

FAMILY GUIDE

# MOSAIC



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As you engage with SBC's Mosaic devotional this week, we invite you to discuss the concepts with your family and share what God is teaching you! This guide includes a short summary of the book's theme and daily overviews that you can read with your children. We've also provided some discussion questions to help you and your children personalize and apply each day's reading.



# 1

## God Loves His Children



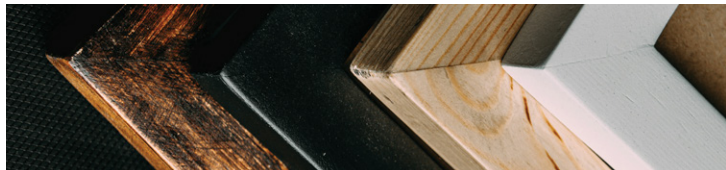
God created a beautiful world filled with love and purpose. He made the first people, Adam and Eve, to live in a perfect garden where they could be close to Him. But one day, they made a choice to disobey God, and everything changed. Their disobedience brought sadness and brokenness into the world, and they had to leave the garden and experience the results of their sin.

However, God never stopped loving them. He walked with them and eventually sent His Son, Jesus, to show us how much He cares. To explain the kind of love God has, Jesus once told a story about a son who rebelled and took his father's inheritance money early so he could live however he wanted. He ended up in a terrible situation and finally headed home to beg his dad to at least let him be a slave. But when his father saw him coming, he ran to hug him and had a big feast to celebrate his homecoming! This is how much God loves us. Through Jesus, we can find forgiveness, hope, and a close relationship with our Creator. God's love is always there for us, no matter what.

### ■ REFLECTION

1. Why do we sometimes disobey God?
2. Why do you think God lets us experience consequences when we disobey Him?
3. Can you think of a time when you were forgiven for something you did wrong, even though you didn't deserve it?

## — *God Heals Families*



God created a beautiful family for Adam and Eve, and the Bible tells us about two of their sons, Cain and Abel. These boys were supposed to show love and unity in their family. But Cain did something very wrong; he hurt and killed his brother Abel because he was angry and jealous of him. This made their family sad and broke their unity.

Other families in history were also damaged by selfishness and sin, but God didn't give up on making families joyful. He sent Jesus to show us a new way to be a family, not just with our own relatives but with everyone who loves Him. When Jesus was on the cross, He made Mary and His disciple John family, even though they weren't related by blood. This shows us that in God's family, we are all connected by His love, no matter where we come from. Jesus brings us back together like a beautiful mosaic, even when things seem broken.

### ■ REFLECTION

1. Can you think of a time when you felt jealous of someone else because they had something you didn't?
2. How do you think God wants us to treat our family members?
3. How can God help us when we struggle to get along with someone in our family?

## — *Our Plans vs. God's Plan*



After Noah and his family survived the great flood and stepped onto land again, God made a special promise with a beautiful rainbow. He promised to never flood the whole world again. God also gave Noah and his family a big job: to grow their family and take care of the Earth. Noah's family obeyed and people stayed in communities and all spoke the same language.

But as time went on, people started to think they could do anything on their own. In a place called Shinar, they decided to build a huge tower reaching up to the sky. They wanted to show off their skills and be famous, ignoring what God had told them to do. This tower became a symbol of humans wanting to be powerful without God's help.

Then something surprising happened. God saw what they were doing and decided to mix up their language so they couldn't understand each other. This made them stop building the tower and go to different places with people who spoke the same language. Even though this caused confusion, it also led to different cultures and languages in the world. Eventually, God created an even better way of bringing people together under His love, and that happened when Jesus Christ came. He unites us all as one family when we believe in Him.

### ■ REFLECTION

1. How do you think God wants to be involved in the plans we make?
2. Have you ever thought you didn't need God's help that much, but then made some mistakes that made you realize you do?
3. When someone disagrees with you, and you think you're right and they're wrong, what should you do?



## *An Open Door to God*



In God's master plan, He asked the Israelites to build a special place called the Tabernacle. This was a movable sanctuary where they could worship God as they traveled to their promised land. Inside, priests did rituals and offered sacrifices to help cover the sins of the people and connect them with God. But, to guard the Holy Place where God's presence was strongest, there was a thick curtain. Only the highest priest could go behind it. This was a symbol that we couldn't get close to God because of our sins.

Then came a remarkable moment! When Jesus died on the cross, the huge temple curtain tore in two, from top to bottom! This wasn't an accident; it was God's way of saying, "Now everyone can come near to Me through Jesus!" We no longer need rituals or priests and there are no more barriers! Because of what Jesus did, we can talk to God anytime, anywhere, and He hears us. Everyone who believes in Jesus is forgiven from all their sins and has God's Spirit living inside them, making us His temples. The torn curtain is a reminder that we're welcome in God's presence, forgiven and loved.

### ■ REFLECTION

1. Do you have a time or place where you like to pray and be with Jesus?
2. Have you ever felt like God is far away, and if so, how do you think you could get closer to Him?
3. How does knowing Jesus is with you all the time help you face things in your life?

## God Speaks to Us



God's voice and words brought everything into existence. In the Old Testament, His voice guided people like Abraham and Moses, showing them His plan. Even when people turned away, God continued to speak to them through prophets. But then came a time of silence. People wondered why God stopped speaking. Had they done something wrong? Did God forget them?

But after 400 years, a new message broke the silence. John the Baptist announced that God's promised Savior was near. When Jesus was baptized, God's voice thundered from heaven, saying Jesus was His Son. God's voice had returned, stronger than ever.

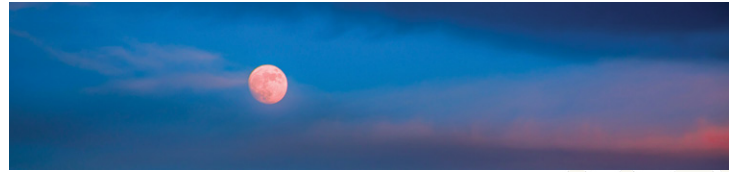
Now, we don't need to wait for God's voice from the sky. Jesus came as God's Word in human form, teaching us how to live and know God, and we have His words in the Bible. With the Holy Spirit living in us, God's voice is even nearer, guiding and comforting us and showing us His love.

### ■ REFLECTION

1. Since we can't hear God speak out loud to us, how can we hear from Him?
2. Have you ever felt like God was speaking to you in your thoughts? If so, how did that affect you?
3. How does knowing Jesus lives in you help you make choices and decisions?



## God's Love Overcomes Our Failures



Peter was a brave and daring fisherman from Galilee. When Jesus said, “Follow Me,” Peter didn’t hesitate. He became one of Jesus’ closest disciples and a leader among them. He showed his boldness by walking on water and boldly proclaiming Jesus as the Christ.

But Peter faced a difficult test. Jesus told him he would deny Him three times, but Peter insisted he would never do such a thing. Sadly, when the time came, Peter denied knowing Jesus, just as Jesus had said. Peter felt terrible and wept bitterly.

However, Jesus forgave Peter and showed him that he still had a purpose. After Jesus rose from the dead, He specifically told the women to tell Peter about His resurrection. Later, Jesus appeared to Peter and gave him a new mission to teach and care for others. Peter went on to become a key leader in the early church, showing that even when we fail, God’s forgiveness and love can restore us and give us a new purpose.

### ■ REFLECTION

1. Have you ever made a promise to someone or to God and then not kept it? How did it feel?
2. Do you ever feel like you want to be more loyal to Jesus but fail?
3. How do you think Jesus responds to us when we do wrong things? Do you wonder how He feels about you?

## Being Part of Christ's Kingdom



When Jesus came to Earth, many expected Him to be a powerful ruler who would fix all their problems. But Jesus had a different plan. He showed us that His kingdom is not about earthly power, but about love, healing, and forgiveness. As Jesus' journey led to the cross, His followers' hopes were shattered. They thought He would be a king on Earth, but instead, He was crucified like a criminal. It was a confusing and sad time for them as they tried to make sense of what was happening.

But when Jesus rose from the dead, everything changed. His resurrection showed that His kingdom is eternal and that He was the true Messiah, bringing hope and new life to everyone who believes in Him. His love can fix our brokenness and His resurrection gives us confidence that we can live forever with Him.

### ■ REFLECTION

1. What do you think Jesus' rising from the dead means for people who believe in Him?
2. When you feel discouraged, how can knowing Jesus and remembering how powerful He is help give you hope?
3. How can you tell your friends about the courage and confidence Jesus gives you?

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