

Objective: Family members live with confidence knowing God will never leave or forget them as they walk with Him.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: Isaiah ministered and wrote during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. These kings reigned from 767 BC to 686 BC.

Bible Basics: Review Jeremiah 17:7 this week with family members.

Read the Word: Isaiah 49:1-26

Disciple Your Kids

Talk with your children and grandchildren about how we can live and serve God with confidence because He never leaves or forgets those who trust in Jesus.



Key Truth: God Sent the Servant (Jesus) to Redeem People From All Nations (Isaiah 49:1-13)

- In verses 1-4, the *Servant* addressed the Gentiles, those not of Israel. Christians understand the *Servant* as a reference to Jesus. He claimed divine origin and purpose, but also suffered setbacks and rejection.
- Israel rejected Jesus, but God intended for Him to bring Israel back to their Maker and Redeemer, yet there was more. He was to make salvation possible for the Gentiles as well (verses 5-7).
- Verses 8-13 describe God's promise and call to Jews and Gentiles alike. He offered a favorable day of salvation, blessing, protection, and guidance. All creation was to praise God for His compassion on all people.



Key Truth: God Does Not Leave or Forget His People (Isaiah 49:14-21)

- When God brought the promised judgment on Israel, they said God had left them and forgotten them. God responded by comparing Himself to a nursing mother who would never forget or forsake her child. His people are always in His thoughts. Good would come to them again (verses 14-18).
- In the time of judgment, the land would be like a wasteland, with barely a remnant left behind. God, however, intended to repopulate it. The population would grow to fill the land fully once more like a grieving woman suddenly surrounded by children (verses 19-21).



Key Truth: The Future Is Bright for God's People Because He Is in Control (Isaiah 49:22-26)

- God said He would once again deliver His people. Verses 22-24 describe God's direction of Israel's deliverance. He had done it before with Egypt. He would do it again with Babylon and Persia, despite the pessimists who doubted it could happen.
- God would deliver them in such a way that all would know He is the Lord and Redeemer (verses 25-26).

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with family members this week. Questions in **bold** will be good to use with elementary age children.

- **Who was the *Servant* that Isaiah said would bring salvation to God's people and to the nations?**
- How has God gone to great lengths to redeem us?
- **How does it encourage you to know that God never leaves or forgets His people?**
- How does the fact that God is in control make the future bright?
- What promises has God given that guarantee a bright future for those who trust Him?
- **With whom can you share the hope you have in Jesus?**

Everyday Extras

Join the Secret Service! Commission every family member to secretly serve someone else in your home. Here are some ideas: Make up someone's bed while he or she is in the bathroom. Wash the dishes. Change the water in the dog's bowl. Clean out a drawer. Match all his socks. Polish her shoes. Refold the towels so they all stack alike. Buy her favorite candy bar and hide it in her backpack. Vacuum out his car. Sew on a missing button. Organize cans in the cupboard or books in the bookcase. Scrub the tub. Prepare a favorite snack for after school or work. We are like Jesus when we serve others. Sometimes our service costs us time and money, but even when we do it secretly, God knows and He always repays us.

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned God sent an angel to share some exciting news with Mary and Joseph. The angel, Gabriel, told them Mary would have a baby — God's Son — and they were to name Him Jesus. This young child was a gift of love from God. **Jesus Is a Gift of Love** from God to everyone in the world.