

FAMILY RESPONSE FOR MARCH



Find a time to discuss your family's part in God's Story: Before you begin, take the world map and the bag with purple dots out of the resource bag.

Parents: Read through this activity and choose how much information you want to share with your children. You may want to condense this for younger ages. The purple dot activity and videos are appropriate for all ages.

- Pray together that God will let this truth sink deep into your hearts. You may choose to split this conversation into several parts if children's attention spans are short.

Parents: You may want to watch the Bible Project video before you show it to your children. You may decide it is not age-appropriate for them. God's Kingdom and Earth were separated in the garden, but continue to overlap throughout the story.

- [Learn Where Heaven and Earth Overlap](#) (6:43 minutes) Bible Project Video.



Read out loud: The video explains how Adam and Eve were with God in the garden, but were separated because of their sin. Only Jesus, God's son, could bring the two kingdoms back together. As Jesus' followers, we are given the power of the Holy Spirit to share the good news about God's Kingdom. We continue the same work that Paul and the disciples started. We help bring Heaven to Earth. Children will begin to understand how they fit into God's story. As storykeepers, we tell God's Story and invite others to be a part of it. We can do that through our actions, too, like feeding the poor, visiting the sick, inviting people into our homes for meals, and taking care of God's creation. These are all ways that God's Kingdom grows.

In this Bible Project video, the kingdom of God is represented by a blue circle, and the red circle represents the world's kingdom. **Christians carry Jesus with them everywhere they go, and God's Kingdom grows.**

Your family has now told God's story from creation, through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. They've learned how his friends and followers shared that good news! We are now waiting for Heaven and Earth to come together again as God has planned. For 2000 years, God's people have been telling this same story. We are also God's storykeepers.

The next 3-minute video shows God's story spreading around the world. People who had never heard of Jesus were told the good news and followed him. This is exciting to watch. The children's formation class watched this video multiple times and cheered when God's Story reached each of their countries. Many Christians continue to share the good news, and some risk their lives to do so!

Parents: watch "The Spread of Christianity" with the children.

- [The Spread of Christianity](#) (1:47 minutes)



- After watching the video, discuss the topic of sharing the good news of God's Kingdom. Ask the children how each of your family members fits into God's story.

The purple dots in your resource bag will represent the places where your family has brought God's kingdom to earth.

- Use your world map from your Resource Bag, the peg people representing your family, and the purple dots for this activity.
- Where has your family shared the good news of God's Story? Move your peg people to each area of the world/city/state/or country and place them in that section. While you are there, leave a purple dot on the map to represent that you shared God's Kingdom. Moms and dads, where have you shared the good news even before you had children? Place purple dots there, too.

KEEP THIS CONVERSATION GOING

- God asked Paul and others to write letters to the people with whom they shared God’s story. Is he calling you to go somewhere to share his story? Or maybe he is asking you to pray for another family who is sharing God’s Story right now in another country. (If you pray for or support missionaries in parts of the world, place another purple dot.)
- Once you have placed your purple dots on the map, take a photo of your family with the map. Pray for the places and people to whom you have brought the good news. Because of your faithfulness, the kingdom of God is growing.
- Ask God where he wants you to share his story next. Listen to where he may send you today, this month, or this year, then place a new purple dot on your map.
- Go back to your purple dot map often this month and have family members share about their experience when sharing God’s Story with others. How did you spread God’s Kingdom? Was it with words or actions?

Families, you are part of God’s story!
Next month, we will tell the final events in God’s Story.
Here is a hint about the last part of the story:



“The world, as it is, is not how it was meant to be. But the new creation that God is bringing will be glorious beyond our imagination.”

N.T. Wright