

Dear Parents,

This week, our story is about a Message from God, from **Deuteronomy 6:1-9**. {Spark Storybook Bible, pgs. 100-101}

* Note: if you have younger children, we suggest reading the story from a Children's storybook Bible. Here are a couple that we use in Children's Ministry:



The Spark Storybook Bible

https://www.amazon.com/Spark-Story-Bible-Thisted-Arthur/dp/0806670495/ref=sr_1_3?crid=30QILUKAYP4XF&keywords=spark+story+bible+for+kids&qid=1584457527&sprefix=spark+story%2Caps%2C179&sr=8-3

The Jesus Storybook Bible

https://www.amazon.com/Jesus-Storybook-Bible-Every-Whispers/dp/0310708257/ref=sr_1_2?crid=1T8A9LYWG2O4N&keywords=jesus+storybook+bible+for+kids&qid=1584457572&sprefix=jesus+storybook%2Caps%2C172&sr=8-2

Parents ~ if you're looking for creative ways to retell the Bible story to your children, check out the attached page called "5 Ways to Retell a Bible Story with Kids". There are some fun ideas on there that you can do at home!

Let's listen to the Bible story about Moses sharing a message from God. Moses tells us what it means to be part of God's family.

*** Read the Bible story together ***

Let's pretend we're in the story. Let's pretend to do what God told the people to do. God told the people to remember God when they laid down (pause to lie down) and when they got up (pause to get up), when they went away (pause to walk away) and when they were at home (pause to come back). God wanted the people to remember that God was always around them.

Have a brief conversation about the story. Ask the kids these questions:

1. **Give me the last three words to this sentence: Love God with everything you _____, _____, and _____.** (say, think, do)
2. **How would the people remember God in their new home?** (They would teach their children about God and talk about God at home, when they went places, at bedtime, and in the morning.)
3. **How do you remember God in your life?** Affirm all responses

Let's listen to the scripture again. Especially verses 4 & 5. Tell me if any of it sounds familiar to you?

Love the LORD Your God

⁴ Israel, listen to me. The LORD is our God. The LORD is the one and only God. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your strength. ⁶ The commandments I give you today must be in your hearts. ⁷ Make sure your children learn them. Talk about them when you are at home. Talk about them when you walk along the road. Speak about them when you go to bed. And speak about them when you get up. ⁸ Write them down and tie them on your hands as a reminder. Also tie them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses. Also write them on your gates.

Say: **Do any of those words sound familiar to you? It's part of the Shema! We say the Shema at church in all of our worship services, and in our children's worship time on Sunday mornings. And then after the Shema, what does it say? That we should talk about these commandments all the time, and we should teach them to our children.**

Say: **Do you know what a mezuzah is? A mezuzah is a beautiful small case that contains a scroll of paper. The words from Deuteronomy are written on the paper. Many Jewish families put a mezuzah on their front door to honor God. I wonder what it would be like to see a sign to honor God when we come home to the door of our home?**



Optional Activity: Make Your Own Scroll

* supplies needed: strips of paper, markers or pencils, ribbon or string, scissors

Write the scripture out on a large piece of paper for your kids: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might."
Deuteronomy 6:5

Moses gave the people a message from God. It's good to remember that message. We can remember it by writing it on a special piece of paper that rolls up. We can make our own scrolls. Take one of the strips of paper, and copy the words of Deuteronomy 6:5 on it. Show your kids the written the verse, so they know what to copy. **When you are finished writing, roll up your strip of paper. Cut a piece of ribbon or string, and tie it around your scroll.** Help your kids with this activity as needed.

Want to do more? Click [HERE](#) for a "Make your own Mezuzah" craft from Kids Corner.

Family Conversations

1. What do we have in our house that shows we belong to God?
2. How can we help each other love God in all we say, think, and do?
3. What else can we do to make our faith a bigger part of our lives?
4. Talk about what special message God might give your family.



What do you see?

Whenever you are in or see a large group of people, look around and think, "All of these people are part of God's family?"



What do you hear?

When you hear the word "love" remember God's message: "Love God with all you say, think, and do."

Family Prayer

*Hold hands together for this prayer.

We give you thanks, O God, for your constant love. Help us to love you in all we say, think, and do.
Amen.

5 WAYS TO

RETELL A BIBLE STORY WITH KIDS

A great way for kids (and adults!) to remember God's story and to experience it more deeply is to retell it in ways that engage their head, heart, and hands.

Get inspired with these easy ideas for retelling a Bible story.

1 BUILD

Use building blocks or play dough to recreate scenes from the story. Work together or build scenes individually and then show and tell each other about what you've made.

2 DRAW

There are lots of ways to use art to tell stories: Have each person draw a picture of a different part of the story; then put the pictures together and tell the story again. Pick a word from the story and illustrate it. Make a cartoon strip. Sketch pictures of what you're imagining as the story or text is being read; then compare your thoughts.

3 SING

Make up a tune (or use one that's familiar), and turn the story into a song. Or look for a version of the story that's already been recorded, and learn it together. (We love the Bible story songs written and recorded by *Rain for Roots*.)

4 ACT

Use puppets (socks, dolls, or utensils will do!) or yourselves to act out the story. Consider taking photos of each scene and printing them as a book or comic strip. Another fun idea is to assign readers to read the dialog and/or assign sound effects to particular words, and to reread the story together.

5 WONDER


Ask open-ended questions that have no "right or wrong" answers. For example,

- **I wonder what . . .** (I wonder what Jonah thought about inside the fish . . . ?
I wonder what you would have thought about . . . ?)
- **I wonder how . . .** (I wonder how it felt to cross the Red Sea . . . ?
I wonder how this story makes you feel . . . ?)
- **I wonder who . . .** (I wonder who the shepherds told first about meeting baby Jesus . . . ?
I wonder who you would have run to tell . . . ?)
- **I wonder why . . .** (I wonder why Jesus told stories to people . . . ?
I wonder why we don't always do what God asks us to do . . . ?)

A Message from God



Moses said, "Teach your children about God!"



You shall love
the **LORD** your
God
with all your
heart
and with all
your soul
and with all
your strength.

Deuteronomy 6:5

Find God's Love Everywhere

Moses told the people God's message and I can tell others. We can find and share God's love everyday and everywhere!



Try to find these words:

- MOSES
- LOVE
- GOD
- HEART
- SAY
- THINK
- DO
- SCROLL
- DOOR
- MESSAGE

Find God's Love Everywhere

Solution Page

Moses told the people God's message and I can tell others. We can find and share God's love everyday and everywhere!



Try to find these words:

MOSES
 LOVE
 GOD
 HEART
 SAY
 THINK
 DO
 SCROLL
 DOOR
 MESSAGE

A Message from God

Moses was talking to the Israelites before they moved into their new country. Moses said, “Come here. I have a message from God!” Everyone turned to listen to Moses. “This is what God says,” said Moses. “There is only one God, and we are part of God’s family! Love God with everything you say, think, and do!”



The people nodded. They were thankful for the new country God was giving them. But, how would they remember God in this new home? What if they forgot? Moses said, “Teach your children about God. Talk about God at home, when you go places, at bedtime, *and* in the morning. Remember, we belong to God!”

Moses was right. The people told their children stories about God while they kept traveling. They were moving to a new country, and they were God’s family.

★ **Look around your room. What things do you see that make you think about God? Grab one and tell someone in your family why it helps you remember God.**

