

Unit 13

We Are Important to Jesus

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.

1 John 3:16

Your Devo Time

When your family sits down to share God's Word, use this devotion on its own or go to www.21stcc.com, click on Downloads, then LifeLINKS to God Videos to watch **We Are Important to Jesus** before doing the devotion together. This devotion works well anytime in September.

The video shows a girl and her family going through the day. As we watch what they are doing, we hear many ways we can know that we are important to Jesus throughout the day.

- How do you know you are important to someone?

Our Bible stories this unit tell us about Jesus and His friends. As we meet Nathanael under a fig tree (John 1:43-49), a nobleman (an or important man) and his son (John 4:46-54), a blind man (John 9:1-38; 20:31), and hear about the Good Shepherd (John 10:1-15), we see what Jesus does for them. That helps us understand that Jesus knows they are important to Him. And Jesus shows us we are important to Him because He knows all about us, He can help us when we ask Him for help, and He helps us to believe in Him.

- How do you know you're important to Jesus?
- Memorize 1 John 3:16. We can know we're important to someone when they show love for us. If someone loves you, they do things to show you that they care. What did Jesus do to show you He loves you? You are so important to Jesus that He died for you (laid down His life) so you can have eternal life. Wow!
- Spend time at a meal tomorrow talking about being important to Jesus. Give each family member time to tell the other members in your family one way that Jesus loves them and that they are important to Him. For example, Jesus loves (person's name) enough to listen when (he or she) prays at bedtime.

End with a short prayer. Dear Jesus, thank You for loving us and laying down Your life for us. Help us to know that we are important to You. In Your name, amen.

Unit 14 Jesus Helps Us

[Jesus said,] “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.”
John 14:9

Your Devo Time

When your family sits down to share God’s Word, use this devotion on its own or go to www.21stcc.com, click on Downloads, then LifeLINKS to God Videos to watch **Jesus Helps Us** before doing the devotion together. This devotion works well in October.

In the video, a girl and her mom use a “Friday Flashback” to talk through how Jesus helped the girl through the week. She discovered that Jesus sent help when she needed it, taught her about forgiveness, and helped her celebrate making a good choice.

- How do people help you?

Our Bible stories show ways Jesus helped the people around Him. Jesus stilled a storm (Mark 4:35-41). Jesus healed a blind man by a pool (John 5:1-15), He washed the disciples’ feet (John 13), and He forgives us when we do wrong (Luke 15:11-24). And Jesus urges us to be kind to others (Matthew 25:31-40). It isn’t always easy to know that Jesus is helping us every day. Sometimes it takes a “Friday Flashback” to look back and see Jesus at work in our lives.

- How does Jesus help you?
- Memorize John 14:9. Jesus shows us who God is. By knowing that Jesus is helping us, we can know that God is also helping us. Take time for a family flashback. How do you see Jesus helping you this week?
- Give each family member an adhesive bandage. Ask everyone to put the bandages in different places around the house. When family members see a bandage during the week, they can remember that Jesus helps them.

End with a short prayer. Dear Jesus, thank You for helping us by watching over us, forgiving us, caring for us, and loving us. And thank You for showing us who God is too. In Your name, amen.

Unit 15 God Made the World

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

Genesis 1:31

Your Devo Time

When your family sits down to share God's Word, use this devotion on its own or go to www.21stcc.com, click on Downloads, then LifeLINKS to God Videos to watch **God Made the World** before doing the devotion together. This devotion works well in November.

It's field trip day for the kids in our video! The kids are at a butterfly house discovering more about plants and insects and how they work together in the world God made.

- What are some of the things God made when He made the world?

Each of the Bible stories this month focuses on how God made the world. First, He created day and night, sun, moon, and stars. Those had to be in place before He made sky, water and land. Those support the plants and trees. And then God made animals that need all those things in order to live. God's world all fits together like a wonderful complicated puzzle! We see that puzzle as the seasons change.

- Memorize Genesis 1:31. God is perfect. And as the perfect Creator He looked at all He had made and it was very good. Think of how everything fits together! Play a family response game with this memory verse. One person starts with, "God made (name what God made)." Then the rest of the family responds, "and it was very good!" Play several rounds.
- Make "God Made the World" placemats. Write "Thank you God for making ..." on large sheets of paper. You will need one for each family member. Talk about the different things that God made for which your family is thankful. Have family members decorate their placemats: write, draw, color, and glue or tape on pictures of what you just talked about. Use the placemats at a family meal.

End with a short prayer. Dear God, You are Creator. You made the world with day, night, sun and moon and stars, sky, water, land, plants, trees, animals, and seasons. You made the world just the right way to work together. Thank You! In Jesus' name, amen.