

CIRCLE UP

Use this time to gather together and get everyone talking.

ASK

Ask each family member the following question: What was one of your favorite memories of the summer?

SAY

Those were some great times! It makes us feel happy when we take time to stop and remember. God wants us to know that when we stop to remember His promises, He will give us hope. Let me hear you say this after me:

Elementary (ES)

God Gives Me Hope (point up)

As I Remember (fingers on temples)

His Promises (make book with hands)

Preschool (PS)

God Gives (both hands point up)

Me Hope (hands over heart)

As I Remember Him (point to chin)

WATCH

*Watch today's Elementary and/or Preschool video on the web page
<http://www.3rivers.church/children.html>.*

ASK your Elementary Schooler:

When Abraham didn't think he would ever have a child, what did he do? (Prayed and remembered God's promises)

Why did Paul write letters to people around the world? (To tell them about the hope they could have by remembering God's promises)

ASK your Preschooler:

When God told Abraham to move to a new home, was Abraham scared or full of hope? (Full of hope)

When Abraham didn't know how things were going to go, did he forget or remember God's promises? (Remembered God's promises)

HAVE FUN TOGETHER

Use paper (or a dry erase board) and a drawing utensil to play a fun game together.

PLAY

Have a family member draw one of the images below. Once the rest of the family has guessed the image, read the questions for your kids to answer.
* OPTION: Have a family member look up and read each of the verses aloud.



Ice Cream - Has anyone ever promised you something, like taking you to get ice cream, but then they broke that promise? (Allow responses) God tells us in Genesis 17:7 that He will never break a promise to us! That's great news that can give us hope!



Sad Face - Have you ever had something happen to you or happen in our family that made you feel sad? (Allow responses) Because we are not living in heaven, we will go through hard times. But in Psalm 46:1, God promises to be with us and help us in times of trouble.



Cookie - You know the rule is to wait until after dinner for dessert, but you're really hungry. Should you sneak a cookie before dinner or wait until after? (Allow responses) When you feel like your hope is gone and you want to do what you know isn't right, God will help you. In 1 Corinthians 10:13, God promises to give us the strength to do what's right.



Sun - When you wake up in the morning, should you be sad that you have to wake up or excited about what God has for you? (Allow responses) Yes! 1 Peter 5:7 says, "God cares for you ..." So every morning we can be excited because we are sure God cares and will do good things for us!



Bible - Where can you find the promises God has made? (The Bible) Yes! When you read the Bible, you discover God's promises. And when you remember what God has promised, He gives you hope!

SAY

God makes you so many amazing promises, and He wants you to know that when you remember them, He will give you hope! You can be sure that He will do good things! Say that after me:

Elementary (ES)

God Gives Me Hope (point up)

As I Remember (fingers on temples)

His Promises (make book with hands)

Preschool (PS)

God Gives (both hands point up)

Me Hope (hands over heart)

As I Remember Him (point to chin)

PRAY

God, Thank You for giving us the Bible so we can know Your promises to us. Help us to remember Your promises and be filled with hope when we face difficult situations. We love You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.