PARENT GUIDE Preteen

Puzzled: Believe there's a bigger picture



First, watch this week's video!

Hope: Believing that something good can come out of something bad

Memory Verse

"In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world." John 16:33b, NIrV

Bible Story

Lazarus Raised John 11:1-45

Key Question

How do you react when bad things happen?

Use this guide to help your family learn about hope.

Activity

Power Play

What You Need:

Paper, writing utensils, timer

What You Do:

Each person writes down the letters of the alphabet on a sheet of paper. Then get a 60-second timer ready. Challenge your child to a contest to write down as many "powerful" things and people as possible—one for each letter of the alphabet. Once the timer is up, put down your pens/pencils and count to see who was able to name the most.

Declare a Power Play winner!

Talk About the Bible Story

What do you think of when you hear the word "powerful"?

Who was powerful in our story today? (Jesus)

How did Lazarus, Mary, and Martha experience hope in our story? (Through Jesus bringing Lazarus back from the dead, they saw how powerful God is.)

How would you explain hope to someone?

Where can we go to find hope? (family, prayer, church, the Bible)

Parent: Share a story about a time you went through something incredibly difficult, but you learned a valuable lesson or had a meaningful experience as a result.



Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"Dear God, thank You for being with us when we face problems and struggles. We know that life can bring discouragement and disappointment, but we also know that YOU are bigger than any trouble we face. If You can raise Lazarus from the dead, we know that nothing is too hard for You. Help us to trust You no matter what, and call on You when we have problems at home, school, with friends, or with anything that's bothering us right now. Thank You for loving us and giving us hope. In Jesus' name, amen."