
REVELATION

GOD IS IN CONTROL OF ALL THINGS

FAMILY CONVERSATION GUIDE

THE THEME

God wants us to KNOW Him so that we can GO for Him.

APRIL MEMORY VERSE

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." **John 8:12 ESV**

APRIL CHALLENGE VERSE

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you... Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." **John 14:27 NIV**

APRIL 21 - LIFE APPLICATION

Jesus wants us to be on His team!

NOTE TO PARENTS

Scripture: [Revelation 9:1-12](#)

In the [Book of Revelation](#), John, the disciple loved by Jesus, is given words and visions of heaven and Jesus, and prophecies about the End of Times. Remind your family that **God has a plan**, is over all things, knows all things, and He is with us through all things. Please read the scripture and listen to the sermon, in person or online, before discussing with your family.

In this week's message we will look at [Revelation 9:1-12](#). Even though bad things will happen in the world during the End Times, and we are able to know about them, we will not have to worry. God has a plan to take us to heaven to be with Him before all of this even happens! It is called the Rapture. Therefore, Christians and their believing kids should never have to worry. **Please emphasize God's great love for us.** That's why Jesus came to the earth to save us! But he also wants us to know about the End Times and the signs He has given us.

REVIEW

Before discussing this week's scripture, go back to [Revelation 8:6-13](#) for a quick review of the first four of the **Seven Trumpet Judgments**:

- **The First Trumpet Judgment:** Fire, hail and blood falling to the earth. The trees and crops are destroyed. This means there will be a shortage of food, and famine.
- **The Second Trumpet Judgment:** A great fiery mountain is thrown into the sea. This could be a meteor entering the earth's atmosphere. One third of the sea becomes blood (sea creatures dying) and one third of the ships are destroyed.
- **The Third Trumpet Judgment:** A great star from heaven (probably a comet) named "Wormwood" explodes and falls into the fresh waters and makes them bitter and poisonous to drink. Many would die because of this.
- **The Fourth Trumpet Judgment:** One third of each of the heavenly bodies (sun, stars, moon, etc.) are darkened causing the world to become cold and dark.

Why will God judge the world? *(The people of the world have rebelled against Him and disobeyed Him - ignoring His great love for them and choosing evil over good.)*

DISCUSS

- Who is God's (and our) enemy?** (*Satan, the devil.*) **What do you know about Satan?** (*Discuss what they have heard or read about Satan.*) **Why is it important to know who Satan is and what he wants to do?**
- Here are some main points about Satan:
 - Satan was created as an angel by God
 - Satan rebelled against God. He wanted Jesus's position of authority (**Isaiah 14:12-15**)
 - He took one-third of the angels with him to rebel against God. They are his demons (**Revelation 12:4,9**).
 - Some of the fallen angels are especially evil – the most evil creatures you could ever imagine! God has locked them into a place called **The Abyss** - a strong prison in the center of the earth. They are chained there to keep them away from the world and His people (**Jude 6-7**).
- Because of Satan's presence and also our sin in the world, God must judge the world in the End Times. Remember, those of us who are Christians and follow Jesus do not need to worry about suffering these judgments, but God wants us to know about them. **Why?** (*So we can witness to people who don't know Jesus and help them be saved. He wants them to be saved!*)
- Here is the **Fifth Trumpet Judgment** (**Revelation 9:1-12**):
 - During the Great Tribulation, Satan is forever kicked out of heaven and removed from God's presence and comes to earth
 - Satan is given (by God) the keys to the Abyss. He breaks the evil angels out of the prison of Abyss and they come swarming out like locusts to descend on the earth. Their description is in **verses 7-10** for discussion (if you feel it's appropriate for your kids). Compare them to scorpions with poisonous tails that can sting and cause suffering for five months, but not death. Through their suffering, more will call on Jesus and be saved. **Remember the 144,000 Jewish evangelists and those saved during the Great Tribulation in Revelation 7?** They are protected from these evil demons with a seal on their foreheads!
 - The king over these evil ones is called Abaddon (in Hebrew) or Appolyon (in Greek). His name means "Destroyer." That is what the devil came to do: kill, steal, and destroy. Jesus came for a different reason: To give us life (**John 10:19**).
 - God sent the Fifth Judgment to give all who had not chosen to follow Jesus

an opportunity to finally do so. Many will, but many will not. They will love and choose darkness over light (**John 3:19**). One day, when Satan and his demons are sent to the Abyss, those people will go with them if they choose not to love Jesus.

5. Go back to the question in #3. **Why does God want us to know about these things?** (So that we can be a light in the world and let others know about Jesus.)

Main Point from our Pastor, David Chadwick:

Whose team are you on? Jesus or the enemy/devil? We are in a spiritual war for people's eternal souls. Ours, yes, but those around us as well. **Will you not choose Team Jesus?** And to not make a decision is to make a decision NOT to be on Jesus's team. **Will you now choose to follow, love, and serve him?**

It's the most important decision you'll ever make.

PRAYER

Dear Jesus, we want to be on Your team. We know that means we need to exercise and grow strong in every way so that we will be ready to serve You with all of our hearts, minds, souls, and strength. We love You! Amen.

FAMILY CHALLENGE

Set up a **“training course”** for your family. Think of ways they can **exercise their hearts, minds, souls, and bodies** so that they are ready. For example:

Station 1 - Heart: Set up a small table with pens/markers, note cards, or paper. Think of three people in your life who could use someone to show them Jesus' love. Write their names. Or make a card for someone who needs God's love.

Station 2 - Mind: Read this verse (on a card) out loud. *“And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”* **Mark 12:30**

Read it again like this and pause to think after each statement.

- “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.”
- “You shall love the Lord your God with all your mind.”
- “You shall love the Lord your God with all your soul.”
- “You shall love the Lord your God with all your strength.”

Station 3 - Soul: Sit in a chair, on a swing, or on a bench and be still for 5 minutes (use a timer if you have one). Ask God to be there with you and nourish your soul with His presence.

Station 4 - Strength: Set up an exercise station with several signs such as-

- Do 10 sit-ups
- Run in place for 2 minutes
- Do ten jumping jacks

After completing, ask your family how they felt after going through “training.” **How could this help them if you did this on a daily basis?** It could be time well spent!