

TAKE HOME ACTIVITIES

FOR PARENTS:

This week, your child learned about Jesus' ministry on earth and the 12 men he called to be his closest friends. During his three years of ministry, Jesus was the ultimate servant. He served the poor, sick and children. He taught them about the Kingdom of God and healed them from diseases. But he had even more to offer them. He would give his life as a ransom for many, freeing people from their sin, which was keeping them from God.

The time leading up to Easter is an opportunity to spend some time doing a few of these activities with your family. Don't forget the discussion questions that go along with each one. Have fun!

ACTIVITY 1

WHAT A MIRACLE!

You'll need: a Bible

While he was on earth, Jesus performed many miracles. A miracle is an extraordinary event that cannot be explained by natural laws and is caused by God. Jesus didn't just do these miracles to show that he was a nice guy. He healed the sick, and even brought people back from the dead, to show that as God, he had authority over all brokenness in the world.

Read these accounts of three of Jesus' miracles. Then discuss as a family how each one shows Jesus' authority.

- Jesus calms the storm (Mark 4:35-41)
- Jesus feeds the 5,000 (Matthew 14:13-21)
- Jesus raises Jairus' daughter (Mark 5:21-41)

Do you think Jesus still does miracles today? Why or why not?

ACTIVITY 2

MUSTARD TREE

You'll need: Poster Board, Leaf Template (included), Green construction paper, Markers, Double-sided tape

In one of his parables, Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed—it will start small, and one day it will be in full bloom! God is continually renewing and restoring his Kingdom on earth, and he calls us to join him! We can build God's Kingdom by loving our neighbor, being thankful for what God has given us and trusting his plan during hard times.

Create your own mustard tree. Draw the trunk and branches of a tree on a piece of poster board. Cut out leaf shapes from green construction paper using the leaf template. Keep the blank leaves, and double-sided tape, in a small basket or bowl near your mustard tree, so leaves may be easily posted.

Add leaves to your tree anytime! You'll be amazed at how often leaves are added as your family becomes more aware of what everyone is learning about God and how he is active in every aspect of your lives. Your family will have a beautiful visual representation of the ways God is working in your lives and how you are participating in his Kingdom.

Here are some ideas of what to write on your leaves:

- Write prayer requests.
- Write service ideas you can do as a family (loving your neighbor): doing yard work for an elderly person, taking a meal to someone who is sick, volunteering to help at an event at your church.
- Write things you are thankful for.

What are some ways your family can participate in the Kingdom of God on earth?

WHY DO WE CELEBRATE EASTER?
CURRICULUM

TAKE HOME ACTIVITIES
LEAF TEMPLATE

