

WEEK 12

God's Providence and Temptation

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

MEMORY VERSE:

Each week, cut apart the memory verses provided and tape them to bathroom mirrors, on the fridge, in the car, etc. If your child cannot read, instruct them to remind you to read it to them whenever they see the verse throughout the day. If your child is too young to memorize, have them keep you accountable to memorize the verse instead.

“And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.”

1 Corinthians 10:13

Each week your family memorizes the verse, we will have a prize for you back in LVKids! (one per family) This will be based on the honor system and at your discretion. Parents can pick up the prize from a box at the kids' gate when picking up the next week's family devotional guide.

****consider memorizing just the first sentence for younger children****

PARENTS SHARE:

Turn in your Bible to Genesis 44:1-17, showing your children this is where our story comes from. Share what you learned in church this Sunday as well as anything you would like to add from your growth group.

SAY:

Joseph's brothers had finished having lunch with him and it was time for them to go home. Joseph said to his helper, "Fill up their sacks with as much food as they can carry, and put their silver in their sacks. Then put my silver cup in the youngest one's sack along with the silver for his grain." The helper did just as Joseph said.

As soon as morning came, the brothers headed home with their sacks and their donkeys. They hadn't gotten very far when Joseph turned to his helper and said, "Go after those men right away, and when you catch up with them, say so them, 'Why have you done such a wrong thing after we were so good to you? Isn't this my master's silver cup, the one he uses and drinks from? This is a wicked thing you have done.'" When he caught up with them, he said to them what Joseph had told him to say.

(continued on back)

They said to him, "Why would you think we would do such a thing? We even brought back to you the silver we found in our sacks the first time we left from here. So why would we steal silver or gold from your master's house?" The helper said he would search their bags, and if any of them was found to have the cup that person would become his slave, and the others would be free to go and would not be in trouble.

All of the brothers opened their sacks so Joseph's helper could look inside. He started with the oldest brother's sack and ended with the youngest. When he got to Benjamin's sack he found Joseph's cup there. When the brothers saw it, they were so sad they tore their clothes! Then they loaded their donkeys and returned to Egypt.

They found Joseph in his house and threw themselves before him. "What can we do?" they said. "How can we prove we didn't do this? Or we will all now be your slaves, instead of just Benjamin." But Joseph said, "I won't do that! Just the one who was found to have the cup will be my slave. The rest of you may leave and go back to your father."

Older kids: Read Genesis 44:1-17.

FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

HOW DO WE SEE THAT GOD IS STILL WORKING IN THIS STORY?

WHY DO YOU THINK JOSEPH HAD HIS SERVANT HIDE THE CUP IN BENJAMIN'S SACK?

Explain that Joseph knows his brothers will be tempted to abandon him in order to save themselves. Joseph is setting them up to be in the same kind of situation they were in many years before. If they just let Benjamin take the blame, they could go home and be rid of this brother who is their father's favorite.

DO YOU THINK JOSEPH'S BROTHERS WERE TEMPTED TO LEAVE BENJAMIN?

HOW IS GOD WORKING WHEN WE ARE TEMPTED TO SIN?

Explain that temptation itself, feeling a pull toward sin and wrong, is something that never comes from God. He does not tempt us, BUT He does use situations where we are tempted to help us to grow and mature.. When we are tempted, God always provides a way out. He works in our hearts as we choose His way over the way of the World, helping us to become more and more like Jesus each time we trust Him and turn away from temptation.

PRAY TOGETHER

Asking God to help you when you feel tempted to sin. Pray that God would clearly show you the way out and help you to grow closer to Him.



**ACCESS THIS WEEK'S VIDEO
ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL
BY SCANNING HERE!**