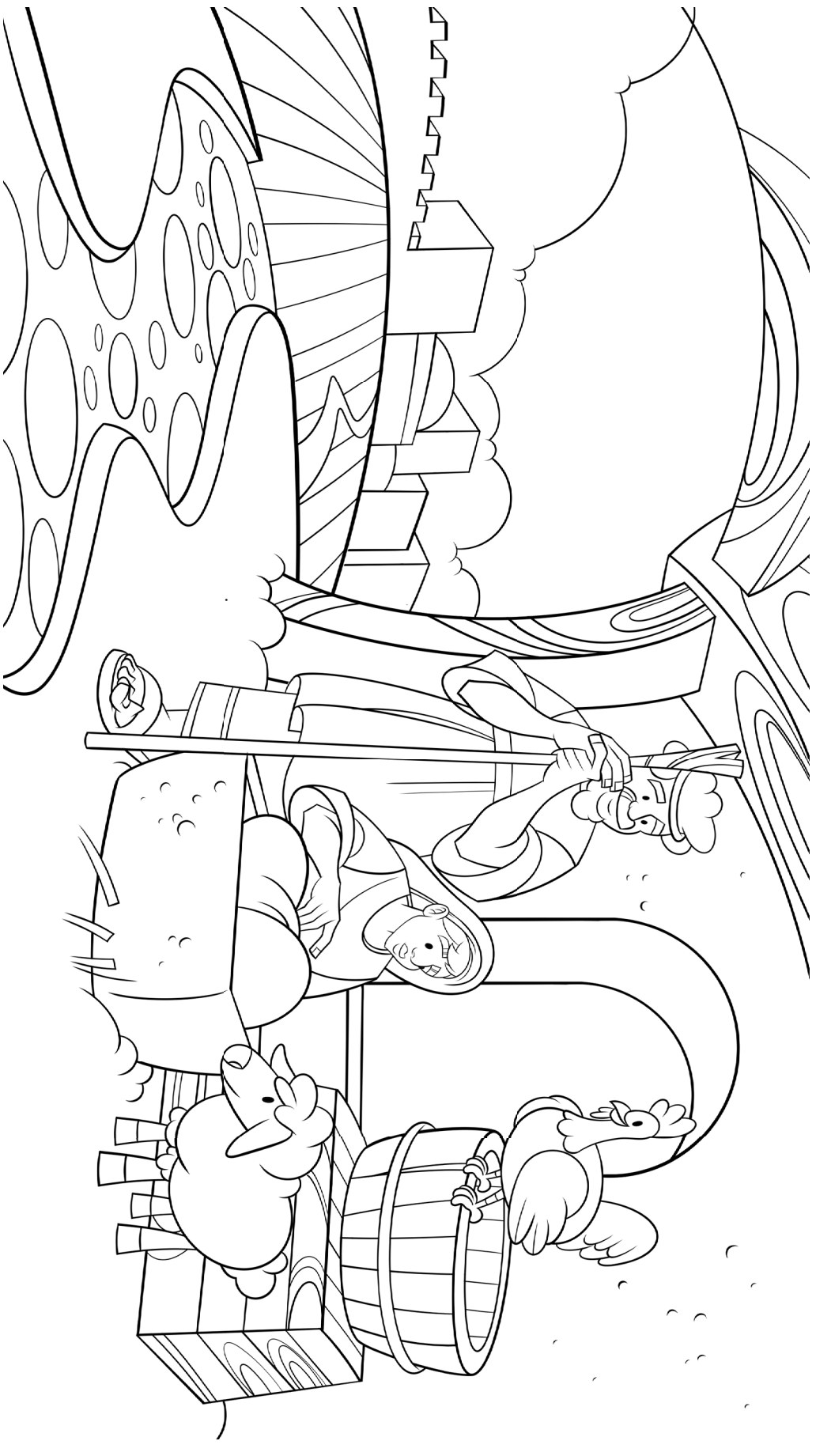
3.  **LOAD**

1. Thanks a lot 2. looking good 3. Download

**CONNECT FOUR**



Find a partner. Take turns putting an "x" or "o" in boxes. You must put your shape in the lowest box in the column. The first player to get four in a row in any direction wins!





## FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE



**Remember this:** Jesus rose from the dead, defeating sin and death.

**Read this:** Matthew 28:1-10

**Say this:** Last week was the hardest story in the Bible to read. This week is the greatest story of all time. It's the true story of what God did for us. He sent Jesus to die for us and to die instead of us because of our sin. That's the bad news. Today we get the good news. Jesus didn't stay dead. He came back to life and is still alive today.

Why do you think this is so important for us as Christians? [Let your kids answer.] Yes, this is so important because Jesus did more than come back to life after being dead. Yeah that's amazing. What is more amazing is what Jesus' perfect life and perfect death did for you and me. In coming back to life, Jesus conquered our two greatest enemies: sin and death.

Jesus lived a perfect life. Because He never sinned He didn't die for His sin but for yours and mine. Imagine you are pulled over by a police officer for speeding and you call me. Then I break the speed limit trying to get to you and get pulled over for speeding myself just as I get to where you are. I tell the officer writing you a ticket that I want to take your speeding ticket. I want it to go

on my record not yours. The officer smiles slightly as he hands me the ticket I earned because I was speeding. Jesus isn't like us. Jesus is perfect. He didn't sin, not once, He conquered sin with His perfect life of trusting and obeying God every time.

Jesus also died a perfect death, but he didn't stay dead. He came back to life. Why is that important? Adam and Eve were told that if they disobeyed God and ate of the tree of knowledge they would die. But Jesus overcame death and is alive forever.

Jesus did for us what we could never do ourselves. He reconciled us to God. To be reconciled means to fix or repair what was broken. He repaired what Adam broke. He destroyed death so when we trust in Jesus alone we too will be raised to new life. We will receive forgiveness of our sins and we will receive new life because Jesus conquered death.

**Pray this:** Father, because Jesus is alive we have a sure and certain hope. Thank you for fixing broken hearts and healing broken lives. Thank you that you made a way for us to come to you because of how Jesus destroyed the power of sin and death. Help me to come to you with boldness and confidence that is mine because of Jesus. I pray this in Jesus' name, amen.

**Sing this:** "Because He Lives"



## MEMORY VERSE

**Revelation 21:4-5 :** He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."



# Week 7

# RESTORATION: JESUS IS ALIVE



## MAKE A SONG



## SUMMER CHALLENGE

### Song Creation | Make a song from this verse

#### 1. Feel the verse out loud.

Read it slowly together, maybe more than once. **Ask:** What does this verse promise? What does it mean to you right now, in your real life? Is there something your family is sad about, grieving or longing for? This verse is for that thing. Let that be the theme underneath the song.

#### 2. Pick one verse or a few phrases and a melody.

This passage has two movements: comfort (the “no more” list) and proclamation (“I am making all things new!”). Try to find a melody, or write one, that feels different for each part. Some families have been doing this all summer now. Trust what you’ve learned:

- **“You Are My Sunshine (for the tender, comforting part)”**
- **“Oh Happy Day (for the big declaration at the end)”**
- **A lullaby you make up, especially if young children are involved**
- **Call-and-response: leader sings “No more tears!” and everyone echoes it back**
- **A song your family already loves**

“Behold, I am making all things new!” is basically already a chorus. If nothing else, try setting just that line.

#### 3. Record it.

This is the last verse of the summer. Give it your all. Make the recording count.

#### 4. Whisper to shout.

Perform the song starting as a whisper, so quiet you can barely hear it. Gradually get louder with each line until you’re singing at full volume by the end. This verse earns it: start soft on “*He will wipe away every tear*” and build all the way to “*Behold, I am making all things new!*” See if the dynamics you find tell you something about what the words mean.

Go on a sunrise walk.

Have a celebration breakfast.

Blow bubbles outside and talk about joy and new life.

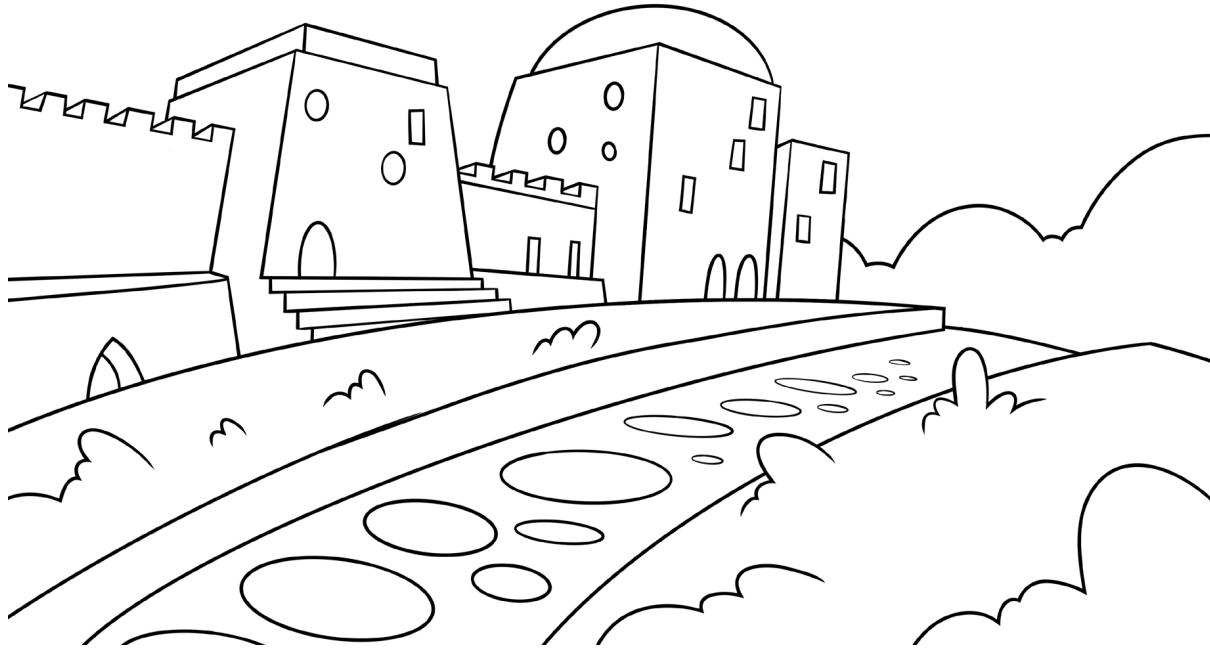
Plant a flower or a tree to symbolize new life.

Build an empty tomb using couch cushions and pillows.

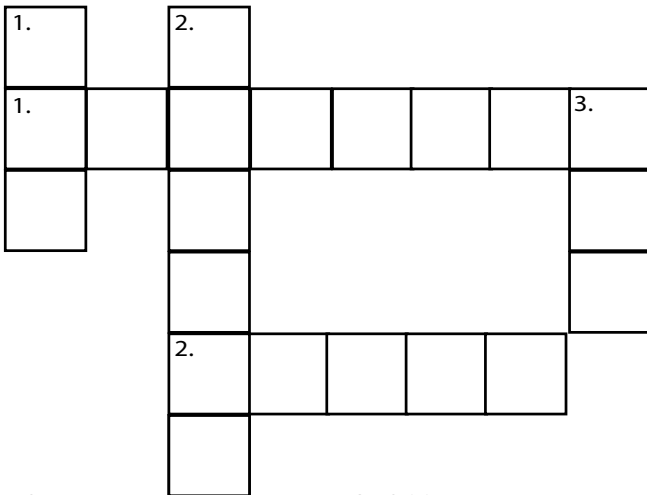
Send a card to someone who lost a loved one this year.

Have a family celebration dance party.

COLOR THE PICTURE



**CROSSWORD**



**DOWN**

- 1. What will God make everything?
- 2. Where is the Lord's throne?
- 3. Will Jesus return?

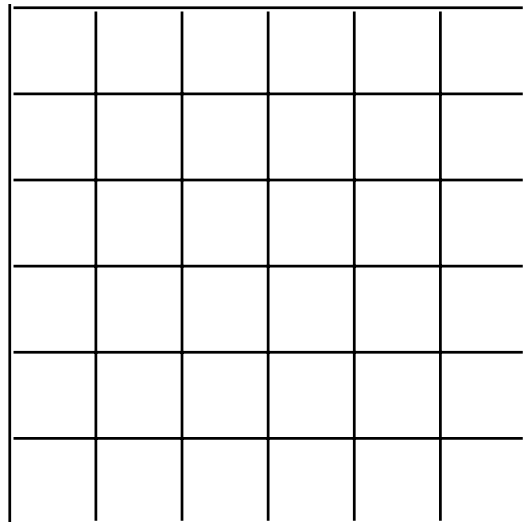
**ACROSS**

- 1. If we believe in Jesus, what will we spend with Him?
- 2. Jesus will make a new heaven and a new \_\_\_\_\_

DOWN 1. Yes 2. Heaven 3. Yes ACROSS 1. Eternity 2. Earth

**OBSTRUCTION**

- Find a partner. One will be "x" and one will be "o".
- Write your shape in a square. Shade in all the squares around it.
- The next player will write their shape in a square and shade the squares around it.
- The first player who can't make a move loses!







## FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE



**Remember this:** One day God will remove sin, sadness and death and make all things new.

**Read this:** Revelation 21:1–5; 22:1–5

**Say this:** This passage of Scripture comes at the end of the Bible and it is so full of beautiful hope. Now, you may be asking, “But last week, we talked about how Jesus overcame sin and death. If that’s true, then why are there so many things sad around us? Why do pets die and friends move away? Why do wars happen and moms and dads get divorced? If Jesus is alive, why is there still so much sadness?”

The answer is that sin has been defeated but not finally and fully destroyed. Jesus’ death on the cross dealt with the penalty of sin but we still live in a beautiful broken world because Jesus has not fully dealt with the pain of sin.

When Adam and Eve sinned they introduced sorrow, sadness and loss into our world. They were living in a world where there was no pain because of sin. But then sin changed all that. And it’s been like that ever since. We can even look back at church history to see this. For a long time, when situations would happen that would cause God’s people to feel the weight and sorrow caused by the sinful actions of fallen man or by fallen nature, they would say “Maranatha.” This is a big word that means “come quickly Jesus.”

Our passage is an answer to that cry that comes from a broken heart. God gives us this promise based on all the promises that have come before. Jesus will return and “He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

No more tears, no more pain, no more sadness. Because why? It says in the next verse. Because Jesus is coming back to make all things new, to recreate our world in some miraculous way where it stays the beautiful creation that He made in the beginning, but is remade into what it was always meant to be.

God is going to remake our world free of sin. What a day that will be.

Maranatha.

**Pray this:** Jesus come quickly. Our world is broken by sin. We need you more than ever. Thank you for saving us from the power of sin. We ask you to help us work to bring the hope of your Gospel to the world that needs it so much. Thank you for your promise that keeps us on difficult and sad days. Help us to trust you more and more. Our prayer today is this. Come quickly Jesus.

**Sing this:** “Soon and Very Soon”



## MEMORY VERSE

**Revelation 21:4-5 :** He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.”



# Week 8

# RESTORATION: JESUS IS ALIVE



## MAKE A SONG



### Song Reinforcement | Make it stick and give it away

#### 1. Sock puppet performance.

Dig out some old socks and draw faces on them with markers. Name your puppets. Now let them perform the song. The rule: your puppets don't get to check a phone. They have to know it. If they don't, they'll have to improvise, which is also fine and probably funnier.

#### 2. Send the video to someone who needs to hear this.

Film your puppet performance and send it to one specific person. This verse is a promise for people who are hurting. Think of one person in your life who might need to hear it right now. Tell them why you picked them.

### Bonus Summer Activity:

#### Make Your Own Instruments

Do this any week you want a craft activity alongside the music. All you need is stuff from around the house.

- **Shaker:** Pour dried rice or beans into an empty water bottle or plastic container. Seal it tight.
- **Drum:** Flip over a pot, tupperware container or an empty oatmeal canister. Use a wooden spoon.
- **Tambourine:** Staple or tape two paper plates together with a handful of dried beans or pennies inside.
- **Rubber band guitar:** Stretch rubber bands of different thicknesses across an open shoebox or tissue box. Pluck away.

Once everyone has an instrument, perform whichever song your family knows best. Or all of them.



## SUMMER CHALLENGE

Clean up something broken or messy and talk about restoration.

Stargaze and talk about God's forever kingdom.

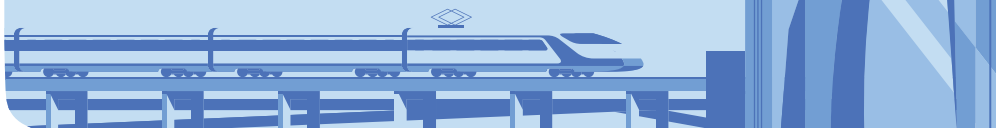
Go get a treat and celebrate the hope we have in Jesus.

Draw what you think the new creation might look like.

Make a family collage of things that are beautiful, joyful and good.

Go outside and fly a kite.

Drive to the closest, most beautiful place near you and talk about the promise of new creation.







# MEMORY VERSE ✨

*Week 1*

**Genesis 1:1-2** : In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.



# MEMORY VERSE ✨

*Week 2*

**John 3:16-17** : For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.



# MEMORY VERSE ✨

*Week 3*

**Romans 5:6-8** : For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.



# MEMORY VERSE ✨

*Week 4*

**Romans 5:6-8** : For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.



# MEMORY VERSE ✘



Week 5

**John 3:16-17** : For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.



Week 6



# MEMORY VERSE ✘

**John 3:16-17** : For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.



# MEMORY VERSE ✘



Week 7

**Revelation 21:4-5** : He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."



Week 8



# MEMORY VERSE ✘

**Revelation 21:4-5** : He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."



# ALL SUMMER CHALLENGES

- Go for a nature walk with your family.
- Go for ice cream as a family.
- Everyone say the memory verse in the car on the way to church.
- Go to a park to play.
- Help an elderly friend or neighbor with their yardwork.
- Have a picnic in your backyard and keep a list everything you hear and see in creation.
- Make something out of playdough.
- Have each member of your family draw a portrait of another member.
- At dinner, ask each person to share one way another family member reflects God's goodness.
- Make or write something encouraging for someone outside your family.
- Play a game together as a family.
- Create a gift or craft for someone and use it as a way to show love.
- Go on a prayer walk and pray for the people in the homes around you.
- Sit in a different spot at church. Meet someone you don't know.
- Truth or Lie Game — Say simple statements and let kids guess whether they are true or false.
- Obstacle Course Obedience Game — Blindfold a family member and guide them through obstacles by learning to listen to the voice of the person guiding them.
- Have a family movie night.
- Swim in a Lake or Go to a Pool.
- Do one hidden act of kindness for a sibling, neighbor or friend.
- Trust Walk — Blindfold one family member at a time and have another gently guide them through the yard or a room.
- Build a Blanket Fort.
- Bake bread or cookies and celebrate God's mercy.
- Act out the parable of the lost son.
- Make a family list of ways God has been kind.
- Wave hello at everyone you see today.
- Make a "forgiven" sign or banner.
- Invite a family who is new to your church over for lunch after service.
- Have a family bonfire. Ask each person to write out a sin they struggle with and then throw it in the fire to remember God's forgiveness.
- Play an obedience game like Red Light, Green Light.
- Make a crown that says "Jesus is King."
- Build a simple "path" with chalk and talk about following God's way.
- Set a family challenge to obey quickly and joyfully for one day.
- Serve someone in the family without being asked.
- Go on a hike and talk about Jesus in the wilderness.
- Call a grandparent or older church member and ask them to tell you a story of how they obeyed God when it was hard.
- Use chalk to draw and decorate a cross on the sidewalk or your driveway.
- Make a thank-you card to Jesus with words or pictures.
- Watch the sunset and thank Jesus for His sacrifice.
- Light a candle at dinner and remember Jesus' love.
- Share a family story of sacrifice or serving.
- Say a prayer of thanksgiving to Jesus for His life and death for you.
- Each adult should take turns telling their kids the story of how they came to faith.
- Go on a sunrise walk.
- Have a celebration breakfast.
- Blow bubbles outside and talk about joy and new life.
- Plant a flower or a tree to symbolize new life.
- Build an empty tomb using couch cushions and pillows.
- Send a card to someone who lost a loved one this year.
- Have a family celebration dance party.
- Clean up something broken or messy and talk about restoration.
- Stargaze and talk about God's forever kingdom.
- Go get a treat and celebrate the hope we have in Jesus.
- Draw what you think the new creation might look like.
- Make a family collage of things that are beautiful, joyful and good.
- Go outside and fly a kite.
- Drive to the closest, most beautiful place near you and talk about the promise of new creation.