



EMPOWERED- PART 5

Family Devotional/Adult & Teen Discussion Guide

Subscribe to this family devotional at: abundantlifealton.com
Or read the devotional on your Abundant Life App.

NOVEMBER 4, 2018

1. PRIMARY STATEMENT: God wants us to be effective witnesses - representatives of who Jesus is to the spiritually lost in our world. In order to accomplish that goal, the Holy Spirit empowers believers with special abilities, including the gifts of discernment and speaking / interpreting unknown languages.

2. BIBLE VERSE:

1 John 4:1 [NLT]

"Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world."

The spiritual gift of discernment enables you to identify the spirit behind a person or group, to tell whether a prophecy is legitimate or not, or to have insight into the spiritual realities of a situation.

Q . Have you ever fallen for an email scam or a similar hoax? If so, what were the repercussions? (if not, what do you imagine they would be?)

Q . What are some sources in our world of incorrect teaching about God?

Q . How might the gift of discernment make you more effective as a witness?

3. DISCUSSION:

1 Corinthians 14:5 [ESV]

"Now I want you all to speak in tongues, but even more to prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be built up."

The spiritual gift of "tongues," or, speaking in an unknown language, is one that seems to be mostly for personal prayer time, but it can also be beneficial to others -when it's interpreted.



Q . When did you first encounter people speaking in unknown languages? What was your impression at the time? Is that different from your impression now?

Q . What are some ways that speaking in unknown languages could help you be a better witness, or point the spiritually lost toward God?



4. PRAYER FOCUS

Take a few minutes as a family: thank God for the spiritual abilities to discern spirits and speak in unknown languages. If you've received the ability to, take a little time to pray in the Spirit using unknown languages.



GOD'S RESPONSE TO FAILURE

Family Devotional/Overflow Kids Discussion Guide

Subscribe to this family devotional at: abundantlifealton.com
Or read the devotional on your Abundant Life App.

NOVEMBER 4, 2018

1. POWER VERSE: 1 John 1:9 *"But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness."*

What's Up: "When I Fail, I Can See God Always Comes Looking For Me!"

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 just how much our Heavenly Father loves us.

2. READ:

Q. Who are people you love? (i.e. family, friends, etc.) Have you ever gotten mad at someone you love?

Q. Ever wonder how God feels when we sin? Does He get angry? Does He plot revenge? Does He say, "I told you so?"



So many people have the idea in their mind that God is sitting in Heaven with one hand on the "zapper" and one foot raised in the air just waiting to STOMP on us when we sin.

Genesis 3:8-11

Then the man and his wife heard the Lord God walking in the garden. It was during the coolest time of the day. They hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called out to the man. "Where are you?" he asked. "I heard you in the garden," the man answered. "I was afraid, because I was naked. So I hid." The Lord God said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten fruit from the tree I commanded you not to eat from?"

3. DISCUSSION:

Through the story of Adam and Eve, we see God's heart and how He really responds when we fail Him. When we run from Him, He comes looking for us and gives us a chance to make it right.



John 3:16

"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life."

Q. Have you ever been afraid of what God thought when you messed up?

Q. What do you do when you mess up? What *should* you do when you mess up?



4. PRAYER FOCUS

Give your child a chance to "make it right" with God. Let them know that when they mess up, God comes to them and gives them a chance to be forgiven - all they have to do is ask.