

DEVOTIONAL

for parents



For a lot of us, recess is one of our favorite parts of the school day. We get to play dodgeball, hopscotch, or race our friends around the play area. Recess helps us to stay active so we can grow strong, but it also gives us a chance to grow in our relationships. In this five-week series, kids will discover through the stories in the books of Judges, Ruth, and 1 Samuel the unexpected ways God can help them grow. As they do, they'll learn how **God helps us grow stronger, helps us belong, answers our prayers, tells us what is true, and can use anything we give.**

Want to learn and grow alongside your kid as we go through this teaching series? You can! Spend a few minutes each week **studying** the passages of Scripture we'll be teaching, **praying** about what God wants to do in you and in your family, and **growing** by putting God's words into practice in your own life.

WEEK 1 God helps me grow stronger.

Judges 6-7; 2 Corinthians 4:5-9

STUDY

Take a moment to read the passages of Scripture we'll be covering this week. **What stands out to you and why?**

PRAY

Ask God to help your faith grow stronger.

GROW

So what's your next step? Do you need to make a plan to help strengthen your mind, body, or soul? Could you start a Bible study with friends? Whatever your next step is right now, take it.

WEEK 2 God helps me belong.

Ruth 1; Mark 3:31-35

STUDY

Take a moment to read the passages of Scripture we'll be covering this week. **What stands out to you and why?**

PRAY

Ask God to direct you toward someone who is looking for love and belonging.

GROW

So what's your next step? Could you do something for someone that makes them feel like they belong? Can you start a conversation with someone you don't know very well? How can you show God's love by helping others belong? Whatever your next step is right now, take it.

WEEK 3 God answers my prayers.

1 Samuel 1; Psalm 20

STUDY

Take a moment to read the passages of Scripture we'll be covering this week. **What stands out to you and why?**

PRAY

Say thank you for the prayers God has answered for you in the past.

GROW

So what's your next step? Do you need to pray like you really do expect God to answer you? Could you reflect more deeply on the ways God has answered your prayers in the past? Could you help someone else view prayer from a new perspective? Whatever your next step is right now, take it.

WEEK 4 God tells me what is true.

1 Samuel 3:1-20; Job 38:1-11

STUDY

Take a moment to read the passages of Scripture we'll be covering this week. **What stands out to you and why?**

PRAY

Ask God for help discerning and following what's true.

GROW

So what's your next step? Do you need to be more discerning about where you get your information or advice? Do you need to spend more time learning what God says is true? Could you help someone else see the truth God offers to us? Whatever your next step is right now, take it.

WEEK 5 God can use anything I give.

1 Samuel 9-10:1; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15

STUDY

Take a moment to read the passages of Scripture we'll be covering this week. **What stands out to you and why?**

PRAY

Let God know the gifts and resources you've been given are available for God to use.

GROW

So what's your next step? Do you need to reflect on all the gifts and resources you've been given? Do you need help learning to hold things with open hands? Could you ask someone to help you be generous with what God has given you? Whatever your next step is right now, take it.