

our suggestions for parents of children with special needs

Dear Parents,

Every child is a gift from the Lord, and unique in His purpose for the kingdom. Children can touch the lives of others unlike any other person. Children show us the Lord in many ways—if we will stop to notice. Scripture even calls us to become like little children in order to enter the kingdom of heaven (Luke 18:16, 17). Since the Lord created every child unique, not all children learn the same way. It is important that we, as mature adults, embrace these differences in order to expand their knowledge of God.

The Lord pursues each child with tender love. The most important thing you as a parent can do is spend time with your children, modeling your trust in the Lord. Below are some suggestions for parents that you can use with your children to help them understand the Lord's message in their Sabbath School Bible study guide.

- Have family worship, modeling your commitment to the Lord. Include a brief thought for your growing child/youth to think about during the day.
- Read the Bible together. If some of the words are too difficult, take turns reading and let them read the words they know.
- Study the lesson with your child/children during the week in preparation for Sabbath School. Knowing that the lesson will be reviewed on Sabbath in their classes will strengthen in children a sense of accountability and will facilitate a deeper spiritual understanding of the content.
- Download the audio lessons at www.juniorpowerpoints.org/podcast.php?channel=1 so your child/youth can hear the lesson on their own. Use DVDs and CDs that will help children understand the lessons (e.g., Bible stories, *Your Story Hour*, and even the Bible on CD)—this works great with children who struggle with reading in their Bible courses. Technology is great for students in general, and it will be particularly

beneficial for students with special needs, providing tools that will assist them in becoming more independent learners.

- If you have a child with special needs, you may be interested to search for ideas, accommodations, and tools available for them at www.juniorpowerpoints.org/article/4/resources#.VGUZIYdSxx4.
- Talk with your children about the lesson. For example, where do they see the lesson being applied in their daily lives? Whom did they see reflect Jesus today? How has the power text (memory verse) helped them with issues they're facing?
- Use a simple activity with the lesson. The children's lessons themselves contain some excellent ideas for family worship activities.
- Think about how your child learns best, and adapt the lesson to that way of learning. It could be auditory (listening), visual (seeing), or tactile (manipulating and touching), or it may be all three ways (multi-sensory)! Use what works.
- Talk with their Sabbath School teachers and let them know what you are doing at home, so they can reinforce it in Sabbath School. In return, support their efforts by encouraging your children to memorize the power text and to make it a habit to bring their Bible to church on Sabbath. By doing this, you provide positive affirmation of their good efforts, a feeling that each child needs to experience to grow spiritually.
- Talk with the pastor when your child is ready to make a commitment to the Lord. Let him or her know what studies you have completed with your child, and ask what he or she would recommend prior to baptism.

Our children are important to the Lord, and He wants each one to be successful. It is our privilege to see that we return to God what He has given us.

Lesson 1

Year D Qtr 1

Family Ties

(Jesus enjoys Lazarus's family)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

God promises believers that our place in His family is sure.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 23, Marriage and the Family: "God blesses the family and intends that its members shall assist each other toward complete maturity" (*Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, p. 329).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Four Gospels: Matthew 12:46-50; Mark 11:11; John 1:12; John 11:5

5 Ellen White reference

The Desire of Ages, chap. 33, p. 321, chap. 58, pp. 524, 525. "There was one home that He loved to visit—the home of Lazarus, and Mary, and Martha; for in the atmosphere of faith and love His spirit had rest" (p. 326).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story (1994), vol. 9, pp. 22-27; vol. 10, pp. 189-191.

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—John 1:12 (power text)

Sunday—Matthew 12:46-48

Monday—Matthew 12:49, 50

Tuesday—John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 15:22; Ephesians 2:19

Wednesday—John 11:50-52

Thursday—John 1:12

Friday—Psalm 100:3

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- To whom does God give the right to become His children?
- How do I feel knowing that I am part of God's family?
- What promises can I claim that will help me feel secure in God's love?
- What gives me the assurance that I am an heir in God's royal family?
- What do I need most in my family?
- How could I encourage someone who doesn't feel loved at home?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Talk about what a birth certificate means and then make a birth certificate for heaven.
- Plan a worship that celebrates family.
- Discuss how it feels to be part of God's family

8 Coming up next week!

Jesus brings us joy and freedom. He wants us to share this "good news" with others.

Lesson 2 Year D Qtr 1

Spreading Good News (Nazareth receives good news)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

We build friendships when we share the good news about Jesus.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners" (Isaiah 61:1).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 20, The Sabbath: "The fourth commandment of God's unchangeable law requires the observance of this seventh-day Sabbath as the day of rest, worship, and ministry in harmony with the teaching and practice of Jesus, the Lord of the Sabbath" (*Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, p. 281).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

Old Testament, The Major Prophets: Isaiah 61:1-3; New Testament, The Four Gospels: Luke 4:16-21

5 Ellen White reference

The Desire of Ages, chap. 24, pp. 236-243. "Our standing before God depends, not upon the amount of light we have received, but upon the use we make of what we have" (p. 239).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story (1994), vol. 6, pp. 185-187 ("Great Things for God"); vol. 7, pp. 165-168 ("What Job Didn't Know").

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Isaiah 61:1 (power text)

Sunday—Matthew 28:19, 20

Monday—1 Corinthians 3:9

Tuesday—2 Corinthians 9:13

Wednesday—Isaiah 61:1-3

Thursday—Luke 4:16-21; Isaiah 61:1-3

Friday—Matthew 9:37, 38

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What does the "Good News" mean to me?
- What promises motivate me to share the Good News about Jesus?
- How can I share the Good News?
- In what ways am I uniquely gifted to spread joy?
- How does knowing Jesus as my personal Friend help me to share Him with others?
- Who are some people with whom I will share my joy about Jesus?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Write four notes of encouragement and give your notes to someone who is sad.
- Bake cookies, decorate them with smiley faces, and share them with someone who needs Jesus.
- During worship, let each family member share something good from this week.

8 Coming up next week!

Jesus outlines the way He wants us to live. We show His love by sharing the things He teaches us.

Lesson 3 Year D Qtr 1

The Invisible Kingdom (How to inherit God's kingdom)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

Because God loves us, we accept His values and share them with others.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 22, Christian Behavior: "We are called to be godly people who think, feel, and act in harmony with biblical principles" (*Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, p. 311).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Four Gospels: Matthew 5:1-16; Luke 6:17-26

5 Ellen White reference

The Desire of Ages, chap. 31, pp. 298-309. "The consistent life, the holy conversation, the unswerving integrity, the active, benevolent spirit, the godly example, these are the mediums through which light is conveyed to the world" (p. 307).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story (1994), vol. 8, pp. 55-57 ("Secrets of Happiness"); vol. 8, pp. 58-61 ("Lessons From Little Things").

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Matthew 5:16 (power text)

Sunday—Matthew 5:1-5

Monday—Matthew 5:6-9

Tuesday—Matthew 5:10-12

Wednesday—Matthew 5:13

Thursday—Matthew 5:1-16; Luke 6:7-26

Friday—Matthew 5:14-16

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What lessons from Jesus' sermon on the mount do I need to learn?
- What were Jesus' blessings to the souls who were thirsting and hungering after righteousness?
- What are some of the principles of God's kingdom?
- What could I do to share these values with others?
- Who are some people with whom I could share Jesus' teaching?
- In what ways do I think God wants me to "shine"?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Turn on a flashlight at floor level and then above your head. Which position sheds more light?
- Discuss what it means to let your light shine. Write three ways you could do this where you live.
- Ask God to show your family more ways to let your light shine.

8 Coming up next week!

Love your enemies! We show God's love by loving others.

Lesson 4 Year D Qtr 1

More Secrets of the Kingdom (Children of the King)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

Because God loves us, we are able to love our friends and our enemies.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 14, Unity in the Body of Christ: "We are all equal in Christ, who by one Spirit has bonded us into one fellowship with Him and with one another; we are to serve and be served without partiality or reservation" (*Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, p. 201).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Four Gospels: Matthew 5:21-26, 33-48

5 Ellen White reference

The Desire of Ages, chap. 31, pp. 310-314; *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, chap. 3, pp. 55-58, 66-78. "The righteousness which Christ taught is conformity of heart and life to the revealed will of God. Sinful men can become righteous only as they have faith in God and maintain a vital connection with Him" (p. 310).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story (1994), vol. 8, pp. 62-65 ("God's Better Way").

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Psalm 133:1 (power text)
 Sunday—Matthew 5:21, 22.
 Monday—Matthew 5:23-26
 Tuesday—Matthew 5:27-32
 Wednesday—Matthew 5:33-37
 Thursday—Matthew 5:38-42
 Friday—Matthew 5:43-48

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- How is Jesus' teaching about loving our enemies applicable in my life?
- How do I serve others with the gifts that God has given me?
- What are some ways I could build unity with others?
- Who are some unlovable people to whom I could show love?
- How could I better show God's love in my relationships?
- How could I help others to love their enemies the way Jesus teaches?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Discuss ways you can restore broken relationships with others.
- Plan to do something special for a friend today.
- List ways you can show love to an enemy and apply these in your life.

8 Coming up next week!

A friend borrows bread in the middle of the night. God wants us to help our friends even if it is inconvenient.

Lesson 5 Year D Qtr 1

Midnight Friend in Galilee (Jesus teaches about prayer)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
Because God loves us at all times, we are always willing to reflect His love to others.

2 Power text (memory verse)
“A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity” (Proverbs 17:17).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 10, The Experience of Salvation: “Led by the Holy Spirit, we sense our need, . . . and exercise faith. . . . This saving faith comes through the divine power of the Word and is the gift of God’s grace” (*Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, p. 133).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Four Gospels: Luke 11:5-13

5 Ellen White reference

Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing, chap. 6, pp. 130-134. “Take God’s promises as your own, plead them before Him as His own words, and you will receive fullness of joy” (p. 133).

6 The Bible Story reference

No corresponding story in *The Bible Story* books.

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore

the core teaching with your children:
Sabbath—Proverbs 17:17 (power text)

Sunday—Matthew 7:7, 8

Monday—Matthew 7:9-12

Tuesday—Luke 11:5-8

Wednesday—Luke 11:9-13

Thursday—John 15:12-17

Friday—Luke 11:5-13

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- How does God answer prayer?
- What can I learn from this story about how I should approach God in prayer?
- How can I reflect God’s love to others?
- How persistent am I when I approach God in prayer?
- What is my attitude when God’s answer to my prayers is different than expected?
- How could I reflect God’s love to my family and friends?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Discuss with your family ways that you could be a better friend to others.
- Call or write a friend saying thanks for a time they helped you.
- Seek out people who are facing adversity and make a difference in their lives.

8 Coming up next week!

Jesus touches a leper! God wants us to show compassion to those in need.

Lesson 6 Year D Qtr 1

Touching the Untouchable (Jesus heals a leper)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
Showing compassion to others is one way to serve God.

2 Power text (memory verse)
“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God” (2 Corinthians 1:3, 4).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs, no. 4, God the Son: “Forever truly God, He became also truly human, Jesus the Christ. . . . By His miracles He manifested God’s power and was attested as God’s promised Messiah” (*Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, p. 43).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture
New Testament, The Four Gospels: Mark 1:40-45; Matthew 8:2-4; Luke 5:12-16

5 Ellen White reference
The Desire of Ages, chap. 27, pp. 262-266. “The work of Christ in cleansing the leper from his terrible disease is an illustration of His work in cleansing the soul from sin” (p. 266).

6 The Bible Story reference
The Bible Story (1994), vol. 8, pp. 37-38 (“Lepers Cleansed”)

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following **texts** to explore

the core teaching with your children:
Sabbath—2 Corinthians 1:3, 4 (power text)

Sunday—1 Peter 3:8

Monday—1 Peter 3:9

Tuesday—Mark 1:40-45

Wednesday—Luke 5:12-16

Thursday—Philippians 2:1-5; Romans 12:15

Friday—Matthew 8:2-4

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What can I learn from Jesus’ miracle of healing the leper?
- How could I show the faith that the leper possessed?
- How do Jesus’ words to the leper strengthen my faith in Him?
- Why did Jesus tell the leper to keep his healing a secret?
- How does Jesus want me to respond to people who are not easy to love?
- How will I show compassion toward someone this week?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- During worship study the word compassion as well as words that are related.
- Come up with three ways your family could show compassion to someone who is mourning.
- As a family decide how you could live out the principles of Philippians 2:1-5.

8 Coming up next week!
Jesus feeds the people. Jesus is able to provide for our needs.

Lesson 7 Year D Qtr 1

Unlimited (Jesus feeds 5,000)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
We serve a God who supplies all our needs.

2 Power text (memory verse)
“Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation” (Isaiah 12:2).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs, no. 21, Stewardship: “We are God’s stewards, entrusted by Him with time and opportunities, abilities and possessions, and the blessings of the earth and its resources. We are responsible to Him for their proper use” (*Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, p. 301).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture
New Testament, The Four Gospels: Mark 6:30-44; John 6:1-15

5 Ellen White reference
The Desire of Ages, chap. 39, pp. 364-371. “The miracle of the loaves teaches a lesson of dependence upon God” (p. 368).

6 The Bible Story reference
The Bible Story (1994), vol. 8, pp. 41-45 (“Hungry People Fed”)

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Isaiah 12:2 (power text)
Sunday—Mark 6:30
Monday—Mark 6:31
Tuesday—Mark 6:32-36
Wednesday—Mark 6:37-44
Thursday—John 6:35; Psalm 103:3
Friday—Romans 6:23

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What can I learn from the story of the miraculous multiplication?
- What part did the disciples play in feeding the 5000?
- What is a seemingly impossible situation that I need to bring to God?
- How could I surrender to God’s will to help me overcome challenges?
- How do my choices reveal I am trusting God to meet my needs?
- How could I focus on God’s power when I face challenges?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- As a family, make and share sandwiches with someone in need.
- Pray and ask God to help you with a situation that seems humanly impossible.
- Talk about some of the things that God gave us freely. Thank Him together.

8 Coming up next week!
Jesus tells the parable of talents. God wants us to use our talents in service to others.

Lesson 8 Year D Qtr 1

Talents: Use Them or Lose Them (Parable of the talents)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

We serve God when we use our talents to help others.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith" (Romans 12:6).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 17, Spiritual Gifts and Ministries: "God bestows upon all members of His church in every age spiritual gifts, which each member is to employ in loving ministry for the common good of the church and of humanity" (*Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, p. 237).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Four Gospels: Matthew 25:14-30

5 Ellen White reference

Christ's Object Lessons, chap. 25, pp. 325-365. "By living to minister for others, man is brought into connection with Christ" (p. 326).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story (1994), vol. 8, pp. 183-186 ("Tale of the Talents")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the

core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Romans 12:6 (power text)

Sunday—Matthew 25:14, 15

Monday—Matthew 25:16-18

Tuesday—Matthew 25:19-25

Wednesday—Matthew 25:26-28

Thursday—Luke 19:12-19

Friday—Luke 19:20-27

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What is the core teaching of Jesus' parable of the talents?
- What are some of the talents God has given me?
- What am I doing with the talents I have been given?
- In what areas of my life do I need to grow?
- How can I be sure I am being a faithful steward of my talents?
- Who would benefit if I shared the gifts God has given me?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Have each family member name the talents they recognize God has given them.
- Do something for someone in need using the talents you mentioned.
- Share words of affirmation with someone whose talent you really appreciate.

8 Coming up next week!

Jesus talks about sheep and goats. We serve others as we become more like Jesus.

Lesson9 Year D Qtr 1

Service With a Smile (Sheep and goats)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
Accepting Jesus' love for us inspires us to serve Him and others.

2 Power text (memory verse)
"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me'" (Matthew 25:40).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs, no. 11, Growing in Christ: "As we give ourselves in loving service to those around us and in witnessing to His salvation, His constant presence with us through the Spirit transforms every moment and every task into a spiritual experience" (*Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, p. 149).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture
New Testament, The Four Gospels: Matthew 24:1-14; 25:31-46

5 Ellen White reference
The Desire of Ages, chap. 70, pp. 637-641. "When the nations are gathered before Him, there will be but two classes, and their eternal destiny will be determined by what they have done or have neglected to do for Him in the person of the poor and the suffering" (p. 637).

6 The Bible Story reference
The Bible Story (1994), vol. 8, pp. 187-192 ("Passport to Heaven")

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Matthew 25:40 (power text)
Sunday—Matthew 24:1-14
Monday—Matthew 24:15-35
Tuesday—Matthew 25:31-46
Wednesday—Genesis 18:1-16
Thursday—Malachi 3:17, 18
Friday—1 Corinthians 4:1, 2

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What is the main distinction between "sheep" and "goats" in Jesus' parable?
- How does my life show that I belong to those Jesus welcomes as sheep?
- What difficulties do I encounter when I try to serve God and others?
- How am I serving my family, those in my community and in my church?
- When I serve am I motivated by the desire to be recognized or by unconditional love?
- What more could I do to help those around me?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Discuss why Jesus described only two groups in this parable.
- As a family, plan to help someone in need this week.
- Write a letter of encouragement to someone who serves others without being acknowledged.

8 Coming up next week!
Lazarus dies. God offers us the ultimate gift of grace—eternal life!

Lesson 10 Year D Qtr 1

Dead or Asleep? (Lazarus dies)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

Jesus gives me peace when I face suffering and death.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God" (Job 19:25, 26).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 26, Death and Resurrection: "The wages of sin is death. But God, who alone is immortal, will grant eternal life to His redeemed" (*Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, p. 387).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Four Gospels: John 11:1-16

5 Ellen White reference

The Desire of Ages, chap. 58, pp. 524-527. "Christ represents death as sleep to His believing children. Their life is hid with Christ in God, and until the last trumpet shall sound those who die will sleep in Him" (p. 527).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story (1994), vol. 9, pp. 22-27 ("Tears Jesus Shed")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the

core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Job 19:25, 26 (power text)

Sunday—John 11:1-10

Monday—John 11:11-16

Tuesday—Job 19:25-27

Wednesday—John 11:11

Thursday—John 11:25

Friday—John 11:1-16

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What gave Lazarus's sisters hope and comfort?
- What gives me comfort in sorrow?
- What disappointments am I currently experiencing?
- What helps me bring my fears to God?
- How can I call to God when I hurt?
- How could I comfort a friend who experiences deep sorrow?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Find as many Bible references as you can that compare death to sleep.
- Read and sing the verses of "Face to Face" (*Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal*, no. 206).
- Discuss how the words of this song match with the power text and with the lesson.

8 Coming up next week!

Mary and Martha mourn Lazarus's death. Grace brings comfort to grieving hearts.

Lesson 11

Year D Qtr 1

Two Sad Sisters

(Mary and Martha trust Jesus)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

God's love holds us tight in times of grief.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?'" (John 11:25, 26).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 9, The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ: "In Christ's life of perfect obedience to God's will, His suffering, death, and resurrection, God provided the only means of atonement for human sin, so that those who by faith accept this atonement may have eternal life" (*Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, p. 121).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Four Gospels: John 11:17-37

5 Ellen White reference

The Desire of Ages, chap. 58, pp. 528-533, "His [Jesus'] tender, pitying heart is ever awakened to sympathy by suffering. He weeps with those who weep, and rejoices with those that rejoice" (p. 533).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story (1994), vol. 9, pp. 22-27 ("Tears Jesus Shed")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—John 11:25, 26 (power text)

Sunday—John 11:17-24

Monday—John 11:25-37

Tuesday—1 John 4:16; 1 John 5:12

Wednesday—Matthew 9:22-25

Thursday—John 20:31

Friday—John 11:33-36

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What does this story suggest about the faith of Mary and Martha?
- What is my response to Jesus in the face of grief?
- For what am I grieving?
- Do I trust that God's strength will sustain me in grief?
- How will my perspective change when I rely on His plan and timing?
- How do I share Jesus' grace and His comfort with those who grieve?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Discuss the concept that suffering and death do not come from God.
- Share a challenging time when you felt Jesus especially close to you.
- Thank God for specific times when He has brought comfort to your family.

8 Coming up next week!

Jesus calls Lazarus from his tomb. By God's grace we have been given the gift of eternal life.

Lesson 12

Year D Qtr 1

A Resurrection Promise (Lazarus is raised)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

Jesus gives us new life today and for eternity.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first" (1 Thessalonians 4:16).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 25, The Second Coming of Christ: "When He returns, the righteous dead will be resurrected and, together with the righteous living, will be glorified and taken to heaven" (*Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, p. 371).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Four Gospels: John 11:1-44; Letters to People and Churches: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

5 Ellen White reference

The Desire of Ages, chap. 58, pp. 533-536. "In all that He did, Christ was co-operating with His Father" (p. 536).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story (1994), vol. 9, pp. 22-27 ("Tears Jesus Shed")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—1 Thessalonians 4:16
(power text)

Sunday—John 11:38

Monday—John 11:39-44

Tuesday—John 5:24-27

Wednesday—John 5:28, 29

Thursday—1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17

Friday—Revelation 21:4

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What does the miracle of Lazarus's resurrection teach about Jesus?
- What is a broken area of my life that only Jesus could restore?
- How can I celebrate resurrection in my life today?
- How does my view of death change when I think of Jesus' coming?
- What can I do today to prepare for my heavenly home?
- With whom could I share the good news about resurrection today?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Examine a bean seed. Do you see signs of life? Soak the bean overnight.
- The next day remove the skin from the bean and separate the two halves. What signs of life do you see?
- Sing "Jesus Is Coming Again" (Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal, no. 213).

8 Coming up next week!

Simon carries the cross. When we help those in need in our community we show them God's love.