



EMPOWERED- PART 3

Family Devotional/Adult & Teen Discussion Guide

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OCTOBER 21, 2018

1. PRIMARY STATEMENT: The Holy Spirit has special abilities He gives to us, which help us to be better witnesses in our world. For some, those abilities are gifts of faith and of healing.

2. BIBLE VERSE:

Hebrews 11:6 [ESV]

“And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”

Many times we think of having faith in God’s power - what he can do, but the gift of faith can also empower us to believe in God’s character - what He wants to do in our lives and in our world.

Q . Think of someone in your life who has great faith. When you’re around this person, what happens to your own faith?

Q. Is it strengthened?
Are you challenged to grow?

Q . What’s a way God could use great faith in your life to inspire faith in others?



3. DISCUSSION:

Isaiah 53:5 [NLT]

“But he (Jesus) was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed.”

God doesn’t heal people just to show off. Healing is an extension of God’s mercy - a God who cares about our suffering. The gift of healing empowers Christians to not only change the outcome of ailments, but to express God’s mercy and compassion.

Q . Has God’s ability to heal changed since the records in the Bible? Has His character or willingness to heal changed? If not, why do you think many have a hard time believing God still heals people?

Q . Have you ever been sick or suffering, and felt like God didn’t care, or that people didn’t care? How would praying for someone to receive healing change that feeling in others?



4. PRAYER FOCUS

Take a few minutes as a family: thank God for equipping His church (including you!) with the abilities needed to change the world. Ask the Holy Spirit to develop the abilities in you that He wants to express in your world.



HOW TO HANDLE TEMPTATION

Family Devotional/Overflow Kids Discussion Guide

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OCTOBER 21, 2018

1. POWER VERSE: James 4:7 *“So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”*

What’s Up: I May Be Tempted, But I Won’t Give In!

This week, we continue the series called, “The Garden”. In this series, we will look at the four characters involved in the first sin in the Garden of Eden: Satan, Adam, Eve, and God. In this lesson, we learn how to handle the temptation in our lives.

2. READ:

Genesis 3:1-6 *“The serpent was more clever than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. The serpent said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat fruit from any tree in the garden’?” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden. But God did say, ‘You must not eat the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden. Do not even touch it. If you do, you will die.’”*

“You will certainly not die,” the serpent said to the woman. “God knows that when you eat fruit from that tree, you will know things you have never known before. Like God, you will be able to tell the difference between good and evil.” The woman saw that

the tree’s fruit was good to eat and pleasing to look at. She also saw that it would make a person wise. So she took some of the fruit

and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her. And he ate it.”

Q. What did you notice about Eve in the story?



3. DISCUSSION:

Eve made a huge mistake, but it wasn’t just an isolated incident. There were several mistakes she made that added up to the ultimate mistake of the original sin.



Like Eve, we are all tempted, but we don’t have to give into that temptation.

The only way we can handle the pressure is to recognize that rarely is sin an act of the moment. We must learn from

Eve that there are other mistakes made that lead to our sin. First, we can’t listen to Satan’s lies. Instead we must trust God’s plan. Second, we can’t hang around when temptation comes. We must run away from the temptation in our lives. Lastly, we must not follow the crowd.

We must do what’s right.

Q. Have you ever made a mistake that eventually lead to sin? (i.e. listening to Satan’s lies, hanging around temptation, following the crowd)



4. PRAYER FOCUS

Allow your child time to confess their sins to God. Then pray with them that God will help them follow the three steps in the plan to defeat temptation.