

Let's Talk: Day 358

Today's Reading: Matthew 24 / Family Focus: verses 42-46

We are reading about Jesus' second coming. On each hour of the day today take a couple of minutes to thank God for sending His son for us. In His perfect plan, He came once as a helpless baby to save us, but will return as a conquering King!

Questions:

1. When does the Bible tell us Jesus will return to Earth?
2. What are we supposed to be doing while waiting for His return?
3. Do we need to be worried about when Jesus will return?
4. What is the best thing we can do to prepare for His return? In your ideal day, what would you be doing when Jesus returns? Why?

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Today's Reading: Matthew 25 / Family Focus: verses 14-30

Describe a time when you have done a good job with a responsibility you were given. What happened? God tells us that when we take care of the little things He gives us, He will then entrust us with more.

Questions:

1. How many talents did the landowner give each person? What determined how much each servant received?
2. What did the person with one talent do?
3. What rewards did the people who doubled their talents receive? What happened to the servant who didn't use what he had been given?
4. What can you learn from the parable? How can you apply this lesson in your life?

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Today's Reading: Matthew 26 / Family Focus: verses 36-46

When Jesus was overwhelmed, He took His friends to a quiet spot and prayed. Take time to pray with your family today. Pray for any requests you have. As you read the passage, notice how raw and vulnerable Jesus was in His prayers to God.

Questions:

1. Where did Jesus go to pray? Why do you think He went there instead of staying in the room where He had just had supper?
2. What did Jesus pray for after He asked for "this cup" to pass from Him?
3. How many times did Jesus see his friends sleeping while He was praying? How would you have felt at this point if you had been Jesus?
4. Even Jesus had concerns about what God wanted Him to do, but He openly shared them with His Father. Have you ever had a time when God wanted you to do something and you had reservations? Explain. Did you tell God your heart?

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Today's Reading: Matthew 27 / Family Focus: verses 27-37

The passage we are reading today describes the most sacrificial and amazing gift anyone could ever give another. Jesus died for us so we could have eternal life with God! Watch the following video and know Jesus paid the ultimate sacrifice: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=25wG9C0s1kA>. Have you accepted the free gift of salvation He has offered to the whole world?

Questions:

1. What did the soldiers put on Jesus after they removed all His clothes? How did they mock Him? What do you think Jesus might have been thinking during this time?
2. Who carried the cross for Jesus? What do you think he might have been thinking as he walked behind Jesus?
3. What did the sign say that they put over the cross of Jesus?

4. How do you feel when you read this passage? Know this: He did all of this and took all of that pain and suffering for YOU! Praise the Lord!

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Today's Reading: Matthew 28 / Family Focus: verses 1-10

Blessedly, the story doesn't end with Jesus' death (from yesterday's reading) but continues on to His resurrection. Watch this video, about how the women were the first to see that the tomb was empty:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3r5kAJvH8Ds&feature=related>.

(Did you expect the angel to have an Australian accent?!)

Questions:

1. How did the stone get moved?
2. Describe the differences between the angel's interaction with the soldiers and his interaction with the women.
3. What two phrases get repeated by both the angel and by Jesus? Why do you think they both said those phrases?
4. Do you think you would have wanted to see Jesus in person or would you have believed He had risen without actually seeing Him?

Let's Talk: Day 363

Today's Reading: Psalm 90 / Family Focus: verses 10-13

What would you do if you could live to be very old? Discuss with your family the fun things you would do or places you would visit if you had the time and resources. Would you want to live for 100 years? What do you think life will be like then?

Questions:

1. What is the first age talked about in this passage and what does it mean?
2. What does the psalmist consider a very old age?
3. What should we do to gain a heart of wisdom?
4. What does it look like to waste the days of one's life? What can you do to make the most of your time on earth? How are you doing?

Let's Talk: Day 364

Today's Reading: Today is the weekly OFF day

Mystery Question for the upcoming week: In what city did Abram (later called Abraham) grow up?

As a family, review some of the highlights of your last several months. What did you learn about Jesus? Did you see God at work in your family's life? How? Write these things down to remember for years to come.

Let's Talk: Day 365

No formal reading today. Pick your own.