

ONLY JESUS



# **ONLY JESUS**

### AN INTRODUCTION

First Timothy 2:5-6 teaches, "For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time." This is the good news. This is the gospel.

When we started this project, our desire was not to just make a good worship album for kids. We wanted to make a resource that would invite both kids and parents to discover truths about God together as a family. We wanted to make music that families could sing along to in the car or at home, music that centered everyone's hearts on the truths of Scripture. We wanted to write a family worship guide that parents could read to children, or that older children could read on their own. More than anything, we wanted to make a resource that would bring families together to worship our King! We pray that at the center of your family is "Only Jesus."

### ALBUM OVERVIEW

The KIDS ministry at The Austin Stone Community Church is based on six basic truths:

- God made everything, including me.
- · God is King of everything, including me.
- God is good and is the greatest treasure in the world.
- I am born a sinner, and I need a rescuer.
- Jesus is the Rescuer who can bring me to the greatest treasure in the world.
- Tell the world that Jesus is the Rescuer.

These basic truths are the foundation for how we teach the gospel to our kids, and they have become the foundation for this project. The original idea was to write one song per basic truth, but when we finished the six, we were excited to keep writing. We didn't add to the basic truths, but kept building on the same foundation.

### **FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE**

The Family Worship Guide is designed to walk you through the whole album twice over the course of a month. There are ten songs on the album, and there are two studies per song. If your family completes one study per weekday (Monday-Friday), it will take you four weeks to complete the entire guide. However, this certainly can be done in whatever way your family chooses. Again, the goal is simply to worship Jesus and discover the truths of the gospel together.

# **DEVOTIONALS**

# YOU MADE EVERYTHING





Have you ever created anything special? Why was it special to you?

In the beginning, before this world or even the universe existed, there was God. Nothing else but God. Then one day, when the time was right, God created something special. He created our world!

When God was finished creating the world, He looked at it and said, "It is good." The light and dark were good. The mountains, trees, and flowers were good. The sea creatures, birds, and mammals were good. When God considered all He had made, He was proud of it.

Think about that special thing you made. Were you proud of it when you finished? What did you do with it when you were done?

When God finished creating this world, He could have kept it to Himself. Like an artist who paints a masterpiece and hangs it in their room, God could have sat back and admired the forests, the skies, the seas,

and all the plants and animals by Himself. Instead God decided to share the world. He made a man named Adam and said, "This world I created is now your home. I am giving it to you to enjoy and take care of." Then He made Eve to share the world with Adam.

Think one more time about that special thing you made. Did you share it with someone? Did you give it away as a gift?

God loves the world He made. It is no longer perfectly good—because sin has entered it—but that does not mean God doesn't care about it anymore. God could have completely destroyed the world after sin came, but He didn't. This means God still values His world, and He still wants the people He put in charge of it to value it too.

Consider the world around you. What do you love about it? How can you take care of it? How can you show God appreciation for the world He has given us?

### APPLY

Think about how God put us in charge of the world He cares about so much. What does that say about how much God cares about you?

### **ACTION**

Go in search of one item that reminds you of each of the six days of creation.

### ASK

God, show me one way I can take better care of the world You have entrusted to us.

# KING OF EVERYTHING



ISAIAH 9:6-7

Isaiah was a prophet, or a messenger from God, and he sometimes wrote about the future. In Isaiah 9, he spoke of the "Prince of Peace" who would sit on the throne, reigning forever and ever. Isaiah said this Prince's kingdom would be one of justice and righteousness. It would be a kingdom that no warrior could defeat, a kingdom that no enemy could overcome.

Who is this "Prince of Peace" who would establish such a kingdom? Isaiah called Him, "a child born to us." The Jews in the Old Testament called Him the Messiah. Today, we call Him Jesus.

You might be wondering how Jesus established His kingdom. Was it by strong armies, powerful weapons, or special treaties? Not at all. Part of what Jesus did to establish His kingdom was dying on a cross.

Dying on a cross?! That doesn't seem like something a prince would do. At least not a powerful prince. The Bible tells us that Jesus died on the cross to be punished

for our sins. Jesus was the only one who could take our punishment for us because He had never sinned. Jesus is our perfect Prince.

But that's not all Jesus did. Three days after He died, Jesus came back to life! He proved that death—the enemy of every human—had no power over Him. Because of all of this, Jesus is the greatest prince who will ever live, and His kingdom is the greatest kingdom that will ever be.

Today Jesus offers peace to all who enter His kingdom. He says, "Your sins can be forgiven. You can live without sin controlling you. And when you die, you don't have to be afraid of God."

Jesus's kingdom is the very best kingdom. It is unlike any other! You enter His kingdom when you start to follow Jesus on earth, and you continue to be a part of it when you live with Him forever in heaven. Our "Prince of Peace" invites all people to enter His kingdom. He wants you to be a part of His kingdom today.

### APPLY

What does the word "peace" mean to you?

### ACTION

Write the names of Jesus from Isaiah 9:6-7 on sticky notes. Put them where they will be reminders that Jesus is in charge.

### ASK

God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our Prince of Peace. Whenever I am worried, remind me that Jesus offers peace to all who are a part of His kingdom.

# I FOUND A TREASURE



GOD IS GOOD AND IS THE GREATEST TREASURE IN THE WORLD.



Jesus's friends didn't understand what He meant when He talked about the kingdom of God, so they asked Him to explain it in a way that would make sense. Jesus was an amazing storyteller and He liked to use parables. A parable is a simple story with real-life illustrations that help us understand a spiritual truth. In this parable, Jesus used buried treasure to help illustrate the truth about God's kingdom.

After all, who doesn't want to find buried treasure? Imagine yourself walking down the street. You glance to your right and spot a treasure box overflowing with beautiful gold. What would you do? Keep walking? No way! You would be so excited. You would run over and start digging through the treasure box and see what all was in it.

Jesus told his friends that the kingdom of God is like "treasure hidden in a field" because He knows how excited we would be to find a treasure box in the middle of nowhere! As He told the parable, Jesus said

that the hidden treasure made the man so happy that he went and hid it again so he could find it later. In fact, the man actually went and sold everything he had to buy the field so he could have that treasure forever.

Have you figured out what the buried treasure represents when it comes to the kingdom of God? The buried treasure is eternal life with God. This parable is teaching us that the kingdom of God and heaven are worth so much that we should be willing to give up everything to gain them. In other words, we should be willing to walk away from anything we have on earth so we can follow Jesus. Jesus was saying that the things we give up don't even compare to the eternity we will have with Him.

God is the greatest treasure in the world, and nothing we might gain in this world could ever compare to Him. Now go and find that buried treasure!

### APPLY

What is so great about heaven? Why does the kingdom of heaven bring us great joy?

### ACTION

Find something in your home that you love. Hide it and create your own treasure map for someone else to find it!

### ASK

God, help me to believe that You are greater than anything I have on this earth.

# RESCUE FOR MY SOUL





God came to a man named Jonah and told him to go to Nineveh. Nineveh was a wicked city. The people there needed to know about God and be rescued from their sin, but Jonah did not think they deserved to be rescued. So Jonah ran away from God, and not just by foot. Jonah hopped on a boat that was sailing in the opposite direction of Nineveh.

Jonah thought he could get away from God. But can you really hide from God? Can you run so far from God that He will never find you? No way! God knows exactly where you are at all times. God was watching Jonah, and as soon the boat started sailing, God brought a huge storm. Everyone on the boat was scared, including Jonah. The other men on the boat knew that Jonah was running from God. So they threw Jonah into the sea, hoping that once he was gone, the storm would stop.

There Jonah was, out in the middle of the ocean, left to die. Like the people of Nineveh, Jonah needed a rescuer. But while Jonah was drowning, God sent an enormous fish that swallowed him up. Jonah stayed in the belly of that fish for three days! During that time, Jonah remembered God. He remembered God was good and that God loved him. He remembered he himself was a sinner. He remembered that God was the Rescuer for all people, and that this good news was worth telling other people about.

It's crazy to think about how God sent a fish to rescue Jonah. But that's what happened! If the fish had not swallowed him up, Jonah would have drowned. After three days the fish spit Jonah out on dry land. Jonah was rescued!

When God asked Jonah to go to Nineveh again, what do you think Jonah did? He went. He did not run away. He did not hide from God. Jonah did exactly what God told him to do. Jonah told the people of Nineveh that they were sinners and that God was their great Rescuer.

### **APPLY**

Have you ever lost a pet? How did you feel? Did you put out signs or ask your parents to tell people that your pet was lost? Was it rescued?

### **ACTION**

Play capture the flag.

### ASK

God, help me to do exactly what You ask me to do the first time because I trust in You, my Rescuer.

# **ONLY JESUS**



JESUS IS THE RESCUER WHO CAN BRING ME TO THE GREATEST TREASURE IN THE WORLD.



Jesus was walking through a town called Jericho, where a man named Zacchaeus lived. Zacchaeus really wanted to see Jesus because he had heard many amazing things about Him. But Zacchaeus was short, and there was such a huge crowd that he had to climb up in a tree just to catch a glimpse.

When Jesus walked under the tree, He looked up at Zacchaeus. Because Jesus is God, He knew everything about Zacchaeus. He knew Zacchaeus was an unpopular guy, and for good reason. He was a tax collector who took money from people. Basically, Zacchaeus cheated and stole, and people did not like him. After all, no one likes people who steal from them.

But when Jesus looked up at Zacchaeus, He didn't point out any of that. Instead, Jesus said Zacchaeus's name and then declared, "I want to come to your house."

You see, Jesus loved Zacchaeus even though he did bad things. And Jesus knew what Zacchaeus really needed. Zacchaeus was happy to watch Jesus from afar, to climb up a tree and witness all the other people experiencing Jesus. But Jesus knew Zacchaeus needed to meet Him face to face. Zacchaeus needed a real-life relationship with Jesus. To experience the love of Jesus would make all the difference.

Zacchaeus accepted Jesus's invitation and brought Him into his home. The Bible tells us that meeting Jesus changed Zacchaeus's life. He gave half of his wealth to people in need, and He gave back four times the money he had stolen from people. What an amazing transformation! Zacchaeus confessed his sin, and Jesus forgave him. Jesus offered him a greater treasure than money could ever buy: a reallife relationship with God.

Do you know that you are invited to "get out of the tree" and spend time with Jesus too? Jesus loves you no matter what you have done, and He wants you to have a real-life relationship with Him. Only Jesus can forgive. Only Jesus can save. Only Jesus can change your life in such a big way. Only Jesus.

### APPLY

What is your relationship with Jesus like? Are you up in a tree looking at Him from afar, or have you accepted His invitation to have a real-life relationship with Him?

### **ACTION**

The Bible tells us that Zacchaeus climbed a sycamore tree. With your parents' help, see if you can find a picture of a sycamore tree online.

### **ASK**

God, will You come into my life just like You came into Zacchaeus's house? Will You show me how I have wronged other people and help me trust in Jesus like Zacchaeus did?

# TELL THE WORLD



Have you ever made a friend at school that you were excited about? If your parents asked about this friend, what would you tell them?

When Jesus came back to life, He spent 40 days with His disciples. Then Jesus gathered them together and said, "Tell the world about me!" The disciples were Jesus's friends. They had spent three years with Him. They had left everything to follow Him. Jesus had taught them all about the kingdom of God, and they loved Him very much.

Now Jesus, their best friend, was leaving them! How very sad! But Jesus made a promise: He would not leave them alone. He would give them the Holy Spirit. You see, Jesus knew His friends loved Him, but He also knew they were easily scared. Jesus knew once He went back to heaven, His friends would be afraid and have a hard time telling others about Him. They needed the Holy Spirit to give them courage to talk about Jesus when it was hard. The



Holy Spirit would remind the disciples of all that Jesus had said. He would comfort them and strengthen them.

Jesus's command to tell others about Him was not just for the crowd that day long ago. Jesus wants us to tell others about Him too! But how can we talk about Jesus if we don't know Him? How can we tell others about Him if He isn't even our friend? We can't talk about what we don't know.

The truth is we tell people about Jesus more when He is a big part of our lives. If Jesus has changed us, answered our prayers, and shown us His love, we have something to say. With the Holy Spirit's help, we will tell other people about Jesus because we want to, because He is our friend. Sometimes we might get scared, but when fear comes, we can pray and ask for courage. We can remember Jesus's promise to give us His Spirit and His promise to "be with us always, even to the end of the age."

### **APPLY**

How do you feel about telling other people about Jesus?

### ACTION

Identify three places (i.e. sports teams, school, neighborhood) where you can tell other people about your friend Jesus.

### ASK

God, give me courage to tell other people the good news about Jesus.

# WE ARE ONE



Did you know that God compares the body of Christ to our own body? Now, that may sound a bit crazy at first, but God says just like all our body parts form one body, so it is in Christ.

Think about this: what if one day, your foot decided to walk away on its own and just be a foot, all by itself? Would that affect your body? Of course it would! Your foot would not be able to function without your leg. In fact, your foot couldn't go anywhere without your leg, just like your leg couldn't go anywhere without your hip, and so on. Do you get the picture? Now think about this: what if your whole body was an eye? Sure, you could see, but you wouldn't be able to hear. Or walk. Or talk. Your body would be very limited in what it could do.

The Bible says that the body of Christ is just like that. Those who believe in Jesus make up the different parts of ONE body. But what if everyone in the body of Christ was the same? It would be very boring, and we would be limited to what we could



do for God's kingdom. Instead, God made us all unique and gave all of us different gifts. We call them spiritual gifts because we use those gifts to glorify God. Some of those gifts are teaching, helping, wisdom, leadership, serving, and giving. We all have different gifts, but because we all belong to Jesus, we are ONE. These gifts make up the body of Christ.

Have you ever stopped for a minute to think about what gift you might have? If you haven't, now is a good time to start. God gave each of us a special role in His kingdom, and we don't want to miss out! God made you just the way you are and gave you this special gift to glorify Him.

### APPLY

What gift do you think God gave you? Is this gift in the Bible? (Look up 1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 28 and Romans 12:6-8.) What can you do with your gift to serve God?

### **ACTION**

This week, figure out a way to serve your family using your gift.

### ASK

God, please show me what special gifts You gave me and teach me how to use them to glorify You.

# **JESUS FOREVER**



What do you think of when you hear the word "forever"? You probably think of something that will keep on going, that will never end. Pretend, for example, that recess was going to last forever. Then you would never have to go back to class! Or pretend that daytime was going to last forever. Then you would never have another bedtime!

Is there something you wish could last forever?

Now think about this: some things that last forever never end, but other things that last forever never even had a beginning. This is hard for us to wrap our minds around, because everything in our world was created at some point.

Jesus, on the other hand, was never created. His life never had a beginning, and He will live forever into the future. How is this possible? Well, Jesus is the eternal God who came to earth as a man. Jesus's life did not start when He was born in a manger (Philippians 2:4-8), and His life did not end when He died on the cross



(Romans 6:9). Jesus rose from the dead to prove that He was not just human, but God Himself, and that He is eternal.

This is great news for us today! Because Jesus is eternal, His power is greater than all other powers, and He is holding all things together (Colossians 1:16-17). But this great power does not mean Jesus is far away and unreachable. The Bible also tells us that Jesus sees our hearts and counts the hairs on our heads (John 2:25, Luke 12:7). He is near to those who trust in Him (Psalm 145:18). Jesus is always with us, answering our prayers, counseling us through His Word, and leading us to where He wants us to go.

And guess what? Because Jesus is eternal, this kind of relationship with Jesus never has to end. When we die, Jesus promises that those who love Him will see Him face to face and live with Him forever (John 11:25). I don't know about you, but I can't think of anything that would last forever that's better than that!

### **APPLY**

What do you think it will be like to spend forever with Jesus in heaven?

### ACTION

Singing "Jesus Forever" is one way we worshipped Jesus this week. Name three other ways we can worship Jesus today.

### ASK

Jesus, show me how Your eternal power means that I can trust You. You are with me now and You will be with me forever!

# **TRUST**



JESUS IS THE RESCUER WHO CAN BRING ME TO THE GREATEST TREASURE IN THE WORLD.



ACTS 16:16-34

Paul and Silas were missionaries. Do you know what a missionary is? A missionary is someone sent by God to tell others about Jesus. Paul and Silas had to travel far from their homes and families and they had to trust God would take care of them. Because they were bold about their faith in Jesus, they were not always welcomed where they went. In the city of Philippi, Paul and Silas were beaten and thrown into jail. The Roman soldiers chained them up so they could not escape.

It seems easy to trust God when everything is good, but when you are beaten up, chained up and thrown in jail, it seems really hard to trust God. Paul and Silas showed great trust in God as they sat in their jail cell. They didn't fight with the prison guard. They didn't try to get away. Do you know what they did instead? They worshipped God. What?! Yes. Locked in prison, Paul and Silas worshiped God by singing songs and praying out loud.

As they were singing, there was an earthquake that shook the prison violently.

When the prison guard woke up, he saw that during the earthquake the prison doors had opened and everyone's chains were loosened. The guard was ready to die because he figured that everyone had escaped. If that were true, he would have been put to death, since it was his job to keep the prisoners in their cells.

That's when Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! Everyone is still here!" The guard could not believe it. The prisoners had had an easy escape, but they didn't take it. Instead, Paul and Silas told the guard about Jesus. He believed what they said and was filled with joy. He and his entire family were saved!

Paul and Silas trusted God even in prison.
Because of this trust, God gave them
courage to do what He had sent them into
the world to do: tell others about Jesus.
And because of this trust, the prison guard
and his family believed that Jesus was
their Rescuer!

### APPLY

When is it hard for you to trust Jesus?

### ACTION

Make a paper chain with construction paper, scissors, and tape. See how long you can make it!

### **ASK**

God, please help me to trust You even when it's hard.

# CENTER MY LIFE



GOD IS GOOD AND IS THE GREATEST TREASURE IN THE WORLD JOHN 17:1-5

"All eyes up here!" Have you ever heard a teacher say this? They usually say it because someone isn't paying attention. Teachers know that once your eyes are on them, you are less likely to be distracted and less likely to miss out.

Hebrews 12:2 says, "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith." When we sing the song, "Center My Life," we're asking God to help us obey Hebrews 12:2, to fix our spiritual eyes on Jesus. Lots of things can distract us from following Jesus, like being popular, succeeding at school, or owning the latest products. These desires aren't bad, but when they become the most important thing to us, there's a problem. If we center our lives on something other than Jesus, that thing will begin to consume us. Before we know it, we'll have no time for God, no interest in learning the Bible, and no desire to pray.

Centering our lives on Jesus is like saying, "All of those things I could center my life

around will eventually fail me. They cannot give me true life, joy, or peace. These only come from knowing you, Jesus, and I don't want to miss out on them!"

But what does centering our lives on Jesus look like? It starts with remembering that Jesus is our Savior Who died and our King Who rose again. It also means studying the Bible so we grow in our knowledge of Jesus. Finally, it means trusting in Jesus through obedience and prayer. Obedience is like saying, "Jesus, you are in charge. I will do what You say instead of just what I want." Prayer is like saying, "Jesus, I can't do this on my own. I need Your help!"

Guess what happens when we fix our eyes on Jesus? We begin to look more and more like Him (2 Corinthians 3:18). The Bible wisely says that we will become like what we worship (Psalm 115:8), so let us worship Jesus and center our lives on His name.

### APPLY

What are you centering your life on right now?

### ACTION

What is one step you can take this week to center your life more on Jesus?

### **ASK**

God, fix my eyes on You. Do whatever it takes to show me that You are the greatest treasure.

arms.

# YOU MADE EVERYTHING



Imagine you have had a bad day. Would you rather your mom stand far away from you and say, "I'm sorry, honey. That's too bad." Or would you rather her come up to you, wrap you in her arms, and give you a humongous hug? When people stand far off and speak to us, it's different than

when they come close and hold us in their

When God made the world, He spoke everything into existence. It was the sound of His voice that started the flowers blooming, the sun shining, and the wings of the birds flapping. But when God made humans, He did not just speak. The Bible says He also dug into the dust of the earth

and began to fashion Adam like a potter

Adam's nostrils. When God made Eve. He

took a rib out of Adam and formed her

body before giving her life also.

sculpts his clay. Then He breathed life into

So when God made the skies and seas, the sloths and sheep, He spoke them into existence from a distance. But when God



made us, He came close. So close that He held us in His arms. So close that He breathed His own divine breath into us.

God made us in a different way to show us that we are special. Humans are God's masterpiece. We are God's precious works of art, each and every one of us. There is a dignity in humans that the rest of God's creation does not have. We were made in God's image, to reflect what God is like. God made us in this special way to show us He loves us, cares about us, and wants a relationship with us.

So when you are having a bad day, remember how God made Adam and Eve. Remember that God did not form the fish or the flowers with His very own hands, and He did not breathe life through the nostrils of the gorilla or the seal. But God did these things when He made us because we are special to Him. You are special to Him.

### **APPLY**

How was mankind created differently from light, plants, and animals? What does this teach you about how much God loves us?

### **ACTION**

Blow up a balloon as big as you can without it popping. As you do, remember that God breathed His own breath into Adam to give him life.

### **ASK**

God, You care about me so much You made me more special than the rest of creation. Remind me of that when I think You don't care or that You are far off.

# KING OF EVERYTHING



Many prophets in the Old Testament foretold of God's promised King. One said the King would enter Jerusalem riding on a donkey's colt (Zechariah 9:9). So when the crowd saw Jesus doing just that, they shouted "Hosanna!" and they praised Him.

They thought to themselves, 'Since this man is the King, He must be coming to overthrow our enemies. Jesus must be here to make us a powerful nation again!'

There were other people in the crowd that day who did not believe Jesus was God's promised King. After all, Jesus spent time with cheaters, thieves, and other sinners. Jesus also did not follow all the rules of their religion. 'This is blasphemous!' those people thought. 'This man is not from God.'

Just one week later, the crowds—with both kinds of people—demanded Jesus be crucified. It became clear Jesus was not the King the first group expected. He was not going to overthrow their enemies or make them a powerful nation. And the second group had wanted to kill Jesus for



a while, so they finally got their way.

But this did not surprise Jesus. After all, to be crucified is actually why He had come! It was God's plan for Jesus to die and then come back to life, to prove that He truly was the King that God had promised. Jesus was just a different kind of king than anyone expected.

Jesus did not come to seek worldly power. He came as a humble servant, riding on a donkey. And unlike other kings, Jesus did not seek to gain riches or demand that others serve Him. Instead, He came to give the riches of heaven to those who trust in Him. And He came to show us what it means to serve, that we might know how to serve God and others.

Jesus was indeed the King that God had promised in the Old Testament, and He was actually a better King than anyone could have imagined. Jesus is the King we all need to lead us, and He is the King who deserves to be praised.

### APPLY

Sometimes the things Jesus says or does in the Bible are not what we expect. How should we respond when this happens? Is it okay to ignore the things we don't like about Jesus?

### **ACTION**

Name a specific way you want to serve someone in your family this week. When it comes time to serve, if you have a bad attitude, ask Jesus to give you the same attitude He had when He served us.

### ASK

God, Jesus's kingdom is a kingdom of service and sacrifice. Show me how I am refusing to serve or sacrifice for others, and change my heart to make it more like Jesus's heart.

# I FOUND A TREASURE



GOD IS GOOD AND IS THE GREATEST TREASURE IN THE WORLD.



One day a young man came up to Jesus. This man had a powerful role in his community and was very rich. He had obviously been following Jesus and had a question to ask Him. He wanted to know what good thing he must do to get eternal life.

The answer Jesus gave him was simple. First, Jesus focused on the first part of his question: "What good thing must I do?" Jesus told the young man that there is only one person Who is good. Do you know whom Jesus was talking about? God. God is the only one Who is good, so when we do good things, it is only because of God.

The young man told Jesus that he had been good since he was a boy. He didn't lie. He didn't steal. He followed all the rules. But Jesus knew there was still a big problem. This man didn't know God. He didn't believe that God was the greatest treasure in the world.

So Jesus showed the man that even though he had been good, he could

never be good enough. Jesus said, "Sell everything you have, give all the money to those that are in need, and then follow me." Because this man was very rich, Jesus's words made him sad. He turned around and walked away from Jesus.

Jesus's command might seem simple to you, but in reality it was extremely hard. The more we have, the harder it is to give it away. The young man had a lot and he was attached to his earthly treasures. In his own strength, he could not obey Jesus's command.

Do you know what the man could have done differently? He could have asked Jesus for help. Jesus is good, and through Him, we can do all good things. Plus the Bible is clear that Jesus is the greatest treasure of all and that when we give our lives to Him, we receive treasure in heaven. So let's not walk away sad! Let's remember God is good, He is our greatest treasure, and all things are possible through Jesus.

### **APPLY**

Do you have treasures at your house that would be hard to give away? What are they?

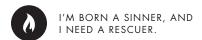
### ACTION

Gather some of your clothes and/or toys and give them to a family, friend, or ministry in need.

### ASK

God, help me to remember that everything I have is Yours and that You are the greatest treasure I could ever have.

# RESCUE FOR MY SOUL



MATTHEW 14:22-33

Have you ever tried to walk on water? You probably did not get very far. It's simple physics. Our bodies are denser than water, so we sink. But Jesus was different. He walked on water because He was human and God at the same time. As God, Jesus has power over everything, including the water He walked on as He approached the disciples' boat.

Peter did not yet understand that Jesus was God. That's why when Jesus told His disciples, "It is me. Do not be afraid," Peter did not believe. Instead, Peter put Jesus to the test. He said, "If you are really Jesus, command me to come to you." Jesus did, and when Peter got out of the boat, Jesus gave him the power to walk on water too!

You would think after this, Peter would have such great faith in Jesus that he would never doubt again. Instead, just moments after he walked on water, Peter got scared of the winds and began to sink into the sea.

Aren't we just like Peter? God answers our prayers or shows us how great He is,

and right after that, we forget. Instead of thinking, "My God is greater than everything! I can trust Him no matter what," we doubt Him all over again.

What happened next is the best part of the story. As Peter was sinking, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus didn't hesitate, not even for a moment. Jesus didn't say, "Why should I save you? Clearly you don't trust Me." Instead, Jesus immediately reached down and brought Peter out of the water. Jesus did not help Peter because Peter was such a great disciple. Jesus helped Peter because He is such a compassionate Savior.

Guess what? Jesus also has compassion on us. So the next time you are in need, cry out to Jesus. He isn't going to look at you and say, "Remember how you forgot to pray all day yesterday? Clearly you don't trust Me." Jesus rescues us not because of our great faith, but because He is our great Savior.

### **APPLY**

Invite everyone in your family to fill in the blank. "I need Jesus to reach down and help me when I'm

### **ACTION**

Play sink or float. Grab five items from around your house. Predict if each item will sink or float. Test them in a container full of water.

### **ASK**

Pray for something specific that you need Jesus's help with today.

# **ONLY JESUS**



JESUS IS THE RESCUER WHO CAN BRING ME TO THE GREATEST TREASURE IN THE WORLD.



Can you imagine not being able to see? There are people who are born blind, who have always seen darkness when they open their eyes. Do you know anyone like that? Do you think that would be hard?

Jesus and His friends met a man that had been blind since birth. Whenever he opened his eyes, all he saw was darkness. Jesus's friends thought this man had done something wrong or that his parents had done something wrong for him to have this condition. They thought his blindness was a consequence of personal sin. But Jesus told them that neither the man nor his parents were the cause of the blindness. Then why was the man blind?

When Adam and Eve first disobeyed God, sin entered the world and our world became broken. Jesus's friends weren't thinking about how the whole world was broken and how, because of that, bad things can happen to all people. They also didn't realize that God can work bad things out for good, that God's power can

transform a bad situation into a beautiful one. This is what Jesus told His friends: "This man was blind so the works of God would be displayed in him."

This man's blindness was God's plan all along! God wanted to show His power by healing this man. So Jesus put mud on the blind man's eyes and told him to go wash the mud off in the Pool of Siloam. The man did exactly as Jesus had said, and he came home seeing! He was able to see everything for the very first time in his life! Did his parents heal him? No. Did the mud heal him? No. Jesus healed him. Only Jesus made him be able to see again.

Everywhere Jesus went He was the light of the world. He brought light where there was darkness, which meant opening blind eyes and, more importantly, saving people from sins. Jesus displayed the works of God so people would know He was the Son of God. Jesus was their Rescuer!

### **APPLY**

If your eyes have been opened to Jesus, what is different about your life?

### ACTION

Put on a blindfold and ask a family member or friend to lead you through the house.

### **ASK**

God, open my eyes to Your works and power displayed on the earth. By the power of Your Spirit, teach me to be the light of the world.

# TELL THE WORLD



Did you know there are people all around the world, in our country, and even in your neighborhood who have never heard the things you've heard about Jesus? They do not have an "Only Jesus" family worship guide in their house. They do not go to church on Sundays to learn the stories of the Bible. They have never read about Jesus's miracles or about His great love for the world.

The Ethiopian eunuch in our story didn't know much about Jesus either. He had come to Jerusalem to worship God and had received a copy of the Scriptures, but he did not know what they meant. He needed someone to help him understand more about Jesus. Philip had never met this eunuch before, but Philip obeyed the Spirit of God. He went where the Spirit led him, and once Philip met this man, he shared all he knew about Jesus.

This story is just one example of what it means to "tell the world that Jesus is the Rescuer." We can preach to large groups



of people or, like Philip in this story, we can talk to just one person about Jesus. From this story we see that whenever we tell people about Jesus, we should look at the Bible. The Bible is "living and active" (Hebrews 4:12) and every word in it is "breathed out by God" (1 Timothy 3:16-17). So when we direct people to the Bible to learn about Jesus, they are hearing the very words of God Himself. Isn't that amazing? And remember, as we read the Bible with others, we can be praying that God will show them that He is real, that He is their Rescuer, and that He loves them.

Is there someone in your school or neighborhood who has never heard the things you've heard about Jesus? What are some of your favorite Bible stories you would want to share with them?

### APPLY

What do you know about Jesus that you could tell someone else? Can you find those facts about Jesus in the Bible?

### **ACTION**

Make a human chariot, with two people on their hands and knees and one person on the top. See how fast you can get across the room on the "chariot." Make sure at least one parent is present.

### ASK

God, please bring people into my life whom I can talk to about Jesus.

# WE ARE ONE



GOD IS KING OF EVERYTHING, INCLUDING ME.

ACTS 2:42-47, ACTS 4:32-35

What do you call a group of baseball players? That's easy—a team. How about a group of soldiers? That's right—an army. What do these groups have in common? They work together toward one goal, fight for the same cause, and follow one leader. When it comes to the church, which is what we call a group of Christians, there is one goal: to see God's kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. We do that by following our leader, Jesus Christ, and obeying His commands to love God, love others, and make disciples. United in our loyalty to Jesus, the Bible calls us "one."

In the book of Acts, the Christians lived together as "one." They were generous, sharing what they had so nobody needed anything. They wanted other people to know about their leader, Jesus, who had saved them from their sins and given them the Holy Spirit. Their focus was no longer on making a great name for themselves. Their focus was on how they could serve others and make Jesus's name great. They invited each other into their homes, prayed

together, studied the Scriptures together, worshipped in the temple together, and shared everything they had.

These Christians saw God move powerfully. Every single day God saved more and more people. Through the apostles, God did amazing miracles. And God filled their hearts with sincere gladness.

Those who are part of the church today can live as "one" too. With the power of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, we can be generous with what we have, whether we have a lot or a little. We can invite people into our homes, whether they are best friends or new neighbors. We can pray for others when they are in need, whether the need is big or small. We can come together to study the Bible, worship God in song, and tell others about Jesus. Through all of this, other people will experience the love of Jesus and some will want to join God's church and follow Jesus too.

### **APPLY**

How do you share your possessions with the people around you? Is there something you are holding onto that God is asking you to share?

### **ACTION**

Invite a friend over to your house for dinner. Help plan and prepare a special meal for that friend.

### **ASK**

God, show me how I can be more generous with what You have given me. And through my generosity, give me an opportunity to tell others about You.

# JESUS FOREVER



JESUS IS THE RESCUER WHO CAN BRING ME TO THE GREATEST TREASURE IN THE WORLD.



Do you ever think about the future? Do you think about what life will be like when you are a teenager? Do you ever think about heaven?

In the book of Revelation, God gives us a sneak peek into the future. We might not understand it completely, and we certainly don't know when it's going to happen (it could be tomorrow; it could be in 2,000 years!), but we know that it will come to pass.

In Revelation 7 we read about people from every nation, tribe, and language gathered together to worship Jesus in heaven. As they worship Jesus, they call Him "the Lamb." Why is Jesus called "the Lamb?" For generations, lambs were used as a sacrifice for the sins of the people. Sinning against God is serious, because God is so perfect!

Think about it. If you lied to your sister, you would get in trouble. If you lied to the principal, you would get in even more trouble. But what if you lied to the

President of the United States? You would get in a whole lot of trouble! When we sin against our perfect and all-powerful God, the consequence is severe. The Bible actually says, "The wages of sin is death." In other words, we deserve to die because of our sins against God.

But there is good news. God is kind. He makes a way for us to not face this punishment. In the Old Testament, God accepted the life of a lamb as a payment for sins. When Jesus came to earth, John the Baptist called Jesus "the Lamb of God" (John 1:29). This meant that Jesus came to do what the lambs in the Old Testament could never do: pay the price for sin once and for all.

This is why when people gather together in the future in heaven, they will say, "Worthy is the Lamb!" This is why we sing those words today. There is no one like Jesus, no one else who has paid for our sin, no one else who deserves to be worshipped forever.

### APPLY

Why do you think it is more severe to sin against God than anyone else?

### ACTION

Write down three reasons you think Jesus deserves to be worshiped by people from every nation, tribe, and language. Think through what you've learned about Jesus so far in this study.

### ASK

God, help me remember that I will never do enough good things to pay You back for my sin. Jesus already did everything for me! Thank You for sending Him to be the Lamb of God.

# TRUST



GOD IS GOOD AND IS THE GREATEST TREASURE IN THE WORLD.

Today's story is all about trust! The word trust means "confidence in someone or something." You probably have people in your life that you can trust, meaning you can count on them and believe what they say. There was a man the Bible referred to as "the centurion." This title meant he was in charge of 100 men in the military. He had authority over these men, and these men had to trust him when he told them what to do.

A soldier who worked for the centurion was lying in his bed, unable to move. The centurion went and found Jesus and asked for His help. Jesus immediately asked, "Do you want me to come to your house to heal your servant?"

How do you think the centurion responded? How would you respond if Jesus asked to come to your house and heal your friend? You would probably say, "Yes! Thank you!" But the centurion's response was surprising. He told Jesus he did not deserve to have Him in his home.



He told Jesus that if Jesus would just say the word, his soldier would be healed.

The centurion knew what it was like to have authority over people, and for people to do what he said. He was in charge of 100 men, and whatever he told those men to do, they did. He understood that Jesus had even greater authority than he did. He trusted that Jesus was the Son of God and that He had the power to heal in an instant. Jesus was amazed at the centurion's faith, and He immediately healed the soldier.

This story is very important for us today because Jesus still has this same power! We can ask Him for anything. We can ask Him to heal. We can ask him to help us. We don't have to see Jesus face to face for His power to show up! He has that kind of authority and power, anytime and anywhere. We can be confident in this. We can put our full trust in Jesus.

### APPLY

Where have you seen Jesus's power throughout Scripture? Think about some of the stories we have already read in this family worship guide.

### **ACTION**

Do a trust fall with someone in your family or with all the members of your family. Make sure at least one parent is present.

### **ASK**

Pray for a friend like the centurion did for his servant. Ask Jesus to show His power in your friend's life.

# CENTER MY LIFE



JESUS IS THE RESCUER WHO CAN BRING ME TO THE GREATEST TREASURE IN THE WORLD.



We live in a selfish world where it's easy to put words like "me" and "I" at the center of our thoughts. We are constantly thinking about ourselves. Did you know that this is the exact opposite of the life that Jesus lived? Everything He did was about His Father God. Everything He said was about His Father God. His life glorified God. His life exalted God. His life was centered on God, not Himself. In fact, Jesus's life was so centered on His Father that He put aside everything He had in heaven to become a servant on earth.

Think about it. The Bible tells us Jesus had been in heaven with God the Father since the very beginning. He was surrounded by the angels and everything was perfect. But when the Father asked Jesus to become a man just like us, He said yes. He humbled Himself. He set aside His glory and came to earth to save us.

While on earth, Jesus walked around helping people, listening to people, and teaching people about God the Father.

Jesus even died on the cross because that is what His Father asked Him to do. Not one moment of Jesus's life was about Himself. He always gave credit to God the Father. The Bible tells us that because Jesus humbled Himself and obeyed, "God gave Him the name that is above every name. When the name of Jesus is spoken, everyone will kneel down to worship Him. Everyone in heaven and on earth and under the earth will kneel down to worship Him. Everyone's mouth will say that Jesus Christ is Lord, and God the Father will receive the glory" (Philippians 2:9-11, NIV).

We like to give ourselves too much credit. We tend to make everything about us and think that we are the greatest ever. But Jesus says when we choose to follow Him, we do what He did. We lay down our lives. We put ourselves aside. Our words and actions become all about Jesus, and our lives become centered on His name instead of ours

### **APPLY**

Where do you take the credit that you should give to God?

### ACTION

Create or design a picture that has Jesus's name standing out. Display that picture in your house this week

### ASK

God, show me how I can bring You glory throughout my day.

# **LYRICS**

# YOU MADE EVERYTHING

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### VERSE 1

Before the earth was made
You knew my life, my name
Before the waters roared, You knew who I would be
And to show us who You are
You formed the moon and stars
All the world around us that we see

### PRE-CHORUS

By Your word, you made day and night By Your breath, You brought us all to life

### **CHORUS**

You made everything and You made me Everything that You have made is for Your glory You made everything and You made me The breath I breathe, the song I sing Is for Your glory

### VERSE 2

You said seek and I will find Hope for this heart of mine God I know You have a plan for me

### PRE-CHORUS

By Your word, You made day and night By Your breath, You brought us all to life

### PRE-CHORUS 2

By Your cross, You made a way for me By Your blood, You have made us free

# KING OF EVERYTHING

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### VERSE 1

Yours is the greatness, Yours is the power Yours is the victory Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory Yours is the majesty

### **CHORUS**

You are King of everything And You will reign forever and ever You are King of everything And You will reign forever and ever

### VERSE 2

We give You honor, our God and Father Heaven and earth are Yours Lord, high above all, You are exalted And over all You rule

### BRIDGE

So I will lift my hands in worship Up to You almighty King And I will bow down in surrender You're the reason that I sing

# I FOUND A TREASURE

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### TURN:

Oooooooh

### VERSE 1

I found a treasure
There's nothing like it in this world
There's nothing greater
It's all I'll ever need and more

### VERSE 2

I found a treasure
Endless joy and perfect peace
Sent down from Heaven
Now made alive inside of me

### **CHORUS**

God is good, and He's good to me He's all I want and He's all I need So I will follow where He leads

### VERSE 3

There's no one higher
There's nothing better in this life
Our one true desire
Only Jesus satisfies

### **CHORUS 2**

God is good, and He's good to me He's all I want and He's all I need

# RESCUE FOR MY SOUL

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### VERSE 1

I was alone out in the darkness Lost in the ocean of my sin Day after day the waves crash over me Lord, it's Your light that draws me in

### **CHORUS**

I raise my hands to You for mercy I need Your love that won't let go Oh God You're reaching down In You I've found A rescue for my soul A rescue for my soul

### VERSE 2

Though I was born into this battle
I look to You time and time again
No longer death in me, You're my victory
Lord it's Your life that draws me in

## BRIDGE

I was a sinner until You found me When I was broken You made me whole When floods surround me, I need You Jesus You are the rescue for my soul

# **ONLY JESUS**

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### VERSE 1

Who's able to forgive, only Jesus Who is our righteousness, only Jesus Who opens up our eyes, only Jesus

### VERSE 2

Who reaches down for us, only Jesus Who shows the Father's love, only Jesus Who brings the dark to light, only Jesus

### **CHORUS**

There's no one like You, You stand alone
No greater love was, ever shown
You are our rescue, only Jesus
High and exalted, upon Your throne
No greater name was, ever known
You are our refuge, only Jesus

### VERSE 3

Who saves us from our sin, only Jesus Who's coming back again, only Jesus Who holds the keys to life, only Jesus

### BRIDGE

You are holy, we bring our praise to You Holy, our hands we raise to You Holy, there's no one like You God

### HALF CHORUS

There's no one like You, You stand alone No greater love was, ever shown No other rescue, only Jesus

# **TELL THE WORLD**

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### VERSE 1

Our eyes have seen Your glory And all that You've done And we believe the story That You are God's own Son

### VERSE 2

You stepped down from the heavens Into this world You made A sacrifice for sinners There is no higher Name Above all names

### **CHORUS**

Your name is life, Your name is power
You are our hope in every hour
Your name is light, You break the darkness
And we will tell the world Your name is Jesus
And we will tell the world Your name is Jesus

## VERSE 3

New life for all creation The reason that we sing The hope for every nation You are the reigning King Above all kings

### BRIDGE

We will tell the world, tell the world
We will tell the world, tell the world
We will tell the world, Your name is Jesus
We will tell the world, tell the world
We will tell the world, tell the world
We will tell the world

# **WE ARE ONE**

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### VERSE 1

From the dust God You have made
And by Your love You show the way
In Your image You created us
We come together now to sing
With one voice to Christ our King
Hand in hand so all can see Your love

### **CHORUS**

We are, we are, we are one
We are, we are, we are one
In Jesus I know we are, we are one

### VERSE 2

Open our eyes to all You've done
Unify us by Your Son
Bring us to the cross where we are saved
And let us live this love You gave
So all the earth will know Your name
And all the earth will stand and shout Your praise

### BRIDGE

By Your grace and by Your power Spirit make us one Give us love for one another Spirit make us one

# **JESUS FOREVER**

Brett Land, Marcus Dawes © 2016 Austin Stone Music (ASCAP). All rights reserved.

#### VERSE 1

Before there was time, You were up in the highest place Leaving Your home, You came down to make a way There was nobody else, no other Name can save You've stolen our hearts and given us everything We want to lift You higher

### **CHORUS**

Jesus, You are forever, everlasting light
Risen Savior, You are, You are, You are forever
Jesus, You are forever, everlasting life
My heart's forgiver, You are, You are, You are forever

### VERSE 2

You are the way, You are the life and truth
Saved by Your grace, there was nothing that we could do
Changed by Your blood, You're making all things new
With Your Spirit in us, we're sealed for a life with You
We want to lift You higher

### BRIDGE 1

Worthy is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain my Jesus

### BRIDGE 2

Risen is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain my Jesus

### HALF CHORUS

Jesus, You are forever, everlasting light, Risen Savior, You are, You are, You are forever

### **TRUST**

Aaron Ivey, Jesse Reeves, Matt Carter © 2016 Austin Stone Music (ASCAP). All rights reserved.

### VERSE 1

I will trust in Jesus' blood Blood You poured out on the cross And this grace was given once for all I will trust in Jesus' blood

### PRE-CHORUS

Ooooooh, I will trust in Jesus now

### VERSE 2

I will trust in Jesus' power By this power I will endure Though my flesh may fail, I stand secure I will trust in Jesus' power

### CHORUS

By Your blood, by your power, every breath, every hour I trust in You All my life, all my days, I will give You all my praise I trust in You, I trust in You

### VERSE 3

I will trust in Jesus now

Now by faith my eyes will see

Oh this life I live is Christ in me
I will trust in Jesus now

### **CHORUS 2**

By Your blood, by your power, every breath, every hour I trust in You All my life, all my days, I will give You all my praise I trust in You

# **CENTER MY LIFE**

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### VERSE 1

Turn my eyes to see you Jesus, in all your glory – turn my eyes

Tune my heart to sing in wonder, of how you love me – tune my heart

### **PRE-CHORUS**

Ohhh, my God, forever You reign Here and now, hear the sound of Your Name

#### **CHORUS**

Jesus, there is none more beautiful
Than Jesus, there is none more powerful
The risen Christ lifted high, Jesus now be glorified
Center my life on Your name, center my life on Your name

### VERSE 2

Turn my eyes away from searching for lesser glory – turn my eyes Teach my heart with all your wisdom to live for Heaven – teach my heart

### **CHORUS 2**

Jesus, there is none more beautiful Than Jesus, there is none more powerful The risen Christ lifted high, Jesus now be glorified The risen Christ lifted high, Jesus now be glorified





