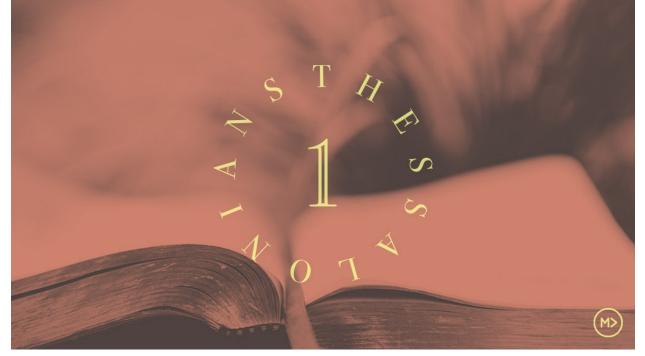
# <u>1 THESSALONIANS: FAITH. LOVE. HOPE.</u>



# Week Eleven: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

#### To Parents

You are the primary discipler/equipper of your kid(s). This is evident now more than ever as we are in the strange season of this stay-at-home order. We pray this document helps equip you in training your child(ren) to grow in the knowledge of the glory and love of our great God!

#### April Memory Verse

John 11:25, "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.'"

#### Getting Started

- **Big Idea:** Jesus awakens our souls and brings us into the light of his kingdom.
- Starter Activity:

Have your kids close their eyes or blindfold them. Tell them to go get you something (it can be any object in the house). After some bumping and fumbling around, take the blindfold off and have them do the same task with their eyes open. Talk about how much easier it is when they are not in darkness.



### Sing Together

#### Light of the World

Visit this Youtube link: https://youtu.be/eI302Av7vSI

#### Story/Scripture

Paul wanted the church in Thessalonica to hold onto hope. Even though things were difficult, they had hope that because Jesus rose from the dead, so would those who trusted in him. Not only that, but one day Jesus would come back and make all things right!

This hope and the good news of Jesus woke them up to the truth of the world. They were able to see the reality. For others who had not yet seen Jesus as the Rescuer and King of the world, it was like they were blind. Almost like they were walking around in darkness.

Have you ever tried walking around with your eyes closed? It's hard! You probably stumbled around and tripped a couple times. That is what it is like living without the truth of Jesus. But when Jesus opens our eyes, we can see! So Paul used this illustration to say those who are in Jesus are no longer children of darkness (where there is chaos and disorder) but children of light - children of the day.

Now that your eyes are opened and you can see, you can walk more carefully and more confidently. You can make wise choices. You can have more control over your actions. So, now that you see the light of Christ, live in a way that honors him. Live in a way that shows you have the truth. Live in a way that cares for those around you, who cannot yet see. And encourage one another, those who have seen, to continue to look to the light of Jesus and not turn back toward the darkness - because there is nothing there for us anymore.

#### [Dialogue Questions - suggestions for families to discuss]

- Jesus once said, "I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life." (John 8:12) What do you think that means?
- What are some examples of walking in darkness? What about examples of walking in the light of Christ?
- How do you think a person comes into the light? Have you prayed for the Spirit of God to open your eyes?



# Prayer

God, thank you for awakening us to see your light and life. Thank you for loving us. Help us to live in your light. Amen!

## Activities

#### Craft/Worksheet:

- Use the notes worksheet attached for kids to take notes during the story/scripture
- Use the coloring page at the end of this PDF for kids to do after the lesson

#### **BLESS Activity:**

\*For kids to do during the week\*

Because this Story is true, we want to be faithful to live in it. We ask the Spirit to help us to *Bless, Listen, Eat, Speak,* and *Sabbath* (rest & celebrate) in ways that tell the good news of God's Story.

This week, focus on the **Listen** rhythm.

Do not close your eyes to the light of Christ and live in darkness. Do not close your ears to what his Spirit is speaking to you. Take some time each day this week to sit in silence and listen to what God is saying.

