



BRING IT HOME

Conversation starters to continue at home what began at Immanuel
Our desire is to see families use this resource as you live out Deuteronomy 11:19

UNIT 31: THE CHURCH IS OPPOSED

Jesus had promised that His followers would face opposition just as He had, and it didn't take long for that to happen. The church was opposed by outsiders as it also experienced conflict from within. But just as God had used the opposition of Jesus for good, He would use opposition of the church for good too.

BIG PIC

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Why did Jesus become human?
Jesus became human to obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.

KEY
PASSAGE:
ISAIAH
53:5

But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed.

MAR 3

SESSION 1: THE APOSTLES WERE ARRESTED ACTS 5

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus calls His followers to be faithful and tell others about Him, even in times of trouble. Just as Jesus experienced rejection and suffering, so will His followers. We can have joy in suffering, knowing God uses our suffering, like Christ's, for His glory.



Family Discussion Starters:

How were Peter and John faithful during difficulties?

How have you seen God use hard times in your own life for His glory?

Family Activity:

Play a game of "Red Light, Green Light." Stand on one side of the room with the kids on the other. Explain that kids can move toward you when you say "green light," but must freeze when you say "red light." After the game, talk about how Jesus' apostles continued sharing the good news even when they were told to stop.

MAR 10

SESSION 2: STEPHEN WAS ARRESTED ACTS 6-7

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus told His followers that they would be persecuted – hated, hurt, or even killed – for loving Him. Jesus also said that those who suffer for Him would be blessed. We can face suffering in this life because Jesus suffered first. He died and then rose again, and He is waiting for us in heaven.



Family Discussion Starters:

Who helped Stephen speak with wisdom? (*the Holy Spirit*)

How can Stephen's faith encourage us in our own faith?

Family Activity:

Hold a family time of worship and prayer while sitting in a stairway, small closet, or bathroom. Explain that many Christians must worship in secret due to being mistreated for their faith. Celebrate the faith of these believers and pray for their safety as they follow Jesus.

MAR 17

SESSION 3 THE CHURCH SPREAD OUT ACTS 8

CHRIST CONNECTION: *The Holy Spirit led Philip to help the Ethiopian official understand the good news about Jesus: Jesus died on the cross for our sins and was raised from the dead, just like the Old Testament prophets said.*



Family Discussion Starters:

How did Philip help the Ethiopian official?

What are reasons others might not know about Jesus? How can we help them learn about Jesus?

Family Activity:

Take a family walk through your neighborhood or in a local park. Discuss how the Holy Spirit led Philip to find the Ethiopian official along the desert road and how Philip obeyed. Talk with kids about how they might respond if the Holy Spirit leads them to help others learn about Jesus.

MAR 24

SESSION 4: (BIG TRUTH SESSION) JESUS SUFFERED FOR US PHILIPPIANS 2

CHRIST CONNECTION: *Jesus, the Son of God, humbled Himself by coming to earth as a man. Jesus never sinned, but He died on the cross to rescue people from their sins. Jesus rose from the dead and is alive! Everyone who trusts in Jesus has forgiveness and life with God forever.*



Family Discussion Starters:

How does Paul describe the attitude of Jesus?

What does it look like to have the same attitude as Jesus?

Family Activity:

Write thank-you notes to people who have served your kids at church. Deliver the notes and thank them for sharing the good news of Jesus. Remind your kids that we can follow Jesus' example of humility when we serve others for God's glory.