SUM2579

FAMILY RESOURCES

JEREMIAH 10:6

6 No one is like you, Lord; you are great, and your name is mighty in power.

June 9: Hannah and Samuel 1 Samuel 1-3

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

- Hannah wanted a son and prayed desperately to God for one.
- God gave Hannah a son, Samuel.
- Hannah dedicated Samuel to God.
- God called Hannah's son to share God's story and plan.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- How does this story show God's greatness and power?
- Why is Samuel's response to God's call important?
- How can we hear from God today?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Play an echo game. Instruct your kids to repeat after you. Say silly phrases and see if your family can repeat them without laughing. Then discuss Samuel's calling as a prophet. Samuel would hear God's messages and then "echo" them to God's people.

June 16: The Ark Was Captured 1 Samuel 4-6

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

- Israel decided to take the ark of God into the battle.
- Israel lost, and the Philistines took the ark.
- The Philistines began to get sick in the cities where the ark was kept.
- God showed the Philistines that He is the one true God.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- How do we know God is the one true God?
- What things in our lives might we value more than God?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Walk through your neighborhood with your family. Take a paperclip and ask if your neighbors will trade it for something a little greater or more valuable. Continue trading up in this way. Remind your family that nothing and no one is greater than God.

June 23: Israel's First King 1 Samuel 4-6

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

- God's people wanted a king like the nations around them.
- God told Samuel to warn the people about having a king.
- The people still wanted a king, so God chose Saul.
- Saul disobeyed God and was not a good king.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Who was supposed to be Israel's King?
- Who is our King?
- What does it mean to worship Jesus as King?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Take your kids on individual outings. Let each kid choose where you go and what you do there. Talk to them about the authority human rulers have. Discuss how much greater God's authority and power are.

June 30: David Was Anointed 1 Samuel 16-17

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

- God sent Samuel to anoint the next king of Israel.
- At first, Samuel thought one of Jesse's older sons might be king.
- God told Samuel not to focus on appearances.
- God chose David to be king instead of Saul.
- David fought Goliath and won.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Did Jesus seem like a King while He was on earth?
- What powerful enemies did Jesus defeat for us?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Take your family to a large, empty parking lot. Ask your kids to draw a large target on the ground using sidewalk chalk. Use a water balloon slingshot to launch water balloons at the target. Discuss that it wasn't David's good aim that defeated Coliath. God gave David victory.

July 7: David Showed Mercy 1 Samuel 24

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

- Saul was jealous of David and wanted to kill him.
- David hid from Saul in a cave.
- Saul went into the cave but did not know David was there.
- David's men told David to hurt Saul.
- David showed mercy to Saul even though Saul hated him.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- How was David similar to Jesus in this story?
- Why does God want us to show mercy to others?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Use pillows or cushions to make a "cave." Spend time with your kids discussing mercy while sitting in the "cave."

July 14: God's Covenant with David 2 Samuel 6-7

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

- David wanted to build a temple for God.
- God told David that he would not build a temple, but David's son would build the temple.
- God promised that the Messiah would come from David's family.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why is it important that Jesus was born into David's family?
- Can you think of other promises God has kept?
- Can you think of promises God will keep in the future?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Do research to learn about some of the people in your family line. Talk to your kids about Jesus' family, and clarify that the Bible teaches us that God adopts us into His family when we trust in Jesus.

July 21: David's Kindness 2 Samuel 9

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

- David had promised Jonathan to show kindness to Jonathan's family.
- David learned that Jonathan's son Mephibosheth was alive.
- David showed kindness to Jonathan's son.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why was David's kindness to Mephibosheth surprising?
- How does David's kindness to Mephibosheth remind us of Jesus' kindness toward us?
- How and to whom can we show surprising kindness?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Organize or participate in a charity drive with your family. Talk about the kindness and generosity of David. Remind them that Jesus showed us the greatest kindness and generosity by giving His life to pay for our sin and give us new life with God.

July 28: David Sinned and was Restored

2 Samuel 11-12, Psalm 51

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

- David sinned with a woman named Bathsheba.
- David tried to hide his sin and killed Bathsheba's husband.
- Nathan helped David see his sin.
- David repented and God forgave him.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What does sin do to our relationships with God and other people?
- Who forgives our sin?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Purchase an old, worn down item or article of clothing from a thrift store. Work with your kids to restore that item. Look up tutorials on the Internet to learn to polish shoes, patch clothing, or even restain wood. Talk about how God makes sinners new.

August 4: David's Psalm Psalm 32

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

- David wrote a psalm to praise God.
- David compared God's love and care for people to a good shepherd's care for his sheep.
- David wrote that God protects His people from harm and blesses them.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What are some ways God has provided for you, specifically?
- How do you feel knowing that God loves and provides for His people?
- What is our greatest need, and how did God provide for it?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Visit a petting zoo. Take special care to see any sheep that may be there. Encourage your kids to ask questions to learn about how the sheep are cared for. Discuss God's love and care for people, focusing on how God sent Jesus for us.