

KIDS CHRONICLES

Grove Families,

Our mission in Kids is to glorify God by partnering with parents to disciple children. We believe that the most fruitful discipleship happens in the home. We hope this newsletter provides you more tools to help you disciple your children.

STORY POINTS

Big Picture Question: *Why do we pray?*

We pray because God is sovereign - in control - over the universe.

August 7th: Obadiah the Prophet (Obadiah)

The conflict of Edom and Israel originated in the womb; Edom descended from Esau, and Israel from Jacob (Gen 25:23). Edom mistreated Israel for centuries, even denying them help during the Babylonian invasion (Oba 11). God spoke through Obadiah of the destruction of Edom and the restoration of Israel. God punished Edom for their pride (Oba 3-4), but God showed mercy to Israel, and promised their land would be restored (Ob 19-21). God is always just in His judgements, whether to punish or show mercy.

August 14th: The Captives Came Home (Ezra 1-3)

God declared through the prophet Jeremiah that Judah would be in Babylonian exile for seventy years (Jer 25:11). After seventy years, God would bring His people back home. God moved in the heart of King Cyrus to send His people back to their own land, and even allowed them to rebuild the temple. God is sovereign over everything - the timing of events and even over the heart of kings (Pro 21:1).

August 21st: The Temple Was Rebuilt (Ezra 4-6)

The exiles who returned from Babylon began construction on the temple. It was a difficult process: the national wealth was gone, the land was desolate, and there was opposition from neighbors. But God sent Haggai and Zechariah to encourage God's people and continue building (Ezra 5:1). When the temple was finally finished, the people celebrated and made an offering to God (Ezra 6:13-15). God's purposes will always be accomplished. No one can thwart His plans (Ezra 6:14).

August 28th: Zechariah the Prophet (Zechariah)

Zechariah was a priest born in Babylon. Several years had passed without progress on the temple when God called Zechariah to prophesy (Zech 1:1). Zechariah's message looked back and remembered the past, but they also looked forward to a future Kingdom and a future King. Despite Israel's sinful history and constant rebellion, God was still going to send a Messiah to save His people (Zech 1:3-6).

GOSPEL TIP

Be careful not to represent “repentance” as a work (living differently, behavioral change); repentance is a change that begins in the mind. It could be changing your mind about the wickedness of sin or the significance of Jesus’ death and resurrection. A true change of mind will result in a change of behavior, disposition, affections, will, etc.

GOD’S WORD IN MY HEART

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. (John 1:1-3)

Listen to Seeds Family Worship – The Word (John 1:1-14)

EVERY MOMENT REDEEMED

Would your family be blessed by a family devotion?

[More Than A Story](#) by Sally Michael – Michael takes us through God’s unfolding plan of redemption through the Old and New Testament (two different books). Each chapter is centered upon the Word, and provides 30-60 minutes of content with your children.

[New City Catechism](#) – The method of teaching doctrine through catechisms has been a practice in the church for centuries. This content can be accessed via digital or paper format. There are 52 questions, one for each week of the year.

TECH CORNER

How do I disciple my children in this digital age?

We recognize the challenges of navigating a digital world. Every family dynamic is unique and the landscape of technology is constantly shifting. [Tony Reinke](#) offers several insights to help parents establish God-honoring digital practices in the home.

