

Week 7

Welcome to our *Way Out West* Devo for week 7! Throughout this series, we are learning that the Lord is always working for the good of those who love Him! This week, we are learning that God Makes My Life Good!
Let's Saddle Up, we know you will learn so much!

Day 1: God Gives Good Things

Scripture Reading: Numbers 13:17-24

Devotional:

God had promised His people a new land to live in. Before they entered it, Moses sent men to explore the land and see what it was like. When the men arrived, they discovered that the land was full of good things! They even cut down a cluster of grapes that was so big it had to be carried on a pole between two people. God had led His people through the wilderness, and now they could see the good land He had promised them. God gives us good things too. A family who loves us, food to eat, people who care for us, beautiful things in creation, and so much more can remind us of God's goodness. Our lives won't always be easy or go exactly the way we want, but we can stop and notice the good things God has given us. God is good, and His goodness is all around us!

Discussion:

1. What did the men discover when they explored the land God had promised?
2. What are three good things God has put in your life?

Prayer:

God, thank You for being good to me. Thank You for all the good things You have put in my life. Help me notice Your goodness and remember to thank You for it. Amen!

Day 2: When We are Afraid, Remember God's Goodness

Scripture Reading: Numbers 13:27-33

Devotional:

When the men returned from exploring the land, they had good news and scary news. The land was just as wonderful as God had promised! But there were also powerful people and large, strong cities there. Most of the men became afraid. Instead of thinking about how powerful God was, they focused on how big their problems looked. They even said they felt as small as grasshoppers compared to the people in the land! Sometimes we do the same thing. Something difficult happens, and suddenly our problem is all we can see. Being afraid doesn't mean God has stopped being good. God is still good when life feels scary. Instead of only thinking about how big our problem is, we can remember how big and powerful our God is.

Discussion:

1. What made most of the men afraid to enter the Promised Land?
2. What can you remember about God when something makes you afraid?

Prayer:

God, sometimes things in my life feel big and scary. Help me remember that You are bigger than anything I face. Amen!

Day 3: Trust that God's Way is Good

Scripture Reading: Numbers 14:5-10

Devotional:

Most of the Israelites were afraid to enter the land, but Joshua and Caleb thought differently. They had seen the same big cities and strong people that everyone else had seen. But Joshua and Caleb also remembered something important: God was with them. They told the Israelites that the land was very good. They knew that if God wanted to lead them there, they could trust Him. Joshua and Caleb didn't believe everything would be easy. They believed God could be trusted even when things were hard. Sometimes God asks us to do things that aren't easy. Whether that be to tell the truth, forgive someone, be kind to someone who isn't kind to us, obey when we don't want to, or try something that makes us nervous. We can trust that God's way is good!

Discussion:

1. Why did Joshua and Caleb believe the Israelites could enter the Promised Land?
2. What is something that might be difficult but you know God would want you to do?

Prayer:

God, thank You for being with me. Help me trust that Your way is good, even when following You feels difficult or scary. Amen!

Day 4: Choose to Follow God Wholeheartedly

Scripture Reading: Numbers 14:20-25

Devotional:

The Israelites had seen God's goodness over and over again. God had rescued them from Egypt, provided for them in the wilderness, and led them toward a good land. But when it was time to trust Him, many of them chose fear instead. Caleb made a different choice. God said that Caleb had a different spirit and followed Him wholeheartedly. Caleb trusted God's goodness and chose to follow Him even when the people around him didn't. God making our lives good doesn't mean we will always get everything we want. It means we can have a life spent knowing, trusting, and following a good God.

Activity: "Follow the Leader"

Choose one family member to be the leader. Have everyone else follow them around the house or yard while the leader gives simple directions. Like walk backward, hop five times, or go around a chair. Take turns so everyone gets a chance to lead. Afterward, talk about how following someone means trusting where they are leading you. Caleb trusted that God was leading the Israelites somewhere good, even though getting there looked scary.

Prayer:

God, thank You for being good. Help me notice Your goodness in my life and trust You when things are difficult. Amen!

Memory Verse

"We know that God is always at work for the good of everyone who loves Him. They are the ones God has chosen for his purpose."
Romans 8:28 CEV