

This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **BEFORE** your children attend church. Because God's plan is for **parents to be the primary spiritual nurturers** of their children's faith, **we want YOU to be the one to introduce** this part of The Big God Story to them.

For additional support in spiritual parenting and to learn more about creating transforming environments in your home, be sure to pick up **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource** from your church or download at HomeFrontMag.com. You can also access the HomeFront app for your iPhone, iPad, or Android device.



4.5

God Is with Us

Part of The Big God Story
2 Samuel 6; Psalm 132
The Ark Arrives at Jerusalem

JUST FOR FUN

Bring out your favorite worship music and encourage your family to join you in a dance party. After the first song, stop and read **2 Samuel 6:12-15 and 17-19**. In the Old Testament, the ark of the covenant reminded people that God was with them. Discuss David's reaction when the Israelites brought the ark to Jerusalem. Explain that because of Jesus, God's Spirit lives inside of us when we decide to follow Him. God is with us all the time. Celebrate some more! Turn the music back on and continue your dance party.

Did You Know?

- During a dramatic battle against the Philistines, the ark of the covenant, the physical reminder of God's presence with His people, was captured and taken. Devastated, the Israelites mourned. But as long as their enemy had possession of the ark, God plagued them with disease and death.
- After seven months, the terrified Philistines returned the ark to the Israelites at Kiriath Jearim, where it stayed for about 20 years. But God wanted another city to be its resting place.
- The Lord chose Zion, another name for Jerusalem, as the place where the ark would dwell. David, God's chosen and anointed king, vowed to bring the ark to Jerusalem.

Remember Verse

Be strong and courageous.
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged,
for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.
Joshua 1:9

Your child is rapidly developing new skills and experiences. While this is a good thing, it can also cause her to get overwhelmed at times. She may begin to test rules or refuse to cooperate with normal routines. Help her learn to use words rather than actions to express how she feels.

Teachable Moments

After reading **2 Samuel 6:12-15 and 17-19**, discuss the following together:

- What did David do when he brought the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem?
- Why do you think David celebrated with food and dance?
- How does it make you feel to know that God is with us all the time?

Blessing

For more information about blessing your child, see the Blessing section in **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource**.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), **the Bible tells us that God takes great delight in you and rejoices over you with singing (Zephaniah 3:17). May you remember that God is always with you, and He loves you very much.**