

Cliff Hanger: The story isn't over

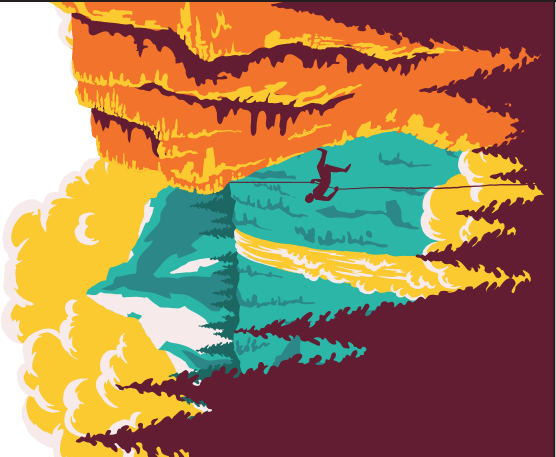
Grit is refusing to give up when life gets hard.

Bible Story

Joseph Sold By Brothers and Joseph in Jail


Genesis 37, 39–40

Hold on because God is with you.



MEMORY VERSE

“Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don’t give up.” Galatians 6:9, NIV



Weekly Cues

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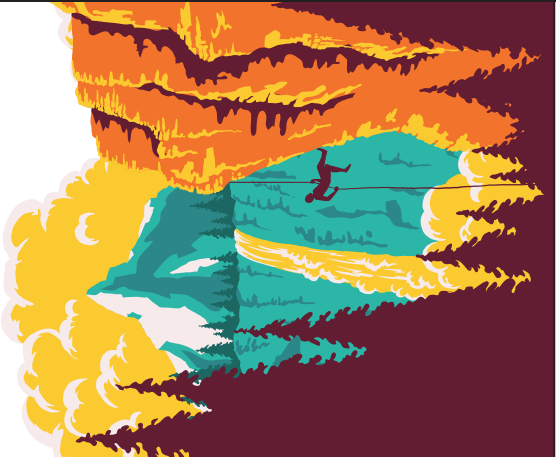
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Weekly Cues

Elementary

ENGAGE IN EVERYDAY MOMENTS TOGETHER



Morning Time

As your kid starts their day, tell them: “You have what it takes to do whatever you need to do today.”



Meal Time

At a meal, have everyone answer the following question: “What are some ways we can remember that God is with us when we feel alone?”



Drive Time

While on the go, ask your kid: “What is your favorite sweet treat?”



Bed Time

Pray for each other: “When we feel alone, help us to remember that You are always with us.”

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Grit is refusing to give up when life gets hard.

DAY 1

Read 2 Chronicles 20:17

This month is all about GRIT – refusing to give up when life gets hard. We'll see how Joseph and Moses in the Old Testament showed real grit when faced with some tough and sometimes scary situations.

And guess what? Grit isn't just something we see in the Bible. You can have grit too, because God is with you! God is big and strong and always on your side when you are standing up for what is right. God will give you what you need to face life with grit.

A Secret Message

There's a message hidden among all these letters below. Starting with the very first letter, cross out every other letter below. Then write the remaining letters in the spaces below to reveal it

SHEOLLYDEOTNWBPEACGAHUCSOERG
SOBDNIMSAWPIMTIHPYWOIUO

.....

.....

DAY 2

Read Isaiah 41:10

What do you normally do when you're afraid? Do you hide? Do you head to the kitchen or living room to find your mom or dad or big brother?

Here's a little secret. Everyone is afraid sometimes. So what can you do when you're afraid? Today's verse gives us a pretty big clue. When you're afraid and you're not sure what to do, remember God is on your side. God made the entire universe simply by speaking. God is powerful enough to fill the oceans and personal enough to know what you're scared about.

When you face something scary, remember you are not alone. God is with you and will make you strong and help you to keep going, to keep showing grit. God will keep you safe.

Face Your Fears

Is there something you're afraid of or worried about? Write it on a piece of paper. Then write the words of today's verse over the fear you listed. Remember that God is with you, even when you're afraid.



DAY 3

Read Genesis 39:2-3

Have you ever been on a roller coaster? Because of the sharp turns, crazy drops and sudden changes of speed, some people love the thrill of riding a roller coaster. Others, not so much. Match the roller coaster terms to their definitions below.

BENTS	A series of hills where each hill is smaller than the one before
LIFT HILL	The vertical wood beams on a wooden roller coaster's structure
CAMELBACKS	Any element that reverses a train's direction.
TURNAROUND	The initial climb on a roller coaster

Joseph's life was a little bit like a roller coaster, full of twists and turns, peaks and valleys. But through all the ups and downs, Joseph knew one thing for sure – he was never alone. Joseph could keep going with grit and determination because God was on his side. Just like Joseph, you can hold on because God is with you.

(To check your answers, go to <https://bit.ly/3aAgEoi>)



DAY 4

Read Psalm 121:5

Is it sunny outside where you are? If so, head out to stand in the sunshine and find your shadow. Did you find it? Okay, now try to outrun it!

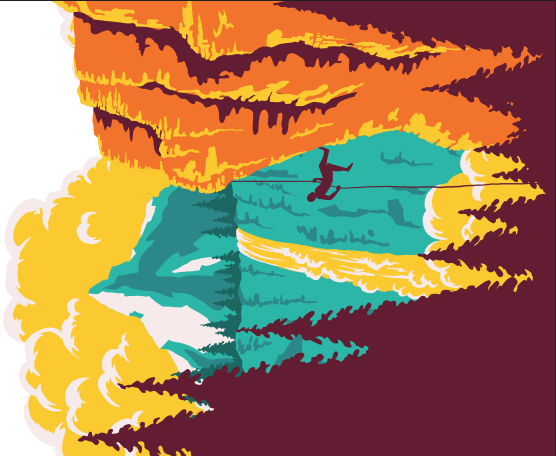
Impossible, right? Just like you can't get away from your shadow, you can't outrun God! There isn't any place you can go that God isn't with you. Today's verse is a big reminder that God is always with you.

Find a shady spot in your yard and take a minute to pray. Think about a situation from this last week that required some grit. Did you stick with it? Or did you quit because it seemed impossible? Talk to God about what happened and thank God for being with you at all times. Ask God to help you hold on, knowing that like the shade falling over you right hand, God is with you.

**Hold on because
God is with you.**

Cliff Hanger: The story isn't over


Grit is refusing to give up when life gets hard.



Bible Story
Joseph Forgives His Brothers
Genesis 41–45
Hold on because there's a bigger story.

MEMORY VERSE

“Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don’t give up.”
Galatians 6:9, NIV

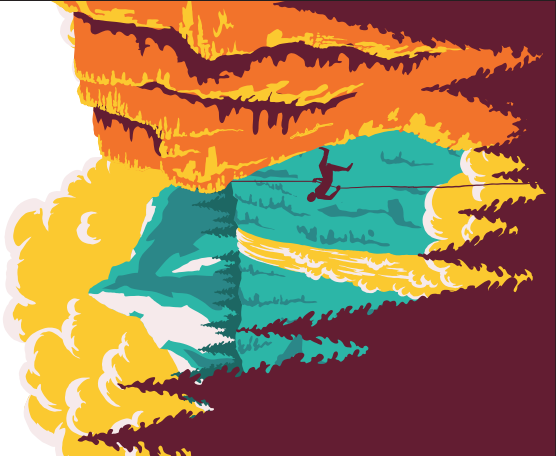


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Weekly Cues  
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Weekly Cues  
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Elementary

ENGAGE IN EVERYDAY MOMENTS TOGETHER



Morning Time

As your kid starts their day, tell them about a time you saw them show grit and let them know how much you admire their strength.



Meal Time

At a meal, share with your child an age-appropriate story of a time when a situation seemed hopeless but it turned out for the better.



Drive Time

While on the go, ask your kid: "Who are some of your favorite people right now?"



Bed Time

Pray for each other: "God, when it looks like things are not great, help us to remember that You are always working and what we may think is the end of our story is merely a chapter in a bigger story."

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DAY 1

Read Luke 21:19

When you're in the middle of a tough situation that seems as if it will never get better, there is a real comfort in knowing God is always there. Because of Jesus, you have access to relationship with God right now, in the middle of whatever hard thing you're going through. That relationship with God is forever.

So remain strong in your faith. Trust God in the middle of the hard thing. Ask God to help you face it with grit. Hold on because there's a bigger story.

A Circle That Never Ends

Grab some duct tape and create a bracelet. (You'll want to fold the tape in half with sticky sides together, so it doesn't stick to your wrist.) Just like this bracelet makes a circle that never ends, remember your relationship with God never ends.

DAY 2

Read James 1:12

Have you ever felt like giving up? The difference between the people who keep going and the people who quit is grit! We love to celebrate athletes who win Olympic gold medals or National Championships. They've trained hard and kept going when they probably wanted to give up.

But guess what? This verse isn't talking about shiny medals or championship rings.

James is reminding us that there is hope for our future. God is always working through whatever we go through in life. Knowing that God is with us forever, gives us the confidence we need to face our situations with grit.

Crowned

Grab a piece of paper and create a crown. Write out the words of today's verse across the bottom and decorate it any way you choose. This week, when you face tough stuff and you really want to quit doing the right thing, remember to hold on because there's a bigger story.

DAY 3

Read James 1:2-4

We've all done things and faced consequences that teach us a lesson. Read the verse again, but replace the word "trouble" with temptation and read it again. We're all tempted to something wrong from time to time. It's not the temptation that's bad, it's the way we choose to respond that can get us in real trouble.

So how do you respond?

James gives us some advice. What if we decided that trouble (or the temptation) is an opportunity to trust God more and strengthen our faith? What if we looked at that trouble head on and asked, "Okay, what can I learn from this?"

This week, when you find yourself in a situation where you're facing trouble, stop and ask God to help you. Ask how you can learn from the experience and to help you hold on with grit.



Hold on because
there's a bigger story.

DAY 4

Read Psalm 33:11

Do you have a plan for today? Write down your plans in the box. At the end of the day, put a check by all the things that did happen and an "X" through all the things that didn't.

MY PLAN FOR TODAY:

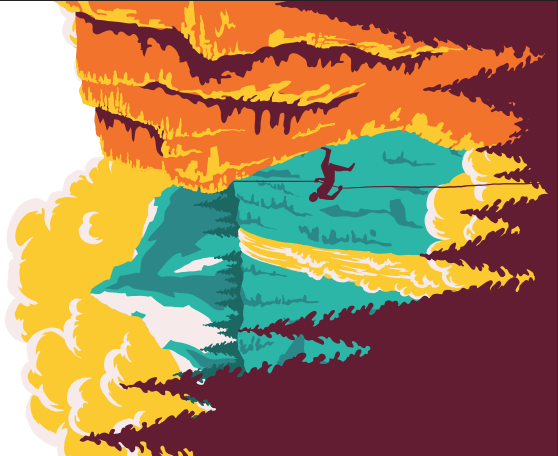
Did you know God has a plan? "In the beginning, God created the world. But then, the people God had created decided to turn away from God. Because of this, the world was broken, and sin entered the world.

"God had a good plan all along to fix it, God's own Son, Jesus came to live, die, and come back to life to defeat death and make all things new again!

God has a plan—a firm, steady, dependable, bigger plan. You can trust God's plan for your life too! God loves you and will give you the grit you need to keep going. You can hold on because there's a bigger story.

Cliff Hanger: The story isn't over

Grit is refusing to give up when life gets hard.



Bible Story
Moses Is Born
Exodus 2:1-10
Hold on even when you don't know what to do.

MEMORY VERSE

“Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up.”

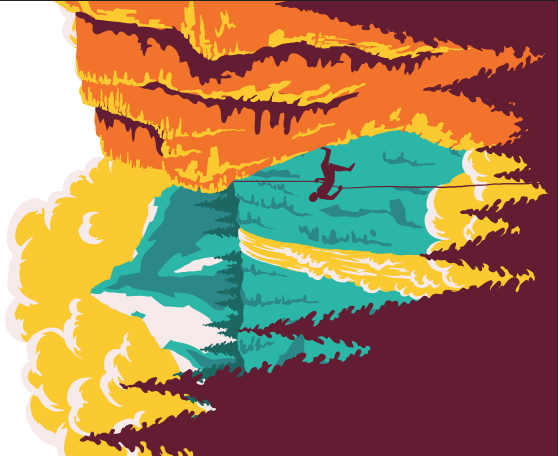
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Weekly Cues

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Weekly Cues

Elementary

ENGAGE IN EVERYDAY MOMENTS TOGETHER



Morning Time

As your kid starts their day, let your kid know how smart you think they are. Even better? Give them an example of when you saw them make a wise choice.



Meal Time

At a meal, have everyone answer the following question: “Tell us about a time when you weren’t sure what to do and how it turned out.”



Drive Time

While on the go, ask your kid: “What is something new you are learning right now? Is it hard to learn?”



Bed Time

Pray for each other: “God, when we don’t know what to do, show us the next right thing to do and give us the grit to do it.”

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DAY 1

Read 1 Corinthians 16:13

When Pharaoh made a terrible rule, Moses' mother had to do some quick and creative thinking to save him. Just imagine how much faith it took for her to set that basket in the river. Thankfully, God protected Moses!

This week, you might need some creative thinking of your own to solve a problem. Trust God to give you the grit you need even when you don't know what to do.

Decode A Riddle

Use that creative brain of yours to decipher the code below and reveal the hidden message.





ST + -PR





BR + -C



(Answer: Be on your guard. Stay strong. Be brave.)

DAY 2

Read 2 Corinthians 12:10

Opposites Attract

Write down the opposite for each word in the blank.

Up _____	Hot _____
Left _____	Light _____
Quiet _____	Night _____
East _____	Tall _____
On _____	Open _____
Front _____	Wet _____

That was easy! You know what's not so easy? Doing the opposite of what you *feel* like doing. Can you imagine being happy to be weak? Being joyful when you face hard times? Thankful when others say mean things about you? Glad when life is tough and you suffer?

You see, Paul knew that when he was weak and needed help, God would show up and give him strength. He could rely on God.

What does this mean for you and me? Well, it's not always easy to make the wise choice. But real grit means we keep making the wise choice even when we want to do the opposite! This week, when you have a choice to make, ask God to help you hold on even when it's the opposite of what you feel like doing.

DAY 3

Read 1 Corinthians 15:58

Have you ever had a staring contest? Grab a family member or friend and challenge them to see who can stare the longest without smiling.

How did you do? It can be really hard to keep a straight face when you're staring directly at your silly younger brother. In our verse today, Paul talks about standing firm and not letting anything move you. Paul is talking about grit—holding on even when things get tough. Why? Because you belong to God. God can help you keep doing the right thing even when you aren't sure how things will work out.

This week, when you're faced with something tough, stop and remember that God knows exactly what will happen in this situation. Ask God to give you the grit to keep doing the right thing.



DAY 4

Read Psalm 31:24

We all hope certain things will happen the way we want them to, but the truth is, sometimes we're left disappointed.

But there is One who always keeps promises. There is One we can always lean on, depend on, put all our trust in. Look back at today's verse to see if you can guess who it is.

Yes, God! That's right. And when we put our hope God, we can be strong. We can keep going because God's strength and power is unlimited. When you don't know how things will work out, remember God is on your side and will help you stand strong with grit.

Words to find:

Can you crack the code to find the secret message below? Don't give up. You can do it! (Do you want a little hint? Okay, your hint is alphabet.)

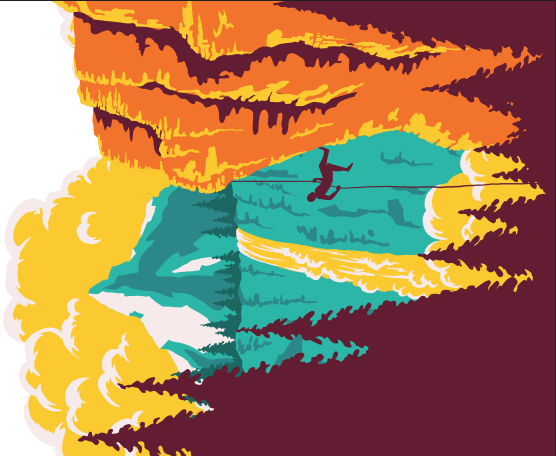
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2	5	19	20	18	15	14	7
.....
16	21	20	25	15	21	18	8 15 16 5 9 14
.....
20	8	5	12	15	18	8	4
.....
14	5	22	5	18	7	9	22 5 21 16

Be strong. Put your hope in the Lord. Never give up.

Hold on even when you
don't know what to do.

Cliff Hanger: The story isn't over

Grit is refusing to give up when life gets hard.



Bible Story
Burning Bush and the 10 Plagues
Exodus 3-6:12, 7-12:42
Hold on because God knows what you're going through.

MEMORY VERSE

"Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up."
Galatians 6:9, NIV

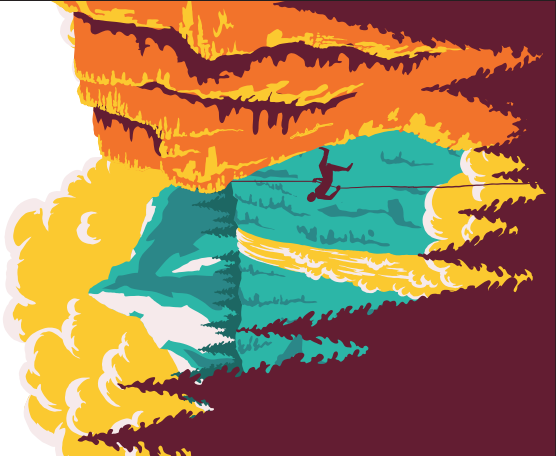
An illustration of a forest scene with several tall, green evergreen trees. The trees are stylized with a layered, triangular shape. The background is a solid dark blue.

Weekly Cues

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ENGAGE IN EVERYDAY MOMENTS TOGETHER



Morning Time

As your kid starts their day, say: “You’re one of my favorite people in the world.”



Meal Time

At a meal, have everyone answer the following question: “What is something that is hard or challenging right now? What can we, as a family, do to help you?”



Drive Time

While on the go, ask your kid: “What is something new you would like to learn but you’ve been afraid to try?” (You may want to answer this one too!)



Bed Time

Pray for each other: “God, thank You for always being there for us and helping us. And thank You for our friends and family and how they help us during tough times too.”

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DAY 1

Read Romans 12:11-12

When was the last time you were really excited about something? Write about it in the box.

As we continue talking about grit, we need to remember why we follow God. God made us and loves us and wants what's best for us. God knows everything about every single thing. We can trust God no matter what. We can be excited to follow God, even when we face hard times, because it makes our faith stronger.

When you hope, be
O Y J L F U

When you suffer, be
T P N T I A E

When you suffer, be
L F F T A U I H

This week, when you face something hard and you really want to give up, remember God knows what you're going through and is ready to help.

DAY 2

Read Galatians 6:9

Today's verse reminds us to keep doing the right thing over and over and over again because at the right time, we will see good come from our obedience. That means we choosing to love God. But we also need to love the people around us with kindness, forgiveness, and compassion.

If we keep loving God and loving people, and if we keep showing grit even when we really want to quit, we'll see results! We'll see good from the choices we make to do good in the world around us.

Memorize This!

Write out the words of the verse on separate sticky notes. Stick each note up on the wall in order as high as you can. Jump and tap each word as you repeat the verse. Then stick the notes on the floor and hop from word to word as you repeat the verse. Finally, place all the sticky notes in random order on the table in front of you. See if you can slap the words of the verse as you repeat it from memory.



DAY 3

Read 2 Corinthians 12:9

Ever heard someone brag about how weak they were? Paul knew that he didn't have any real strength on his own. He learned that when he allowed God to work in and through him, he could do big things to change the world.

When we put our trust in Jesus, the Holy Spirit helps us to be kind when we want to say something unkind, to be patient when we're super frustrated, and to forgive when we just want to stay mad! God's grace is all we need to keep going with grit, even when we're tired and want to give up!

Remember, Jesus knows what you face. You can hold on because God knows what you're going through.

Brag Book

Make a brag book (don't worry, no one will see it but you and God!). Find some scrap paper to staple together into a book. This week, every time you make a wise choice, write it down in your brag book. Then stop and thank God for helping you have the grit to choose wisely.

DAY 4

Read John 1:5

Were you ever afraid of the dark? The dark can be scary because things aren't as they seem. But darkness is never stronger than light. Because even the tiniest light can make a big difference. Darkness only has power when no light is present.

Jesus came to push back the darkness of this world and make a way for us to spend forever with God in the light. Jesus is the light of the world—a light the darkness can never overcome.

Jesus came to bring light and hope and to show us the way to God. When we put our trust in Jesus, He will help us follow God and live with grit.

Light It Up

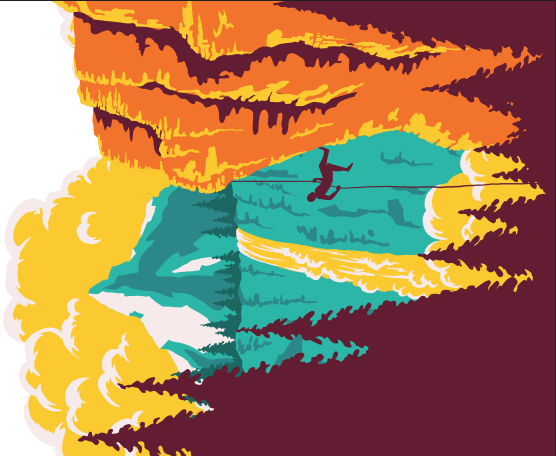
Write this verse on a card and tape it underneath the light switch in your room. When you turn on the light, thank God for sending Jesus, the light of the world.



Hold on because
God knows what
you're going through.

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Bible Story
Israel Goes Through the Red Sea
Exodus 13:17-14:31
Hold on because God is still in control.

MEMORY VERSE

“Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don’t give up.”

Galatians 6:9, NIV



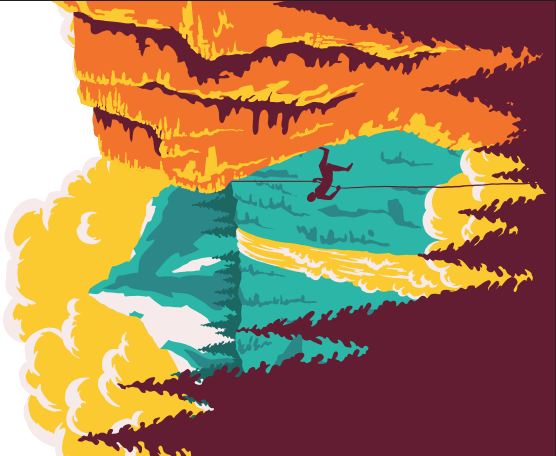
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Weekly Cues

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ENGAGE IN EVERYDAY MOMENTS TOGETHER



Morning Time

As your kid starts their day, say: “No matter what today brings, God can help you with whatever happens.”



Meal Time

At a meal, have everyone answer the following question: “How does it feel knowing someone has your back and is supporting you no matter what?” Then ask: “How does it feel to know that God does that for you too—no matter what.”



Drive Time

While on the go, ask your kid: “What is something good that has happened this week? What is something bad or not so great that has happened this week?”



Bed Time

Pray for each other: “God, when things seem bad or out of our control, remind us that You are always in control and that You love us.”

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DAY 1

Read Isaiah 45:5-6

Who causes the sun to rise and set? Who put the sun in the sky in the first place? God did that! We can trust in a great big God who does great big things because there is no one else like God. Our human minds can't even understand just how amazing God is. No matter what happens, God is in control.

Take a moment to walk outside and look up at the sky. Think about sun and the stars, the clouds and even rain – not to mention eyes to see all these wonderful things. God did all of that! God is big enough to handle anything we face in life.

When things seem out of control, stop and look up at the sky. The same God who takes care of the world also takes care of you. You can keep going with grit, you can hold on because God is in control.

DAY 2

Read Lamentations 3:22-23

What does the word "faithful" mean? Write your answer in the box.

A person who is faithful is someone who does what they say they will do. God is faithful. If God makes a promise, God keeps that promise. God never says, "Oh, I'm sorry! I've been so busy running the entire universe I completely forgot about that!"

That means you can put all your trust in God! God loves you and will help you keep doing the right thing even when everything around you seems to be out of control. God can help you grow grit so you can keep going even when the going gets tough. God's love never fails.

Every Morning

Write today's verse on a card and put it by your bed. Every morning this week, read the verse out loud as a reminder that God loves you, is faithful, and is in control.



DAY 3

Read Exodus 14:13-14

Imagine you're an Israelite. One day, Moses shows up and (after a lot of back and forth) finally convinces Pharaoh to let you go free. You gather up your family and you leave Egypt. Then suddenly, Pharaoh changes his mind and leads his powerful army to chase you down. Now you're standing with the Red Sea in front of you and Pharaoh's army coming up fast behind. You're trapped.

The Israelites did what we often do when things seem out of control. They complained, saying, "Why didn't you let us stay back in Egypt?" But Moses knew God was in control. Moses didn't tell them to fight or run or even panic. He told them to be still and trust.

Sometimes when things are out of control, we want to take matters into our own hands. But really, the best thing we can do is just stop and ask God for help, because God knows what's best. We can trust God and hold on with grit because God is in control.

Be Still

Grab a marker and write "Be Still" on your hand or on an index card to keep as a reminder to stop and pray. Trust God to help you keep going with grit.



DAY 4

Read Psalm 94:19

Do you ever worry? Do you worry about school, about friends, about your soccer game on Saturday? The problem with worry is that it doesn't change anything. In fact, worry usually just makes things worse, because worry focuses on "what if's" that are totally beyond our control.

But there is someone who knows what will happen at school, with your friends, and on the soccer field on Saturday. God knows what you're worried about and wants to take the worry and replace it with joy. God doesn't want you to spend one more minute thinking about all the things that could happen. Instead, God can help you hold on with grit because He is in control.

Joy Not Worry

Write the word WORRY in large block outline letters on a piece of paper. Write down all your worries inside the letters. Stop and remember that God is in control. Then flip the page over and write the word JOY in large block letters on the back. Write the words of today's verse inside the letters and decorate it any way you choose. Hang it up as a reminder to turn your worries over to God and replace them with joy!

Hold on because
God is still in control.