

At Home Weekly is designed for you to use during the week with your son or daughter. You'll find out what they learned today at church, and you can help them prepare for next week by exploring the theme (or Ponder Point) and spending time together in God's Word.

WHAT WE LEARNED THIS WEEK

PONDER POINT: THE BIG GOD STORY

Easter

This week we went through each of the major points of The Big God Story, highlighting Jesus' death for our sins and His resurrection. The Big God Story continues even today as we live our lives for the Savior and tell others about the salvation He offers.

WHERE WE'RE HEADED NEXT TIME

PONDER POINT: THE FATHER HAS BIG PLANS FOR JESUS

Jesus' Ministry

Mark 1; Luke 4

Jesus begins His ministry, carefully following the big plans the Father laid out for Him.

DID YOU KNOW?

Share these facts to get the conversation started.

- In preparation for His public ministry, Jesus was "taken by the Spirit" into the desert for a time of solitude.
- Jesus appreciated the importance of solitude. Throughout Scripture, we see Him repeatedly going off into a secluded place to be alone with His Father.
- After spending time in solitude with God the Father, Jesus came out of this time fully empowered to do the ministry that lay before Him.

CONNECT AS A FAMILY

Create a quiet setting for your children to help them engage with what they're about to hear. This can take place outside or inside, but away from toys, TV, and other distractions. Gentle lighting and talking in a whisper also add to the mood. Talk with your children about how being still helps us to listen better. It's good to be quiet when we're with God so we can pay attention to Him. **Read Mark 1:9–11.** After reading, simply sit in silence for a few moments. Share with your children that you just practiced silence with God, and they'll be trying this again in church. Close your time by praying and thanking God for the quiet moments He gave you.

After reading the Scripture passage, discuss these questions together:

- What did God the Father say to Jesus after He was baptized?
- How can we listen to God?
- What might God want us to hear from Him?

These questions can easily extend into the rest of the week. Look for opportunities to bring conversations about how The Father Has Big Plans for Jesus into your everyday life as a family.

REMEMBER VERSE

The Remember Verse focuses on a character trait of God that's highlighted in next week's portion of The Big God Story.

Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life.

John 5:24a

BLESSING

Blessings are often used in the Bible. A blessing can be a prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), **May you always listen to God, so He may continue to show you the best path.**

For more information about blessing your child, talk to your ministry leader or see *Spiritual Parenting* by Michelle Anthony.