

THE PARTIAL KINGDOM

Kingdom four marks the halfway mark of the Kingdom series! This weekend we studied 424 chapters, 500 pages, and 1000 years of history in the Bible. Perhaps before talking as a family this week about the Partial Kingdom, you can share what you have been learning throughout this series. Is there something that stood out to you? Is there something you never knew before? Parents, perhaps you could share with your children how God has been changing you in this series? This would be a great opportunity to take a few minutes and help your kids see how some of their favourite Old Testament stories and passages fit into the Big Picture of God's word.

1. Before hearing the sermon this weekend, how would you have described the period of time in the Bible, between Genesis 13 and 2 Chronicles? What stories would you highlight? What lessons or themes are present? What would you say is the theme of the Partial Kingdom?

2. The sermon this weekend made several "pit-stops" throughout history. The first story reviewed God saving His people in Egypt when they were saved the night of the tenth plague (Exodus 12). Parents, ask your child if they know what the tenth plague was. What did the blood and the lamb represent? Discuss if this connection is something you had known before, or how this helps us understand the story when we see what God is doing for His people?

3. The second pit-stop studied the Law given to God's people Israel (Leviticus 16). What was the reason God gave His people the Law (Bonus Trivia: 613 laws!)? Were they good at keeping the law? Why not? What was the Day of Atonement? What was being symbolized or happening during the Day of Atonement? What and who does this remind us of?

4. Our third stop this weekend was in Joshua 5:13-6:27. What happened in this story? Parents, the story of Jericho can be very common and familiar to your children. Maybe you want to act out the story as a family before spending time thinking about what was really happening in this story (We encourage the use of blocks, trumpets, music, singing, and shouting!). What is the main theme of the Jericho story? What does it mean that God always fights our battle and is in charge of His people? How does knowing God fights our battles make you feel in the battles you face in life?

5. The final stop in our sermon this weekend was 1 Samuel 17:50-51. What did God's people Israel want to be the same as the nations around them? Why do you think they wanted a king? What was wrong with them wanting a king? Maybe you want to act out the story of David and Goliath before discussing what God was really doing in this story. (We encourage the use of children tackling a parent, the use of fake armour, and battle chants. We discourage the use of slingshots, other ancient Philistine weapons, or cutting off of heads :)). Why was David able to face Goliath. How does this story help show us how God would ultimately win the battle for us over sin?

6. Although God is always there for His people throughout the Partial Kingdom, the end of 2 Chronicles leaves us wondering if God would keep His promise to keep His people in a land with His blessing. How do moments like these in our Bible make some people think that God forgets His promises? What do you think will happen next week in the Prophesied Kingdom? What hope will there be for His people?