



**FAMILY**  
**LifeGroup**

Sunday 30 August 2020

NEW TERRAIN  
Thriving when Families Change



## CHALLENGE

Last session we asked you to try and remember a Bible verse. See who can remember it.

**Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness  
Lamentations 3:21-23**



## EXPLORATION

Sometimes our families change, but one thing never changes, our heavenly Father.

Click [here](#) to watch!



## VERSE

### Deuteronomy 11:8-21

Observe therefore all the commands I am giving you today, so that you may have the strength to go in and take over the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, and so that you may live long in the land the LORD swore to your ancestors to give to them and their descendants, a land flowing with milk and honey. The land you are entering to take over is not like the land of Egypt, from which you have come, where you planted your seed and irrigated it by foot as in a vegetable garden. But the land you are crossing the Jordan to take possession of is a land of mountains and valleys that drinks rain from heaven. It is a land the LORD your God cares for; the eyes of the LORD your God are continually on it from the beginning of the year to its end. So if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today—to love the LORD your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul— then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and olive oil. <sup>15</sup> I will provide grass in the fields for your cattle, and you will eat and be satisfied. Be careful, or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them. Then the LORD's anger will burn against you, and he will shut up the heavens so that it will not rain and the ground will yield no produce, and you will soon perish from the good land the LORD is giving you. Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land the LORD swore to give your ancestors, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.



## MAIN THOUGHT

**Our families can change, people can join our family and sometimes they leave our family. But, one thing never changes, we have a heavenly Father who is always there for us and He is perfect and understands us and how we are feeling perfectly!**



## DISCUSSION

*These are to guide the general conversation.*

1. What does the word family mean to you?
2. If you were a mum or dad what rules you would have in your house?
3. What are some rules you would like to change in your family?
4. What does it mean to you to know God is your heavenly Father?



## ACTIVITIES

### CRAFT ACTIVITY

#### **WE ARE ALL A PART OF GOD'S BIG FAMILY**

*We are all a part of God's big family. That means when we are having trouble in our own family we have a perfect father to talk to, God. He understands us and loves us so much!*

#### **You Will Need:**

- Paper Doll Chain template (can be printed on colour or white paper)
- Scissors
- Textas, pencils or crayons



Using the template, fold the paper chain people along the faint grey line. Make sure you fold in a concertina pattern (fold one direction, then the other). Using your scissors cut around the people. Unfold and you should have created a paper doll chain. Depending on the size of your family you might need to make more than 1 and stick them together with tape. On the middle person write GOD. On the people on either side, write the names of all the members of your family. Did you notice what joins the people together? Our earthly families are not perfect, but our heavenly Father is and he joins us together with His love!

## ACTIVE ACTIVITY



### I AM A PART OF GOD'S FAMILY

*We are all a part of God's family!! The best part of even if our own family is broken or not quite right sometimes, we can trust that we have a perfect Father who loves us perfectly. He also wanted to love us and help us to understand how amazing we are!*

#### You Will Need:

- **Print outs of the 'I Am a Child of God' image (1 for each family member)**
- **Pen, pencil or texta**
- **Scissors**

Each person takes their image and cuts it into a puzzle. You can simply cut it into triangles and squares, or you can be really tricky and cut it into puzzle shape pieces. Swap your puzzle with someone else and then have a race to complete the puzzle.



## PRAYER

**Jesus, we thank you for our families, for those you have given us to love and who love us. We pray that you would be with us as we live in families. Help us to love and care for each other. Jesus, in the times when our families change help us to remember that God is our perfect Father and we have a big family we belong to, His family. Amen.**



## BLESSING

**[Name], may Christ be the foundation of your family. Amen.**



## CHALLENGE

Try and remember this verse this week. Perhaps you and your family might like to make up some actions to help, or even a song? It's a big one this week!!

**But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15b**

## COMMUNITY CONNECTION

**We would love to see how you and your family are growing faith in your home.**

Why not set up a mini 'Table' for the kids like we have been using at LifeWay? It can be as simple as paper and pencils, scissors and glue and Lego or Play dough. They can then make something while you watch the Live Stream as a family.

If you are happy to share photos or videos of what you have been doing please send them to Elise von Stanke [elise.vonstanke@lifeway.net.au](mailto:elise.vonstanke@lifeway.net.au) and we will share these with our community through Facebook and Instagram @lifewaylutheranchurch.





