



LESSON 5

Celebrating God

OPEN IT

1. What was the last thing you celebrated? Why did you celebrate it? What did you do to celebrate?

DAILY DEVOTIONS

Day 1

TODAY'S THEME: EXPLORE IT

Read Genesis 17:1-5; 21:1-7

2. What was the sign of God's covenant with Abram?
3. What did Abram's name change to? What does his new name mean?
4. What did Abraham and Sarah name the son they were promised?
5. What was Sarah's response when she gave birth to Isaac?

Day 3

TODAY'S THEME: WE CELEBRATE BECAUSE GOD GIVES US A NEW IDENTITY

Read Genesis 17:5-6

Throughout the Bible you see lots of people get new names. Abram became Abraham, Saul became Paul, Sarai became Sarah, Jacob became Israel, and others! It was a big deal for your name to be changed in that day because your name was closely tied to who you were, what your identity was. So when God changed Abram's name to Abraham, it meant that something radical had changed about who Abraham was and what God was doing in his life.

I don't know about you, but my name stayed the same when I became a Christian. Chances are, the same is true for you, too. While we aren't big on changing our names today when something major happens in our lives (other than marriage), God says there is something deeply different about our identity as Christians. We are no longer slaves to sin but slaves to righteousness. We aren't left in bondage but have been set free. We are no longer in the darkness but now in the light. We were evil, then became righteous. We are now called children of God.

8. How does our identity change in Christ? Why is this worth celebrating?

9. What things sum up who you are as a person? What things define you as a person? How do you determine what things define who you are?

I HAVE A QUESTION! ✍ Write it down so you can ask your leader or your parents!

PRAYER GUIDE ➤ Here are some things you could pray for today:

Jesus, thank You for making me a new person when You saved me from my sins. You have given me an entirely new life, a new identity. I am not who I once was. Amen.

Take some time to thank the Lord for the ways He has changed you since you became a Christian.

Day 4

TODAY'S THEME: WE CELEBRATE BECAUSE GOD FULFILLS HIS PROMISES

Read Genesis 21:1-7

Nothing hurts quite as badly as unmet expectations. Whether it's unspoken expectations or explicit promises, we are hurt when things don't pan out as expected. God had promised Abraham and Sarah a son in their old age, which seemed so crazy to them that they just laughed at God when He made that promise.

But God followed through and gave them a son that they named Isaac. He had done it! He had followed through on His promise to give them a son—an heir—the fulfillment of a promise. If God promises He is going to do something, it's worth believing Him. You know why? Because God is perfect, and if God is perfect then God cannot lie. He always follows through on His promises. Take confidence in God's promises for you. Celebrate when God does what He says He's going to do. We can find great joy in the faithfulness of God!

10. What things give you confidence to trust other people when they promise you things?

11. If you find it hard to trust God, what things can make it easier to trust Him?

I HAVE A QUESTION! ✍ Write it down so you can ask your leader or your parents!

PRAYER GUIDE ➤ Here are some things you could pray for today:

God, thank You that You are a faithful, trustworthy God. Help me to continue to be able to trust You more and more. Sometimes it's hard to trust things I can't always understand, but I know that You do know everything and are in control of everything. Please help me trust You more and more when I don't know what's going on. Amen.

Note: This study guide was written by Pastors Tim Badal, Mario Arindaeng, and Jeremy Anderson, Village Bible Church.
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