

At Home Weekly is designed for you to use during the week with your son or daughter. You'll find out what they learned today at church, and you can help them prepare for next week by exploring the theme (or Ponder Point) and spending time together in God's Word.

WHAT WE LEARNED THIS WEEK

REMEMBER & CELEBRATE

Festival of First Fruits: Remembering and Celebrating God as Trustworthy

WHERE WE'RE HEADED NEXT TIME

PONDER POINT: GOD IS LOVE

David and Jonathan's Friendship

1 Samuel 19–20; 31:1–2; 2 Samuel 9:1–7

God's love is shown through the powerful friendship of David and Jonathan.

DID YOU KNOW?

Share these facts to get the conversation started.

- God used an unlikely friendship to exhibit His love. Jonathan was the heir to the throne, and David was anointed by God to succeed King Saul. Yet Jonathan showed no jealousy toward David.
- When King Saul enlisted the members of his court to aid in the death of David, Jonathan thwarted his father's efforts. King Saul was so intent on killing David that David was left with no options but to leave the king's court. Saul's own children protected David from their father under threat of treason.
- David was crowned king after the deaths of Saul and Jonathan. Keeping the covenant he made with his friend, David showed the Lord's kindness and love to Jonathan's remaining family for all of his days.

CONNECT AS A FAMILY

After dinner one day this week, talk with your children about their friends. Ask them who their friends are and why they chose them to be their friends. Tell them you're going to read a story in the Bible about some very special friends, David and Jonathan. Read **1 Samuel 19:1–7**. Explain to your children that Jonathan was King Saul's son, and Saul was jealous and mad at David. Then share with them that Jonathan promised David he'd protect him. Talk about what Jonathan said to his father about David. Then discuss how you see God's love being shown through Jonathan.

After reading the Scripture passage, discuss these questions together:

- How did Jonathan show God's love to David?
- What do we know to be true about God's love?
- How have you seen God's love in your own life?

These questions can easily extend into the rest of the week. Look for opportunities to bring conversations about how God Is Love into your everyday life as a family.

REMEMBER VERSE

The Remember Verse focuses on a character trait of God that's highlighted in next week's portion of The Big God Story.

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

BLESSING

Blessings are often used in the Bible. A blessing can be a prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), **may you trust and know the love of the Lord. May you know that He is your hope and your strength.**

For more information about blessing your child, go to truministry.com to the Parenting tab. And for more creative ideas on spiritually leading your family, visit HomeFrontMag.com.