

# HOME connection

OT Unit 1: Sharing Truth When No One Listens, Lesson 1

**D6 Family Theme:**  
Boldly Answer God's Call

## OBJECTIVES

**KNOW:** God has a plan for each of our lives.

**THINK:** God will give me what I need to do His will.

**DO:** Follow God's leading and plan for your life.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Jeremiah 1:1-19.** God Himself told Jeremiah what he was born for in this world. God knew all about Jeremiah even as his body was forming in the womb! God's task for Jeremiah was tough, but He would provide what he needed for it. Jeremiah needed to get ready for the work ahead.



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

God has a plan for our lives before we are even born. Pray with your family and thank God for His care and protection over us even before we are born. Pray that you and your family will continue to put God's plan first in your lives.



## DO: WALK WITH GOD

**OPTION 1:** Gather a gallon plastic bag and some sharpened pencils. Fill the plastic bag with water and ask your child what he thinks will happen if he sticks the pencils through the bag. He might answer, "the bag will rip open," or "the water will spill out." Have your child poke the pencils through the bag of water. The water should remain in the bag. Explain to your child that trusting God's plan is sometimes hard because we don't know what will happen. But we have to have faith that God knows what is best for us even when what He is asking us to do seems impossible.

**OPTION 2:** In what ways might not wearing the right work clothes hinder doing a good job? [Examples: A mechanic won't get much work done on a car motor if he is wearing a suit. A baseball player would not play as well in football gear or a cycling suit.] We need to be ready to do the work God has given us to do.

## THIS WEEK IN D6 CURRICULUM:



Today your child learned God loved His people, the Israelites, but they were making bad choices. God sent a prophet named Jeremiah to tell the Israelites to return to His ways. Jeremiah knew **God's Word Is Special** and he shared God's message with the people.



Today your student learned the people of Israel and Judah were not following God. So He sent a prophet named Jeremiah to warn the people to turn from sin and return to Him. Jeremiah was faithful and obedient to boldly share God's message. Your student was encouraged be faithful and obedient to God like Jeremiah was.



God had a plan for Jeremiah, even before the prophet was born! That's what your teenagers learned about today. Young people often struggle with a sense of identity and purpose as well as pressure to identify a future vocation. Knowing that God can see the future and equip us for it is both comforting and challenging. Encourage your teen to explore two or three careers that fit her interest and personality, shadow someone working in those areas, and pray earnestly for God's direction. We can trust God to plan good things for us because He knows us very well.



*The Brink* magazine went out today. The group members discussed what it means to answer God's call and were challenged to follow God's leading.



*FUSION* and *FUSIONnext* magazines went out this week, as well as the *What's Up?* newsletter for parents of teens. Groups discussed how God has a plan for each of our lives and will give us what we need to do His will. Members were encouraged to follow God's leading and His plan for their lives.

# HOME connection

OT Unit: Sharing Truth When No One Listens, Lesson 2

## D6 Family Theme:

Faithfully Share God's Message

## OBJECTIVES

**Know:** God wants us to share the message that He desires our love and obedience more than ritual worship.

**Think:** I please God by walking in loving obedience and sharing the message with others.

**Do:** Walk with God and share His message with others.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Jeremiah 7:1-34.** God gave Israel a wonderful land. Yet for most of their history they turned away from God. They lived as though the land was theirs by natural right, not a divine gift. They even sacrificed their own children to foreign gods. God simply could not allow such people to remain.



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

Walk with God each day in a close, obedient relationship. Pray that you and your family will not only repent daily but will spend time with God, seeking His will for your lives.



## DO: WALK WITH GOD

**OPTION 1:** Have your family practice sharing the gospel with one another. You can take turns being the believer and unbeliever. You can research different methods of sharing the gospel to find which one you are most comfortable with, like the Evangicube or the Wordless Book (see these at the website of Let the Children Come). As a family, come up with some questions that an unbeliever might ask about God or the Bible. Together, search through the Bible to find the answers. Talk about how it is so important for us to be prepared to share God's love and salvation to those around us. The more you practice and prepare, the more faithfully you can share God's message.

**OPTION 2:** Ask your family to share examples of how people have sacrificed for their children, as well as how people have sacrificed their children for something else! What do they think about the people in their examples?



**PRE-SCHOOL**

Today your child learned God showed Jeremiah two baskets—one with good figs and the other with rotten figs. God said they were like His people. The good figs were like the people who obeyed Him. The rotten ones were like those who did not. God used Jeremiah to help His people. Jeremiah knew **God's Word Is Special.**



**K & 1 GRADE**



**2 & 3 GRADE**



**4 & 5 GRADE**

Today your student learned Jeremiah gave a message of judgment to God's people. But God also gave them a message of hope. If the people would turn away from sin and turn back to Him, He would forgive them. We are to faithfully share God's message of hope and forgiveness through Jesus with those around us.



**YOUNG TEEN**



**HIGH SCHOOL**

God sees below the surface. When we outwardly conform to religious practices but inwardly rebel, He is not fooled. When we say the right words but have the wrong attitudes, He is not pleased. When we show up at church on Sunday but fail to obey Him the rest of the week, our worship does not honor Him. Help your teens make the connection between actions and attitudes this week by an acting challenge. See which one of you can sound most excited about something that person does not like; you might talk about how delightful it is to do laundry while your child raves about Brussel sprouts, for example. God knows the truth about us, no matter what our outward words and actions convey.



**YOUNG ADULT**

The group examined the importance of sharing God's Word. God is more concerned about our obedience than our rituals. We need to share that truth with others.



**ADULT**

*FUSION* groups discussed how God wants us to share the message that He desires our love and obedience more than ritual worship. Members were challenged to walk with God and share His message with others.

# HOME connection

OT Unit: Sharing Truth When No One Listens, Lesson 3

## D6 Family Theme:

Patently Trust God's Sovereignty

## OBJECTIVES

**Know:** God is aware of sin and injustice and will bring judgment upon it.

**Think:** God will someday make all things right.

**Do:** Trust God to deal with sin, and share the good news of forgiveness with others.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Jeremiah 12:1-17.** God told Jeremiah that he hadn't seen anything yet. The prophet was about to find out just how much of a jungle it truly was out there. He needed to lose any illusions he might have had about the oh-so-civilized realm of the capital city (and even his own home town). He faced a wild thicket of danger.



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

Trust God when facing injustice and persecution. Pray that when you and your family face trials in life, you will remember that God is in control. He can use those situations to shape you into a better person.

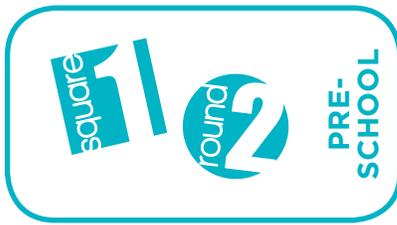


## DO: WALK WITH GOD

**OPTION 1:** Gather two pages of newspaper. Give the first one to your child sideways (facing the direction the print is set up in). Ask her to rip it in a straight line. She should have a hard time doing this. Next, give her a newspaper facing the right direction (the direction of the columns) and ask her again to rip it in a straight line. The tears should be a lot straighter this time. When we try to live by our own rules and judge the sin around us, our lives can get chaotic. However, when we allow God to control our lives and to judge the sins around us, our lives go a lot smoother.

**OPTION 2:** Ask your family about the phrase "*It's a jungle out there.*" How well does that apply to their experience in life? To what extent does it encourage—or discourage—you?

## THIS WEEK IN D6 CURRICULUM:



Today your child learned Jeremiah told the Israelites to stop worshipping gods that were not real. He told the people there is only one true God. The Israelites did not obey God's words, so He punished them. We can obey and trust the Bible. We know **God's Word Is Special**.



Today your student learned trusting God gives us peace. Jeremiah struggled when he saw people disobey God and not suffer the consequences for their actions. But God reminded Jeremiah to continue to trust and accept His words of truth about His sovereignty over all things.



Watch a detective show or an old episode of *Perry Mason*, and see if your family can guess the guilty person after the first five minutes. Today your teens learned that God always brings perfect justice. Even when we are outraged by unfairness or wrongdoing, God will ultimately do what is right and best and just. We must trust Him, wait patiently for His timing, and rejoice in His forgiveness and compassion.



The group members examined the topic of sovereignty and were challenged to trust God to deal with evil in the world, even when life seems unfair.



Adults considered how God is aware of sin and injustice and will bring judgment upon it. They were encouraged to trust God to deal with sin. We should share the good news of forgiveness with others.

# HOME connection

OT Unit: Sharing Truth When No One Listens, Lesson 4

## D6 Family Theme:

Joyfully Hope in God's Promise

## OBJECTIVES

**Know:** God provides forgiveness and renewal for His repentant children.

**Think:** I find satisfaction and joy in walking with God.

**Do:** Repent of all sin and rejoice in God's mercy.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Jeremiah 31:1-40.** The awful sins of Israel and Judah had placed them squarely on God's "bad side." He had to bring the judgment their rebellion deserved. Yet He promised to restore them, in unbelievable measure. That restoration would require replacing an old covenant with a new one, sinful hearts with new ones.



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

Experience true joy by walking in a right relationship with God. Pray that you and your family will not view Christianity as a list of don'ts but as a way to experience life to the fullest.



## DO: WALK WITH GOD

**OPTION 1:** Gather 1/4 cup white vinegar, 1 tsp salt, a non-metal bowl, a bowl of water, and some dirty pennies. Mix together the vinegar and salt into the non-metal bowl until the salt is dissolved. Drop the dirty pennies in for about 30 seconds. Then, drop them in the bowl of water. Take them out and compare them to other dirty pennies. Talk about how you restored the pennies and made them like new. In the same way, God provides forgiveness for His children and makes them a new creation.

**OPTION 2:** Discuss replacing something old, inefficient, or worn out with something new and functional. It could be an appliance, a tool, a car, etc. Why do we replace things? How might God replace things?

## THIS WEEK IN D6 CURRICULUM:



Today your child learned God sent Jeremiah to the potter's shop where the potter was making a clay jar, but then crushed it into a lump of clay. The Israelites were like the clay in God's hands. The Israelites were not obeying Him and they would be punished. **God's Word Is Special** and helps us learn how to make good choices.



Today your student learned through Jeremiah's example to joyfully hope in God's promises. He or she learned God promised Jeremiah to love, father, shepherd, strengthen, and redeem His people. The promises God made to Jeremiah are true for us too. We can rely on God's promises during difficult times.



The New Covenant was God's promise for a relationship with His people that went beyond rule-keeping. Their motive for obedience would come from a desire to please Him, not an avoidance of punishment. Your teens learned about that New Covenant today and God's offer for restoration when we repent of our sins. Talk with your teens about their motives in various relationships. Which incentives work better for them—avoiding punishment (think running laps) or awarding pleasure (think celebrating with ice cream)?



Group members studied the hope we can find in God's promises. They were challenged to repent of any sin they might be dealing with and walk in a right relationship with God.



*FUSION* groups considered how God provides forgiveness and renewal for His repentant children. Members were challenged to repent of all sin and rejoice in God's mercy.

# HOME connection

OT Unit: Sharing Truth When No One Listens, Lesson 5

## D6 Family Theme:

Confidently Honor God's Word

## OBJECTIVES

**Know:** God preserved His word when the king and the people rejected it and tried to do away with it.

**Think:** God's Word is my final authority for what I believe and how I live.

**Do:** Honor God's Word by accepting it and doing what it says to do.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Jeremiah 36:1-32.** God's message to King Jehoiakim was more important than any subpoena. Yet the king showed complete disrespect for what God said. Still, God had the last word. He told Jeremiah to prepare a second, expanded, copy instead. Just a few years later, God did exactly as He'd promised.



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

Share God's Word so people have an opportunity to repent and be saved. Pray that you and your family will look for opportunities to share the gospel with the people you come into contact with every day.



## DO: WALK WITH GOD

**OPTION 1:** Gather a sponge, a spray bottle of water, and a bowl of water. Have your child spray the sponge with one squirt of water. Tell him to wring out the sponge and notice how little water comes out. Next, have him dunk the sponge into the bowl of water and when he wrings it out, notice how much water comes out. Talk with him about how this represents how much time we spend in God's Word. When he just reads the Bible to check it off a list and doesn't meditate on and apply it, he is like the spray bottle sponge. But when we read the Bible a lot and meditate on it day and night, we soak up so much more of it (like the sponge in the bowl).

**OPTION 2:** What experiences of "getting the last word" or "getting the last laugh" have you or your family members had?



PRE-SCHOOL

Today your child learned Jeremiah shared God's messages with many different kings. Some were good and followed God. Other kings were not good and did not obey God. We should obey God's Word. We know **God's Word Is Special**. We should obey what He says and share His message with others like Jeremiah did.



K & 1 GRADE



2 & 3 GRADE



4 & 5 GRADE

Today your student learned Jeremiah spoke God's words to Baruch who wrote them on a scroll. They honored God's words. Baruch read the scroll to different people, including King Jehoiakim, who cut and threw the scroll in a fire as a sign of rejecting God's words. Your student was challenged to honor God in his or her choices.



YOUNG TEEN



HIGH SCHOOL

God's Word will stand forever. Nothing will ever overcome it. Nothing will destroy it. In today's lessons, your teens reflected on Jeremiah's words, recorded by the scribe Baruch, which met rejection from Michaiah and King Jehoiakim. Their destructive acts could not stand against the power of God's Word. See if you can find the movie, *God's Outlaw: The Story of William Tyndale*, and watch it together to learn more about God's providence in protecting His Word and making it available for us in our own language.



YOUNG ADULT

The group members studied the importance of God's Word and how God has preserved it. They were encouraged to honor God's Word by accepting it and obeying its commandments.



ADULT

*FUSION* groups examined how God preserved His Word when the king and the people rejected it and tried to do away with it. Members were encouraged to honor God's Word by accepting it and doing what it says to do.

# HOME connection

NT Unit: The Grave Could Not Hold Him, Lesson 1

## D6 Family Theme:

Suffering of Christ

## OBJECTIVES

**Know:** Christ suffered to bring us salvation.

**Think:** I love and serve Christ because of what He has done for me.

**Do:** Submit to God's will and share the truth of the gospel no matter the cost.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Mark 14:32-65.** Suffering is hard to experience but is also difficult to witness, especially when the person suffering is undeserving of it.



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

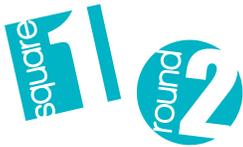
Follow Christ's example and submit to God's will, no matter how difficult. Pray that you and your family will always follow God's will even when He calls you to do things that are out of your comfort zone.



## DO: WALK WITH GOD

**OPTION 1:** Find a maze to print out or draw your own. Have your child find his way from start to finish without going through the lines. Sometimes it is hard to follow God's will, but it is important to follow because He knows what is best for us. Jesus followed God's will by dying on the cross even though it caused His suffering. He knew it was the only way to bring us salvation.

**OPTION 2:** Find a high school yearbook and read the superlatives ascribed in it. Superlatives were "titles" given to individuals within the graduating class and included such things as, "most likely to succeed," "class clown," and "cutest couple." Allow your family to determine some superlatives (serious or comical) to other family members. Say, "If Jesus were assigned specific superlatives by His classmates, He may have been considered, 'most kind,' or 'most unique family' or 'best speaker.' It is doubtful, however, that anyone would have assigned to Him the title, 'most likely to suffer and die.'"



**PRE-SCHOOL**

Today your child learned the people shouted “Hosanna” to show their love and joy for Jesus as He entered Jerusalem. But one of Jesus’ disciples, Judas, betrayed Him and He was arrested. Jesus was crucified on the cross where He died. The people did not believe **Jesus Is the Risen King**.



**K & 1 GRADE**



**2 & 3 GRADE**



**4 & 5 GRADE**

This month your student learned Judas betrayed Jesus leading to His arrest. Peter denied knowing Jesus three times, just as Jesus had predicted. Jesus was tried and sentenced to crucifixion. Your student learned it was Jesus’ choice to willingly die on the cross for our sin. Because of that, we should praise and love Him every day.



**YOUNG TEEN**



**HIGH SCHOOL**

Jesus Christ not only suffered the physical pain of being beaten and crucified, but He also endured the betrayal and abandonment of His followers. Even the Heavenly Father had to turn away when Christ took our sins to suffer in our place. Go to [goodsalt.com](http://goodsalt.com) and challenge your teens to find a picture that best illustrates the suffering of Christ. Talk together about what our response should be to His great sacrifice.



**YOUNG ADULT**

*Brink* students studied the suffering of Christ from Mark 14. Group members were challenged to submit to God’s will and share the truth of the gospel. In this way we honor Christ and follow the Great Commission.



**ADULT**

Adults discussed how Christ suffered to bring us salvation. Members were encouraged to submit to God’s will and share the truth of the gospel no matter the cost.

# HOME connection

NT Unit: The Grave Could Not Hold Him, Lesson 2

## D6 Family Theme:

Resurrection of Christ

## OBJECTIVES

**Know:** Jesus suffered, paid the penalty for our sins on the cross, and rose to give us eternal life.

**Think:** I give my all to Christ because He died on the cross to save me.

**Do:** Walk with God and serve Him because Christ has saved us.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Mark 15:16—16:8.** There is no story any more debated or significant than the story of the resurrection. This story, however, provides the foundation upon which all of Christianity stands.



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

Live a life of worship and service because Christ suffered for us. Pray with your family and thank God for His sacrifice on the cross. Pray that you and your family will daily glorify God with the decisions that you make.



## DO: WALK WITH GOD

**OPTION 1:** Salvation is only guaranteed through what Christ did on the cross. Gather a glass plate, coin, candle, glass cup, and some colored water. Place the coin on the side of the plate, which represents humans, then put water on the plate until the coin is covered, which represents our sin. Light the candle, which represents Jesus, and put it in the middle of the plate. Place the glass cup over the lit candle, and the water should start moving into the cup. Jesus' death on the cross removed our sins, just like the candle removed the water from the penny!

**OPTION 2:** Share the following “news” or “fake news” stories. Use the following, or choose some of your own and ask your family to answer aloud whether it is “news” or “fake news.”

Man's 174-mph Sneeze Blows His Wife's Hair Off (fake news)

Husband's Bad Breath Kills His Wife (fake news)

Abraham Lincoln Was a Woman (Shocking Photos Found in White House Basement) (fake news)

Man Named Jesus Rose From The Dead (news)



**PRE-SCHOOL**

Today your child learned after Jesus died, a rich man named Joseph took His body and placed it in a guarded tomb. Three days later Mary, Salome, and Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and discovered it was empty. An angel told the women Jesus was not there; He had risen. They knew **Jesus Is the Risen King**.



**K & 1 GRADE**



**2 & 3 GRADE**



**4 & 5 GRADE**

Today your student learned after Jesus died, He was buried in a tomb. His friends, Mary Magdalene and other women, came to put spices on His body when they discovered the tomb was empty. An angel told the women Jesus had risen; He was not there. Jesus appeared to His disciples. Jesus is the true reason for celebrating Easter. He is alive.



**YOUNG TEEN**



**HIGH SCHOOL**

Today your student reflected on the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. Think together about the evidence for Jesus' death. The authorities verified it; He was wrapped in grave clothes and buried in a sealed tomb. He remained in the tomb for three days. Then think about the evidence of His resurrection. No one presented any contrary proof—no body was produced, no plots were uncovered, no mystical circumstances were present. There were eye-witness accounts of the empty grave clothes, the empty tomb, and the angel messengers. Multiple people at multiple times made contact with the risen Christ. This certainty of Christ's resurrection gives us joy and victory.



**YOUNG ADULT**

Group members studied the resurrection of Jesus and were challenged to live boldly for Christ, knowing we have eternal life and our suffering on this earth is nothing compared to the glory that awaits us in Heaven.



**ADULT**

*FUSION* groups discussed how Jesus suffered, paid the penalty for our sins on the cross, and rose again to give us eternal life. Group members were challenged to walk with God and serve Him because Christ has saved us.

# HOME connection

NT Unit: The Grave Could Not Hold Him, Lesson 3

## D6 Family Theme:

Ascension of Christ

## OBJECTIVES

**Know:** The Old Testament foretold Jesus' death and resurrection and that the gospel was to be preached to all peoples.

**Think:** I am a joyful witness for my risen Savior.

**Do:** Joyfully worship the risen Lord and spread the good news to all people.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Luke 24:44-53.** Of all the experiences the disciples had while with Jesus, the ascension certainly would rate near the top. This was the final event and would be forever etched in their minds. The ascension confirmed once and for all that Jesus was indeed exactly who He said He was.



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

Pray that you and your family will be joyful witnesses of the resurrection of Jesus. Give praise to God for Jesus, who ascended back into Heaven, is seated at God's right hand, and is at work making intercession for us.



## DO: WALK WITH GOD

**OPTION 1:** Have your children write down predictions about what they think will happen the next day. At the end of the next day sit down with your child and see how much they got correct. Talk with your child about how it is hard to predict the future, but the Bible predicted that Jesus would die on the cross and rise again years before it actually happened!

**OPTION 2:** Have each of your family members come up with an event from the life of Jesus that they wish they could have witnessed firsthand. It may be a particular miracle, the teaching of the Sermon on the Mount, or a post-resurrection appearance. Then talk about the reason why this event would be so meaningful for them to see.

## THIS WEEK IN D6 CURRICULUM:



PRE-SCHOOL

Today your child learned people saw Jesus after He rose from the grave. Jesus met two men walking to Emmaus. Jesus walked and ate with them before they knew who He was. His disciples also saw Jesus. He showed them the marks on His hands and feet. They knew and I know **Jesus Is the Risen King.**



K & 1 GRADE



2 & 3 GRADE



4 & 5 GRADE

Today your student learned after Jesus' resurrection and before His ascension into Heaven, many people saw Him. Jesus gave the disciples the mission to share the gospel with others. That mission is for us too. Everyone needs to know the good news of Jesus, and we are to tell others about Him.



YOUNG TEEN



HIGH SCHOOL

What happened after Easter? That's what your teens learned about this week in their D6 Bible study. The disciples on the road to Emmaus, the Great Commission, and His ascension into Heaven were Luke's reflection on Christ's last few days on earth. All of those events have implications for us. Talk with your teens about Christ's active role in Heaven (Romans 8:34) on our behalf. When the Easter eggs are all found, and the chocolate bunnies are all eaten, Jesus still is lovingly acting on our behalf.



YOUNG ADULT

The group members examined the ascension of Christ and were encouraged to joyfully worship the risen Lord and spread the good news to all people.



ADULT

*FUSION* groups discussed how the Old Testament foretold Jesus' death and resurrection and that the gospel was to be preached to all peoples. Members were encouraged to joyfully worship the risen Lord and spread the good news to all people.

# HOME connection

NT Unit: The Grave Could Not Hold Him, Lesson 4

## D6 Family Theme:

The Return of Christ

### OBJECTIVES

**Know:** Christ told His followers what would happen before He returns to get them.

**Think:** I am confident that Christ will return to make all things right.

**Do:** Love and serve Christ in difficult times, waiting confidently for His return.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Mark 13:1-27.** As difficult as waiting can be, the benefits make it worthwhile. When it comes to the return of Christ, believers have been waiting for nearly 2,000 years. Rest assured, however, that the benefits will outweigh the challenges of waiting.



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

Be on guard against false prophets and false teachings, and don't be alarmed by wars and natural disasters. Pray that you and your family will study God's word closely so that you will be able to know the truth from the lies that the world tries to tell you.



## DO: WALK WITH GOD

**OPTION 1:** Have your children think of an event they are really looking forward to. This could be a birthday party, a sleepover, or an upcoming holiday. Using construction paper and staples, construct a paper chain with the same amount of days as there are until the event. Each day, have your children rip off one of the links, so they can count down the days. Talk about how we do not know when Christ will return, but we should wait with anticipation and patience.

**OPTION 2:** Share a time as a child when you remember waiting with great anticipation. This waiting may have been for a special birthday celebration, Christmas morning, or a first day at a new school. In sharing, be sure to include the emotions you remember and how slowly (or quickly) the time went by for you. Once you have shared, ask your family members to briefly share a similar experience.



**PRE-SCHOOL**

Today your child learned Jesus spent time with the disciples as they walked to Bethany. Jesus reminded the disciples of all He had taught them. He gave them a special mission—to share the good news with everyone around them. Jesus blessed the disciples and went to Heaven. I can tell others **Jesus Is the Risen King**.



**K & 1 GRADE**



**2 & 3 GRADE**



**4 & 5 GRADE**

Today your student learned Jesus would one day take His followers to live with Him in Heaven forever. Jesus will return as the ruling King and every person will worship Him as the King of the universe. Your student learned to be ready, pure, and patient, and to keep looking forward to Jesus' return.



**YOUNG TEEN**



**HIGH SCHOOL**

The story is not over! Your teens were reminded today of Christ's return to earth. We don't know when He is coming, but we do know that false prophets, false teaching, wars, and natural disasters will precede His return. We know that Christians will face persecution and a terrible time of tribulation. Is there anything that would prevent Christ's return tomorrow? Or today? No! So we must live in a way that we are always ready and watching for His coming. Are your teens ready for an ice cream cone or an iced coffee? Promise them one without giving them a time when they can expect it. Those who are ready when you call them will have a reward!



**YOUNG ADULT**

While studying Mark 13, group members discussed the return of Christ. We can be confident that Christ will return to earth, even if we do not understand all of the sequence of events. They were encouraged to love and serve Him in difficult times.



**ADULT**

Adults examined how Christ told His followers what would happen before He returns to get them. Members were challenged to love and serve Christ in difficult times, waiting confidently for His return.

# HOME connection

ST Unit: Answers for Tough Questions, Lesson 1

## D6 Family Theme:

Does the Big Bang Fit With the Bible?

### OBJECTIVES

**Know:** God's Word offers great detail concerning the beginning of the universe.

**Think:** The theory of Creationism and the theory of Naturalism both require faith.

**Do:** The collaborative evidence found in both Scripture and in the world as we experience it points to a legitimate beginning and a Beginner.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 11:1-3; Romans 1:18-20; Psalm 19:1; Psalm 148.**

We all have a beginning. There has been much debate on what that beginning actually looked like, but we understand that “things” got started at some point in the past. Was it the Big Bang (at least the way that is described from a Naturalist's perspective), or was it a big God (Creationism)? Is there a way to combine the two, or does that cause more harm than good?



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

The universe is a display of the power, order, and creativity of God. Pray with your family and thank God for a creation that points toward Him. Pray that you and your family will pay more attention to the wonders of God's creation.



## DO: WALK WITH GOD

**OPTION 1:** Go for a walk outside and have a color scavenger hunt. Get a white paper lunch bag, and use colored markers to scribble squares on the bag of the different colors you want your children to find. Have them collect the items that match those colors inside their bags. For example, a rock would match up with the gray square, and a stick would match up with the brown square. Talk about how all of creation and its uniqueness points toward a Creator.

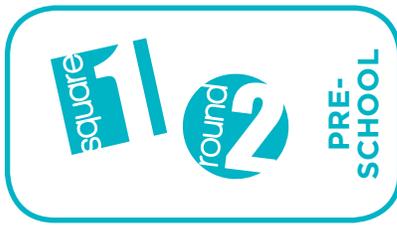
**OPTION 2:** Read the following scenario to your family, then talk about the questions provided.

Imagine you are walking down the beach, enjoying the sound of the ocean and the warmth of the sun on your face. As you are walking, you come up on something that is written in the sand. Upon closer examination, you realize you were observing is actually a message that reads, “Sally was here!”

*What are some possible explanations for how that message got there?*

*What is the most probable explanation for how that message got there?*

*Why is it that no one instinctively thought or considered that the message arrived on the shore, written in the sand, by chance, after years of crashing waves on the sand?*

PRE-  
SCHOOL

Today your child heard a Webster Family story where Annie and her friend were working on a science project about the planets. Mr. Webster used the opportunity to remind the girls God created all the different planets, but Earth is the only one with people on it. **Our Creator God Is Awesome.**

K & 1  
GRADE2 & 3  
GRADE4 & 5  
GRADE

Today your student learned God created the universe and everything in it. God is the powerful Creator and nothing is too hard for Him. Your student was encouraged to study God's Word to be able to defend his or her faith. He or she was challenged to look around at God's amazing creations and praise Him for them.

YOUNG  
TEENHIGH  
SCHOOL

Your teens began this month's unit on apologetics by talking about the Big Bang theory as opposed to the Genesis account of creation. The order and design of the universe do not fit an accidental, naturalistic "big bang" sort of event. The only One who can make something out of nothing is God, the master designer. You can read *Creation Today's* basic explanation of the Big Bang Theory at [creationtoday.org/the-big-bang-theory/](http://creationtoday.org/the-big-bang-theory/) in order to provide an intelligent, reasonable perspective on the science involved. Your teens need confidence that God's Word can be trusted in every area of life, including our origins and purpose.

YOUNG  
ADULT

Group members examined the Big Bang and learned why it's incompatible with Scripture and science. They were challenged to stand strong in the faith knowing that biblical Creation is the best explanation of the facts around us in our planet and universe.



ADULT

Adult groups discussed how the naturalistic view of the Big Bang does not fit Scripture. Members were encouraged to stand strong in the faith knowing the creator God of the Bible is the best explanation for what we see around us.

# HOME connection

ST Unit: Answers for Tough Questions, Lesson 2

## D6 Family Theme:

How Old is the Earth?

## OBJECTIVES

**Know:** God's Word provides the most reliable, authoritative source of information about the origin of the world.

**Think:** God's Word is the basis for my worldview.

**Do:** Stand firm in the faith, trusting in the reliability of God's Word.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Genesis 1:1—2:3; 2 Peter 3:3-6; Mark 10:6; Exodus 20:8-11.** There are two main camps within Creationism: young-earth creationism and old-earth creationism. Young-earth creationists believe that the creation account found in the book of Genesis refers to a literal creation week with seven 24-hour days, making the Earth an estimated 6,000 years old. Is Genesis the only indicator that the Earth is young?



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

We can trust Genesis to be historical because Christ and Peter indicated in their teaching that it is historical. Pray that you and your family will believe that all Scripture is true and accurate. Pray that you will be able to stand up for the truth of the Bible when others oppose it.



## DO: WALK WITH GOD

**OPTION 1:** Get out some play dough and start playing with your child. Have her start to make specific things, like a cookie or a snake. Next, have her make whatever she wants. Talk with her about how everything that exists has a creator. She can believe that God created the world in six literal days because Genesis is a book of history. The Bible is true.

**OPTION 2:** Use the questions below to generate some conversation about how we record history.

*How can we trust that our history books are accurate descriptions of events that took place and individuals who existed way before the present day?*

*Does this apply to the way we read the Scriptures too?*



Today your child heard a Webster Family story where Jamie and his friend, Tyler, shared with Annie what they learned about the human body on their field trip to the science museum. Mrs. Webster used the opportunity to remind the children God planned and designed our bodies in amazing ways. **Our Creator God Is Awesome.**



Today your student learned God sent a Flood to destroy the earth because of the disobedience of the people. Only one godly man named Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark were spared. God promised never to destroy the world with a Flood again and gave the rainbow as a sign of His promise. We can trust in God's Word because God will do what He says He will do.



The only way the theory of evolution could work is by allowing millions of years for changes to occur. However, the evidence is opposed to a planet that is billions of years old. Prophets and poets in the Old Testament, as well as Jesus in the New Testament, supported the "young earth" thinking, describing natural days of creation, not "ages" of creation. Your teen may benefit from reading Jud Davis's article on this in *Answers Magazine* ([answersingenesis.org/days-of-creation/24-hours-plain-as-day/](http://answersingenesis.org/days-of-creation/24-hours-plain-as-day/)).



Group members examined the age of the earth, discussing whether the days of Creation are literal, 24-hour days. We can trust the Word of God.



Group members explored how God's Word provides the most reliable, authoritative source of information about the origin of the world. Members were challenged to stand firm in the faith, trusting in the reliability of God's Word.

# HOME connection

ST Unit: Answers for Tough Questions, Lesson 3

## D6 Family Theme:

Who Was Cain's Wife?

### OBJECTIVES

**Know:** Scripture explains that Adam and Eve had other sons and daughters who could marry at that time.

**Think:** There are logical answers to questions people use to challenge the authority of Scripture.

**Do:** Be ready to explain that Cain could marry a close relative in that day without any moral or biological dilemmas.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Genesis 4:1-17, 5:1-4; Genesis 3:20; Genesis 1:31; Leviticus 18:6-9.**

There are many tactics that the Enemy uses in an attempt to discredit the Christian faith. The Bible has been questioned and challenged for centuries, but God's Word has prevailed, stepping up to face those challenges. One of the reoccurring and difficult questions about Scripture is the challenge of Cain's family. Whom did Cain marry? Did Cain marry his sister? Was it morally acceptable? Were there physiological consequences?



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

Be ready to explain how Adam and Eve had other sons and daughters who could marry at that time. Pray that you and your family would know the Scripture enough to be able to confidently answer questions about the Bible.



## DO: WALK WITH GOD

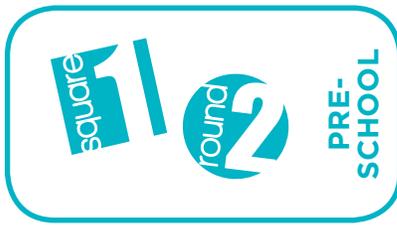
**OPTION 1:** Talk with your child about genetics. Have her look at different physical attributes and guess who she got them from, her mom or her dad. You can look at hair and eye color, ear lobes, toe length, and hair line. Explain that sometimes in the Old Testament, men and women had to marry people in their own families. This was okay, because genetic mutations didn't exist yet and it was not against God's laws at that time.

**OPTION 2:** Use some of the questions below to generate some conversation about questions:

*What are some of the funniest questions you have ever been asked? These could be from a friend, child, neighbor, or someone else.*

*What are some of the most difficult questions you have ever been asked?*

*How did you usually respond to the silly questions? How did you respond to the difficult questions?*



Today your child heard a Webster Family story where Rosie was singing, “Jesus Loves the Little Children” while coloring. Mr. Webster used the time to talk with Rosie about how God created each of us with different colored skin, but each color is important. Each person is precious to God. **Our Creator God Is Awesome.**



Today your student learned Adam and Eve had two sons, Cain and Abel. Cain made a bad choice that led to God’s punishment against him. We make bad choices that lead to separation from God, but He loves us so much He gave His Son to take our punishment. God’s love for us is seen throughout the Bible and is everlasting.



Through the years, people have tried to object to the Genesis account of the creation and the beginning of life by asking questions like, “Where did Cain get his wife?” Your teen found a basis from Scripture to respond to that question today. More important, your teen recognized it as a challenge to the authority of Scripture. We are easily distracted from the truth. Try an experiment with your cell phones. When they least expect it, how many “pings” does it take to distract them from an important task?



Group members examined who Cain’s wife would have been and were encouraged to study God’s Word and be ready to provide answers when others challenge the authority of Scripture.



*FUSION* group members discussed how Scripture explains that Adam and Eve had other sons and daughters who could marry at that time. Members were encouraged to be ready to explain that Cain could marry a close relative in that day without any moral or biological dilemmas.

# HOME connection

ST Unit: Answers for Tough Questions, Lesson 4

## D6 Family Theme:

Where Did Different Races Come From?

### OBJECTIVES

**Know:** There is only one race of people.

**Think:** Every individual is a human being created in the image of God and loved by Him.

**Do:** Stand against any form of racism and see all human beings as part of the one human race.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Genesis 3:20; Genesis 9:1; Genesis 11:1-9; Acts 17:24-27.** Unfortunately, some assume that the Bible justifies their racist attitudes toward a person of a different color or ethnicity. However, we will discover a different story when examining Scripture about the origin of the numerous people groups in existence.



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

See every individual as a human being created in the image of God and loved by Him. Pray that you and your family will see all people through the love of Christ no matter how different they are from you.



## DO: WALK WITH GOD

**OPTION 1:** Get a bag of M&Ms for your child. Have him sort the M&Ms by color and make a graph showing how many of each color there are. What color has the most? What color has the least? Talk about how even though all the candies are different colors, they are the same on the inside. In the same way, all people are created in the image of God and are of one race no matter how different we all might look on the outside.

**OPTION 2:** Offer the following questions to open up discussion about human race.

*Which breed of dog is your favorite?*

*Which breed of dog is your least favorite?*

*Which of those two breeds is more dog than the other?*

God loves everyone, no matter their culture or family or politics. Everyone is valuable to Him.

PRE-  
SCHOOL

Today your child heard a Webster Family story where Annie and Mrs. Webster were planting a garden. Mrs. Webster reminded Annie that God is the master gardener of the earth. He provides the sun, the rain, the dirt, and the seeds to help plants grow. **Our Creator God Is Awesome.**

K & 1  
GRADE2 & 3  
GRADE4 & 5  
GRADE

Today your student learned God created one race, one people. We are all descendants of Adam and Eve. The different languages and cultures that exist began at the Tower of Babel. We are to treat others as valuable creations made in the image of God.

YOUNG  
TEENHIGH  
SCHOOL

How did the various races of people originate? Your teens learned the Scripture's teaching about that today. They also recognized that unbiblical perspectives have contributed to racism. We all need to confront our deep prejudices in light of Scripture and learn to see others as God sees them. Read 1 John 2:11 together and discuss how racial prejudice is destructive for God's people. Can your family work together to find intentional ways to identify and put away your prejudices?

YOUNG  
ADULT

The group discussed the issue of race. Group members examined how there is only one race of people, and we must stand against any form of racism.



ADULT

*FUSION* group members discussed how there is only one race of people. Members were encouraged to stand against any form of racism and see all human beings as part of the one human race.

# HOME connection

ST Unit: Answers for Tough Questions, Lesson 5

## D6 Family Theme:

What Does the Bible Say About Dinosaurs?

## OBJECTIVES

**Know:** God created every creature, including the dinosaurs, according to its kind.

**Think:** God created all creatures, both living and extinct, and is worthy of my worship.

**Do:** Worship the great God who created all creatures, including the great and powerful ones.



## READ: LISTEN TO GOD

**Read Genesis 1:20-25; Genesis 7:1-4; Job 40:15-24, 41:1-34.** The discussion of dinosaurs, especially within the context of historical Scripture, is part of an even larger debate among fellow Christians. This debate involves the interpretation of Genesis, how we choose to process or interpret the various physical evidences that have been discovered and analyzed in the scientific fields, and the age of the earth.



## PRAY: TALK TO GOD

Worship the great God who created all creatures, including the great and powerful ones. Pray that you and your family will be reminded that God is worthy of worship every time you see His creation.



## DO: WALK WITH GOD

**OPTION 1:** Sit down with your family and have everyone draw a picture of their favorite animal. Then, have each of your children talk about why that animal is their favorite and tell something interesting about it. Talk about the way all of God's creation is magnificent and every animal is so unique. Take some time to pray with your family and thank God for creating their favorite animals.

**OPTION 2:** Ask your family what they have read or heard about dinosaurs from books, movies, or science classes. Do these mainstream beliefs match up with Scripture? How should a Christian respond?



Today your child heard a story where the Webster family had spent the day at the science museum learning about dinosaurs. Mr. and Mrs. Webster used the opportunity to remind their children God created dinosaurs. He designed each one differently and with special features. **Our Creator God Is Awesome.**



Today your student learned God created dinosaurs and they roamed the earth. Many dinosaurs died during the Flood, as evidenced by fossils. Those that were on the ark survived, but became extinct as a result of the post-Flood changes on earth. We can praise God for His amazing creatures, including dinosaurs.



On the sixth day, God, in His infinite power and wisdom, created all kinds of dinosaurs, and we have fossil evidence and biblical records to prove it. Though your teens may not be as interested in dinosaurs as they once were, they still need the confidence in Scripture that today's study prompts. Answers in Genesis, Creation Research Institute, Creation Today, and many other organizations have YouTube videos, articles, and webpages about dinosaurs. Investigate some of these as a family and share your discoveries with one another.



The group members discussed what the Bible says about dinosaurs and were encouraged to worship the great God who created all creatures.



*FUSION* group members discussed how God created every creature, including the dinosaurs, according to its kind. Members were encouraged to worship the great God who created all creatures, including the great and powerful ones.