

# APRIL 2025

## "SEASONAL CHANGES"



### Spiritual Practice:

Celebration and Lament



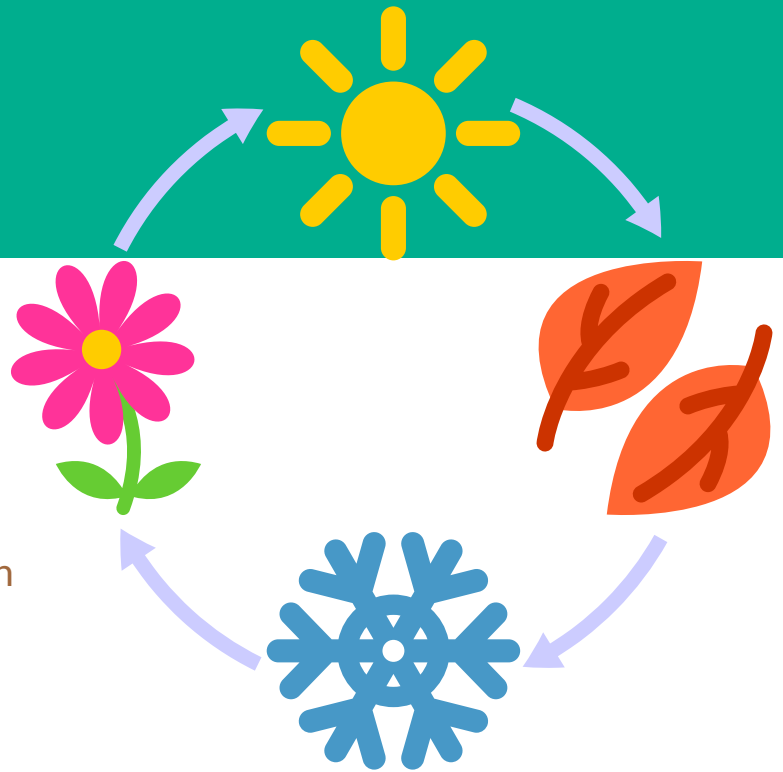
### Bible Story:

New Heaven and New Earth



### Memory Verse:

Ecclesiastes 3:1,4,11a



*"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance. Yet God has made everything beautiful in its own time."*

## FAMILY INTERACTION PLAN

You may use this four-week format or develop your own family plan. The Growing Families program is designed to use one or more days each week but find your family rhythm. We've given you the approximate participation time to interact with the program each week.

### Week 1 April 1 - 5

- Total suggested time for content: (36 minutes) You can choose how much time to spend in spiritual conversations.
- Watch the Intro video on the website to find out the themes for the month (7 minutes)
- View the Bible Project video: (5 minutes) Scan the QR code to watch. It tells the story of God renewing Heaven and Earth through Jesus so we can live forever with him.
- Watch God's Story video on the website and use your new props in the gold bag (9 minutes)
- Watch the parent's video with Dr. Russell Hall. Use the worksheet in your resource bag to review each of Dr. Hall's videos. This is a wonderful opportunity to discuss how each video has informed your parenting. (15 minutes)



# FAMILY INTERACTION PLAN

## **Week 2 April 6 - 12**

Total suggested time for content: (40 minutes)

You can choose how much time to spend in spiritual conversations.

- Read and discuss God's Story activity ideas to introduce new conversations about the New Heaven and Earth. (variable time)
- Read the Lament Activity and use the age-appropriate ideas with your children. You can find these pieces in the blue bag. (15 minutes)
- Begin reading 'The Biggest Story' (one chapter a night) or read the toddler board book for small children. (10 minutes)

## **Week 3 April 13 - 20**

Total suggested time for content: (42 minutes)

You can choose how much time you want to spend in spiritual conversation this week.

- Use your Holy Week Liturgy and your story pieces to encourage family conversations about this special week. (5 - 10 minutes for each day)
- Teens and families watch the Art video on the website and create your masterpieces (7 minutes)
- Toddlers and families review your God's Story rhyme and watch the video. (5-10 minutes)
- Children of all ages, use the small box to go over the events of Holy Week (variable time)

## **Week 4 April 20 - 27**

Total suggested time for content: enough time to bake and eat!

You can choose how much time you want to spend with these activities and in spiritual conversation this week.

- Use your 'Party in a bag' to celebrate together as a family. Bake a cake or cupcakes to celebrate Easter or use it to celebrate another milestone in your family. (30 minutes)
- Your family may want to review each month's God's Story. Use your story props to tell the biblical narrative together. (variable time)

## BIBLE STORY VIDEO



### FAMILY:

Watch the video–New Heaven and New Earth

#### **For the whole family (9 minutes)**

Watch the last part of God’s Story. Use your gold bag of new story pieces, the backdrop of your home, and the family peg people you received in August.

#### **For teens (7 minutes)**

Watch the video about the New Creation and experiment using oil pastels on paper. Enjoy being creative as a family.

#### **Toddler Rhyme video (2 minutes)**

Parents and Toddlers, watch the video and practice God’s Story rhyme together.

## PARENTING VIDEO



### PARENTS:

Watch the video–Dr. Russell Hall

Dr. Russell Hall shares how raising children is a sanctification process for both parents and children. Watch the video and use the worksheet in your resource bag to review the important points from each of his videos.