

OCTOBER 25-31

FOR PARENTS

We continue reading through two of the books that are known as Writings: Proverbs and Psalms.

Proverbs are wise and sometimes clever sayings that help people figure out what way to go in life. The proverbs in this book were collected over many years. They were probably written down about 2,400 years ago. Although wise King Solomon gets credit for writing many of them, the message of these proverbs is that **wisdom comes from God.**

The book of Psalms is the hymnal and prayer book of ancient Israel. This week we look at a variety of psalms that glorify God's work in creation, express the joy of forgiveness, praise God, and offer thanksgiving for God's goodness.

KID CONNECTION

Children are naturally good at praise and thanksgiving prayers. Invite family members to slow down and let your child lead you through God's creation and goodness. Let the natural expressions of praise and thanks that come from your child speak to you and open your eyes and mind to new ways to appreciate the wonder of God.

REMEMBER 1 THING

Jesus loved to go to God's house and think about God. David loved to look at the stars and think about God. Whether you are in church or out on a hillside, God is there and God is amazing!

READING PLAN

Day	Read from Your Favorite Translation	Scripture
10/25	Proverbs 3:6	Proverbs 3:6
10/26	Psalm 136: Liturgical Psalm	Psalm 136
10/27	Psalm 32: Thanksgiving Psalm	Psalm 32
10/28	Psalm 8: Praise	Psalm 8
10/29	Psalm 103: Praise	Psalm 103
10/30	Psalm 100: Praise	Psalm 100
Sunday	In My Father's House	Psalm 8; Psalm 100; Luke 2:41-52

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Instructions and discussion tips are available on the church website.

Choose one or more activities that will interest your family as you make this week's stories your own.

Psalm 8 Biscuits

Using canned biscuit dough, create heart-shaped biscuits to share and talk about what it means that humans were created a little lower than God. What should our response be to this wonderful gift of creation?

Magnifying Glass Fun

Supplies needed: magnifying glass.

Take a walk in God's world, looking for all the small things.

Create a Psalm 100 Cheer

Put motions to Psalm 100 or create a cheer to say as a family based on Psalm 100.

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Psalm 8 Biscuits.

Supplies needed: canned biscuits, cooking spray, baking sheet, extra flour and parchment paper or waxed paper.

Have each person wash their hands then give each person a piece of parchment paper or waxed paper and a biscuit from a can. A little pinch of flour will help the dough not stick to their fingers. Invite family members to shape the dough into a heart (they can flatten the dough into a big circle then use a heart-shaped cookie cutter or use their fingers to shape the dough into a heart.)

Place hearts on the greased baking sheet and bake according to the directions on the can. Enjoy the biscuits with butter, jam, or honey, taking time to enjoy the textures of the foods and the taste of your creation. Talk together using these questions and talking points as you enjoy the work of your fingers.

The phrase in Psalm 8, “the work of your fingers” reminds us that God was personally involved in creation. He wasn’t just creating from afar. God had a plan for everything to be in its place – the stars, moon, earth, oceans, etc.

- I wonder why God cares so much about humans?
- Knowing that God cares so much about us, I wonder what our response should be?
- I wonder if this knowledge of God’s loving care changes how we act?

Magnifying glass fun

Supplies needed: magnifying glass

The world God created is big and wonderful! There are also very small creatures that God created in our world. Take a walk and bring a magnifying glass with you to observe the very small creations of God. Say a prayer of praise (like the Psalmist did) for all of God’s creation.

Create a Psalm 100 Cheer

Invite a family member to read Psalm 100 from your favorite translation. After hearing it once, ask family members what movement they might put to the words of the Psalm. Create a cheer chant using the words of Psalm 100. Put the motions and the cheer together and say it several times.