Session 2: Sept. 11

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Paul continued his letter to the Roman Christians by addressing some incorrect teaching that was slipping into the church. Some of the Jewish believers struggled with understanding that Jesus had fulfilled the law and that their salvation was not tied to the law. Salvation was through faith in Jesus. Sin had entered the world through one man—Adam, but salvation had entered the world through another, sinless man—Jesus. Through Jesus, we can be reconciled to God. Read Romans 5:6-11 as a family and talk about the discussion questions on the back of this week's Family Card.

BIBLE PASSAGE: Romans 4:13–5:21
MEMORY VERSE: Ephesians 2:4-5
BIBLE VERSE: Romans 5:8
OLDER KIDS TEXT TRUTH: Even though we sin against Him, God showed His love for us when He sent Jesus to die for us.
YOUNGER KIDS TEXT TRUTH: God showed us His love when He sent Jesus to die for our sin.

Reconciled to God
Romans 4:13–5:21

Paul wanted to explain to the Romans that having a relationship with God can only happen by faith alone. After you trust in Jesus as Savior, instead of your sin, God sees Jesus' sinless life and His sacrifice on the cross for your sin when He looks at you. We cannot have a relationship with God because of anything we do. Instead, we place our faith in what Jesus did for us. Paul used Abraham as an example to help the Romans understand that we can only have a relationship with God when we have faith.

Paul wrote, "God's promise to Abraham and his descendants was a promise of faith, given by grace, and secured for all who believe. Abraham believed that God created from nothing and can bring the dead back to life. Although it seemed impossible for Abraham to become the father of many nations, Abraham had hope and faith. He did not stop believing. Instead, Abraham praised God because Abraham believed that God would keep His promise. Abraham believed and he was forgiven of his sin. Like Abraham, if we believe that Jesus died to pay for our sin and was raised three days later, we can also have a relationship with God."

Then Paul continued, "Remember, when we were helpless in our sin, Christ died for us. God has proven His love for us because while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Now we are forgiven and saved from God's wrath. Once we were enemies of God, but through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we have been reunited (reconciled) with God and now we can rejoice."

Paul continued, "Do not forget that sin and death entered the world through one man—Adam—and spread to all people. The good news is that salvation entered the world through one man—Jesus. God gave Jesus as the sacrifice for our sin. Jesus was perfectly righteous—He never sinned. God's law has helped us see our sin and our need for grace. Through Jesus, we can receive eternal life."