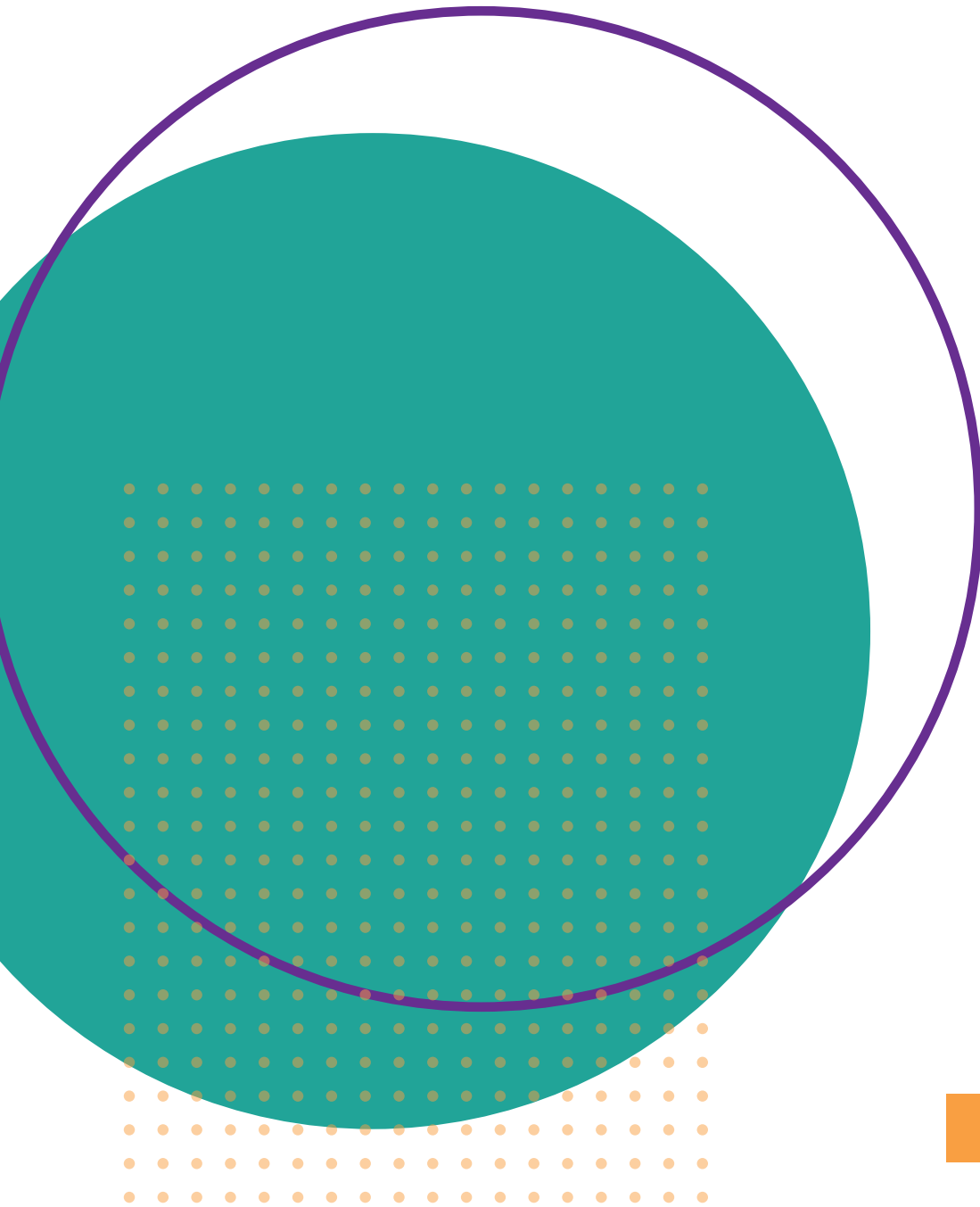
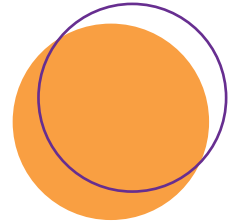


FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

WEEK 9 RESURRECTED FROM EXILE



FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP IS KIND OF A BIG DEAL.

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 instructs parents to make God front and centre in home life; talking with children, impressing upon them and working with them at all times of the day and night. Put simply a parent's primary ministry is to raise their children to be disciples of Jesus.

For some of you it's already a regular part of the rhythm of your family's week; keep up the good work. Some of you will feel like you could be doing better; keep on trying, practice builds confidence and competence. And some of you feel overwhelmed and don't know where to start; that's ok, your church family is here to help.

Our prayer is that this Family Discipleship Guide will give you some helpful tools in developing a weekly rhythm of discipleship practices to help you and your family to grow together in love and service of God.



THE FAMILIES

We've broken the guide in into 5 parts each with its own specific way of engaging the bible passage that week:

REFLECT encourages family members to reflect on the bible passage and what it means to them.

REACT engages your emotions and helps bringing those reactions before God.

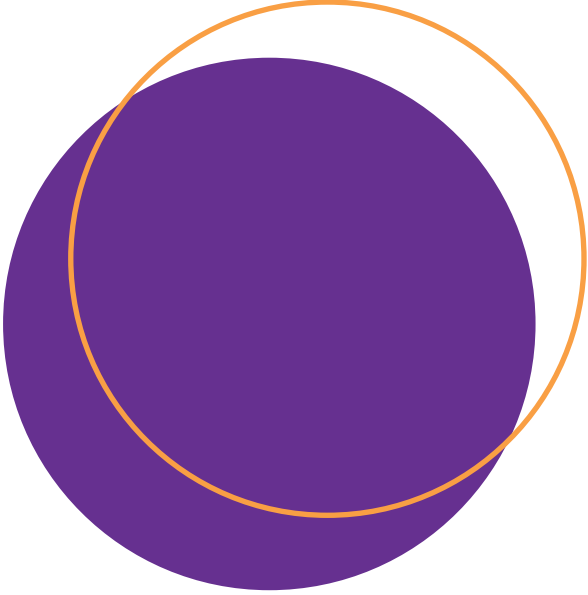
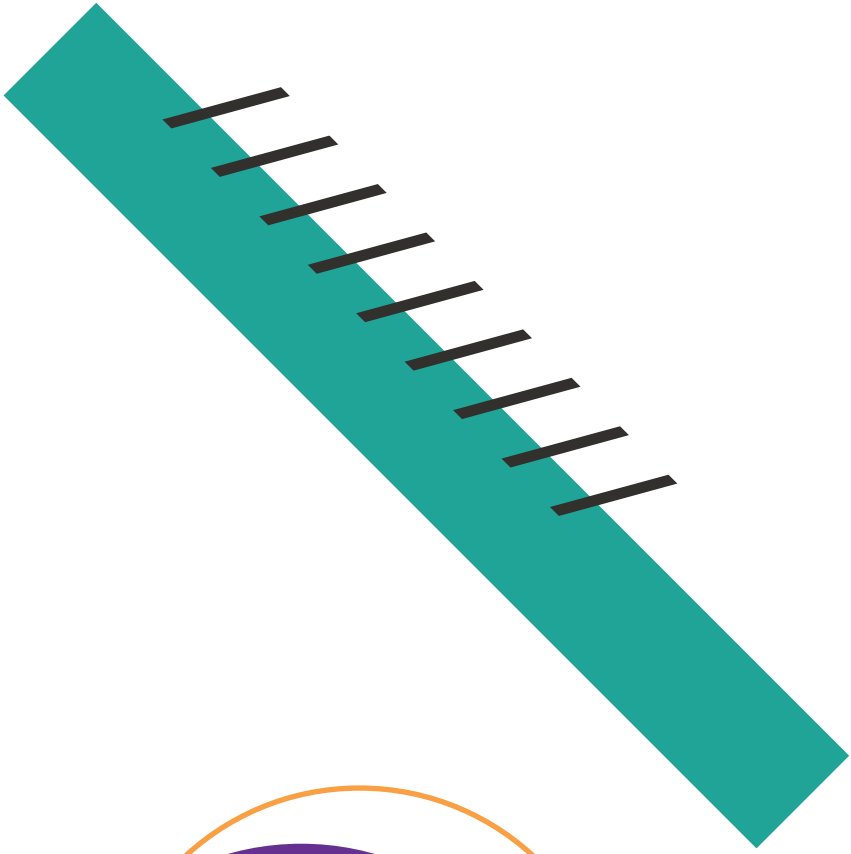
RELATE encourages families to share honestly, and listen deeply to how one another are growing as disciples.

RESPOND helps families to work out real and practical ways they can respond to God in light of the weekly bible passage.

REVIEW encourages families to review the bible passage for the week and engage with it in a different way.

You might like to use these as 5 separate daily devotions, OR you might like to group some of the sections together to make a couple of family devotional times but leave yourself room to use other resources you've found elsewhere. Remember these are a collection of tools, not rules, for family discipleship.

Don't forget to show us how your family are discipling one another by sharing your photos and reflections on our social media pages with the hashtag #WeAreLivingChurch.



WEEK 9 QUICK VIEW

QUICK VIEW

This week is about recognising the reality of our condition as children of God living in a fallen world. We introduce and explore the term 'exiles' and the challenging idea that just because you have lived somewhere your whole life, it doesn't mean it's your home. Our best approach to tackling the everyday moments where we must be brave enough to stand apart from the world, is to band together as a church, and to stay connected to Jesus.

DATE OF SERMON

20.06.2021

BIBLE READING

Daniel 12:1-13

BIG IDEA

God's answer to the death of exile will be gloriously fulfilled in a future resurrection of God's people, first in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who entered into the curse of death, so we too could rise to newness of life.

KIDS BIG IDEA

The great hope God's people can look forward to is God's promise of resurrection life for all who trust in him.

KIDS APPLICATION

Live for Jesus knowing you have eternal life in him, and patiently serve, look forward to God's glorious resurrection.

KEY VERSE

Daniel 12:1b-3

But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered. Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.

KEY SONG

Early Years and Kids - [A King Like God, Ben Pakula](#)
Youth - [Where the Light Is, Dan Bremnes](#)

MOMENTS

Insert (what key themes can parents keep in their mind to bring up this week)

This week we are thinking about what it means to be exiles.

Highlight moments in the week where we as Christians may be called to stand out and be different because of our salvation in Jesus

Encourage kids to share when they felt conflicted in the day, even if they didn't feel like they took the right action. This is not something any of us do perfectly, so sharing our struggles in this is just as important as our victories

This week, in your prayers together, continue to ask God for strength to resist temptations and for our support for each other on mission together in Christ

PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you for your son Jesus, who left His home beside You to walk this earth with us so that we could call heaven our home, too. Please, Spirit, be with us in the challenge of living as exiles and strangers in the world we live in now. Please give us courage, focus and determination to live for you in our Babylon. Thank You for the Christian community You have given us and the ways we can encourage and support each other in our goal to live for you. Thank you for the great gift of Your Word that we have to draw strength and wisdom from. In particular, we praise You this week for the book of Daniel, and the way it glorifies You. We pray that through it we might understand You better, by Your Spirit.

In Jesus' name,
Amen

REFLECT

As parents, encourage your family to personally reflect on the bible passage, and what it means for them. Try to guide this so it lands close to the big idea.

EARLY YEARS

Read Daniel 12:1-3

In another dream Daniel sees hope for the future for all God's people. Everyone who is part of God's family has their name written in the book of life, all because of what Jesus did at the cross. Even if these people die they will be raised from the dead just like Jesus to live forever with him.

That is very good news!

But it is bad news for those who aren't part of God's family.

KIDS

Read Daniel 12:1-13

In this last vision given to Daniel there are some promises for the future.

What stands out to you?

What is the good news for God's people?

How are we part of the good news through Jesus?

What is the bad news for those who aren't part of God's family?

Note: the number of days in verse 11 & 12 can be confusing. Don't worry if you don't fully understand – Daniel didn't either! Instead rest in the promise of verse 13.

YOUTH

Read Daniel 12:1-13

In this last vision given to Daniel there are some promises for the future.

What stands out to you?

What is the good news for God's people?

How are we part of this good news through Jesus?

What is the bad news for those who aren't part of God's family?

Note: the number of days in verse 11 & 12 can be confusing, and there is lots of debate about what they actually mean. Don't worry if you don't fully understand – Daniel didn't either! Instead rest in the promise of verse 13.

PRAY

Praise God for his amazing plan that will be fulfilled one day.

Thank God for how our names can be written in the book of life because of what Jesus has done for us. Confess to God the ways you sin and fall short of your position as a child of God.

Pray for those you know who at the moment are not written in the book of life, that God might use you to lead them to the good news of Jesus.

REACT

As parents, encourage your family to see how they are reacting emotionally to the Bible passage. Engage emotionally and bring it before God.

EARLY YEARS

Download and print the age-appropriate activity sheet for this week from the Living Church website.

<https://livingchurch.org.au/living-church-online/>

As you do the activity sheet with your kids talk about how it feels to know that we shine like stars when we point others to God.

KIDS / YOUTH

Read Revelation 20:11-15

How does this vision of the end of days line up with Daniel 12?

How does it make you feel to know that Jesus will stand in your place when you face judgment?

How do you feel about those whose name is not written in the book of life?

Read Revelation 22:1-5

How do you feel about this vision of the future for those whose name is written in the book of life?

PRAY

Dear Lord,

Praise God for the risen Son of Man, Jesus who has defeated death on our behalf.

Praise God for the Lamb of God, Jesus whose sacrifice has taken away the sin of the world.

Thank you that Jesus will stand in our place when everyone is judged at the end of days. We don't deserve this, but Jesus does it because of his great love for us.

We pray for those who are in danger of not being in the book of life. We pray that you might even use us to shine like stars reflecting the light of Jesus so that they might turn to God in and be saved.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.

RELATE

As parents, encourage your family to share honestly, and listen deeply to how one another are growing as disciples.

Parents it will be important for you to model honesty and vulnerability as you answer these questions, so your kids know they can do the same. Allow time for everyone to reflect and answer each question openly and honestly. Make sure you listen well to one another, and pray from the heart.

FAMILIES

As we finish up the book of Daniel reflect together.

What have you learned about Daniel this term?

What have you learned about God this term?

How have you grown in your faith & life this term?

Pray for each other.

PRAY

Pray one by one for each member of the family that they might stand firm to the end like Daniel, resting in the promises of God that we have because of Jesus.

Pray for specific growth areas for each member of the family.

RESPOND

As parents, encourage your family to work out real and practical ways they can respond to God in light of the Bible passage. Land the application in this section.

EARLY YEARS

Get a photo of family or friends who don't know Jesus.

Pray for them together that they might know Jesus.

Pray that God might use you to tell them more about Him.

KIDS / YOUTH

How does the eternal hope you have in Jesus help you serve God and others?

How does the eternal hope you have in Jesus change how you serve God and others?

PRAY

Pray a prayer of repentance, remembering that God is also a God of forgiveness and love.

REVIEW

As parents, encourage your family to review the Bible passage for the week. This section tries to find a way to engage with the passage in a different way.

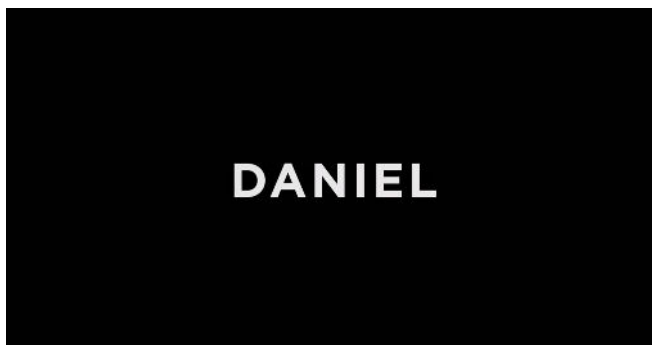
EARLY YEARS / KIDS

Get each member of the family to share their favourite story from the whole of the book of Daniel.

Praise God that he is always in control.

YOUTH

Watch this video as an overview of Daniel.



PRAY

Dear Lord,
We praise You for the book of Daniel, and for the ways in which You have used it so far to help us to grow in our knowledge and love for You. Please help us to be inquisitive and curious with open hearts, so that we can deepen this further and be challenged to live differently.

In Jesus' name,
Amen

