



Looking for ways to disciple your kids at home?

Want to connect what is happening at our Sunday gatherings with every other day of the week?

LOOK HERE!

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- to do together
- to do individually

What we are Teaching...

During the Christmas season we like to start in the gospel we will be studying until Resurrection Sunday. This 2021 we will be learning in the gospel of Matthew. So that is where we will look for our advent scriptures in December 2020.

Matthew is a Gospel, which literally translates as “good news.” This term “good news” was commonly used in the era that Jesus lived. It was used when an army would take over or a new Cesar would come to power. They would say it is “good news” that so and so now has the power.

But in the Bible we call the four books that speak about Jesus’ life on earth, death and resurrection the “gospels.” These four books don’t talk about a roman emperor or a new government taking power. They show us a whole new kind of kingdom, a whole new kind of king who comes to power and uses it not for Himself. Jesus is the king of a kingdom that is upside down from the way power has seemed to work throughout history.

We hope in Quest Kids that your kids can learn, hear, and experience who Jesus is and what His kingdom is all about.

We could all spend a long long long time in Matthew and we should. I encourage you and your family to read Matthew and watch the Bible Project’s Matthew videos. However in December and January we will be looking at in particular:

Matthew 1.1-17 God has had a plan throughout all the Old Testament (the books of the Bible leading up to Matthew, before the birth of Jesus). Through this seemingly boring genealogy a Jewish person would be reminded of the rich history of God making a way for His people, trying to be with them, as well as the people’s continued rebellion against His love. But the genealogy ends with Jesus because Matthew is pointing us to the fact that Jesus is the culmination, climax, the hero, the key to all that has gone before.

Matthew 1.18-25 So who is Jesus then? What does it mean to be the culmination of all the hopes of the Old Testament? First he is called Jesus which is greek for the Hebrew name Joshua which means God is salvation. However what really throws this for a twist is that an angel said that Jesus will save his people... so which is it? God or Jesus? Who is going to do the saving? And that is where Jesus' second name comes in "Immanuel which means God with us." He isn't just another prophet or judge or king to be an instrument of God for the purpose of saving the people. Oh no... this is God Himself, stepping down from the throne to be with us, to save us.

Matthew 2 This is some wonderful news! How exciting! God is here! But wait... angry officials, the murder of innocent children, being on the run... How? What? The happenings of Matthew 2 leave the reader with the head and heart confused. If Jesus is God then why? Why can't He catch a break? He is the King! But He gets no kingly treatment. The terrible and perplexing early years of Jesus' earthly life do not stop or hinder who He is or what He came here do. He is with us, in the pain, the mess of humanity. He isn't spared the heaviness of living in a broken world, but He isn't stopped either.

Matthew 4 In this chapter we will explore Jesus' announcing of His kingdom. How does one even do that? And does the way Jesus do it tell us anything about Him? About His kingdom?

Matthew 5-7 This is the famous Sermon on the Mount a vivid description of the values of the upside down kingdom. The poor and outcast are wanted, the sad are comforted. The motives of the heart are the what is really important.

Matthew 6.32-34 This week we will spend extra time on our new memory verse, mediating on it. God is our Father and we do not need to fear because He will take care of us.

Matthew 8-9 We will look at how people responded to Jesus' kingdom and then think of our response. Jesus welcomes the outsider (the leper), the enemy (the centurion), and the inner circle (Peter's mother in law). But even though Jesus brings healing wherever He goes, not everyone accepts Him for who He is (pharisees when Jesus heals the paralytic)

Family Devotions...

For December each week

We will be passing these out with a candle on Sundays. You can also contact Pastor Steen directly to get a printed copy and a candle.

ADVENT FAMILY DEVOTIONS



Intentionally disciple your kids toward a growing relationship with Jesus

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ADVENT FAMILY DEVOTIONS week one

LIGHT THE CANDLE

MEMORIZE
Hebrews 10.23

READ
Isaiah 9.6-7

SING OR LISTEN TO
O Come O Come Emmanuel

THIS WEEK FOCUS ON
The prophecies of the coming King and HOPE

Sp Adobe Spark

ADVENT FAMILY DEVOTIONS week two

LIGHT THE CANDLE

MEMORIZE
Romans 5.1

READ
Matthew 1.18-25

SING OR LISTEN TO
O Little Town of Bethlehem

THIS WEEK FOCUS ON
Faith and the journey to Bethlehem

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ADVENT FAMILY DEVOTIONS week three

LIGHT THE CANDLE

MEMORIZE
Psalms 16.11

READ
Luke 8.-14

SING OR LISTEN TO
Hark the Herald Angels Sing + Joy to the world

THIS WEEK FOCUS ON
Joy and the shepherds

Sp Adobe Spark

ADVENT FAMILY DEVOTIONS week four

LIGHT THE CANDLE

MEMORIZE
Colossians 3.15

READ
Luke 2.15-22

SING OR LISTEN TO
Angels We Have Heard on High

THIS WEEK FOCUS ON
the angelic message of peace

Sp Adobe Spark

ADVENT FAMILY DEVOTIONS Christmas Day

LIGHT THE CANDLE

MEMORIZE
Matthew 1.23

READ
John 1.1-5

SING OR LISTEN TO
Silent Night + Away in a Manger

THIS WEEK FOCUS ON
King of the universe with us

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For January

Read Matthew 6.24-34 in a Bible

Color pictures together of the verses about birds and flowers.

Ask

Why are these pictures silly?
Why does Jesus say birds and flowers don't go shopping?
Who takes care of them?

Pray

God show us who you are. Show us who takes care of us.

Read Matthew 6.32-33

Ask

Who does Jesus say takes care of us?
What we do differently if we really believed God takes care of us?

Read Matthew 9.10-13 in a Bible

Draw/write the word and cut out

- a tax collector
- Sinners
- Teachers of the law

Then put them into two categories: ones that obey God's law and ones that don't. Then put them in two categories one that Jesus was eating with in this passage and one He wasn't.

Ask

Do you notice anything weird?

Why doesn't Jesus ONLY spend time with the "good" law-abiding teachers of the law?

Does Jesus only love those who disobey? Why or why not?

Read: In other accounts Jesus eats with the teachers of law. Jesus is here to rescue everyone but it is up to each person to decide how they are going to respond to Jesus.

Ask:

How are the responses from the Pharisees/teachers of the law different than the responses of the tax collectors and sinners?

Pray God teach us how to respond to you. Show us yourself.

Journal How you think God wants you to respond to him

Memory Verse...

Matthew 1.23

And he shall be called Immanuel which means God is with us

Matthew 6.32-34a

For the gentiles seek after all these things and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow

Ways to practice the memory verse:

- say it every morning as a family
- write each word on a note card and see who can put it together the fastest.
- write it on mirrors or tape to mirrors
- turn it into a song

Scripture passages...

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|-----------|-----------|
| ○ 1.1-17 | ○ 6.19-24 |
| ○ 1.18-25 | ○ 6.25-34 |
| ○ 2 | ○ 8.1-4 |
| ○ 4 | ○ 8.5-13 |
| ○ 5.1-26 | ○ 8.14-22 |
| ○ 5.43-48 | ○ 9.1-8 |
| ○ 6.1-4 | ○ 9.10-13 |
| ○ 6.5-15 | |

Extra Activities...

- watch the Bible Project's videos on Matthew part 1 and 2
- Read the scripture passages and then draw pictures about what you heard
- Memorize the memory verse together as a family