



EPHESIANS | FAMILY | WEEK 2 OF 4

Through Jesus

The Family series focuses on how we're brought into relationship with God through the persons of the Trinity—from God's desire to adopt us into his family to Jesus' rescue to the work of the Holy Spirit.

BIG IDEA

God wants to rescue everyone through Jesus.

KEY VERSES

He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.

John 1:10–14 (NLT)

1 | Hangout

SUPPLIES

- Flying disc

LEADER TIP

- Use the disc as a "talking stick" to keep the students' focus and help them respect and listen to the person who's speaking. Toss it from person to person as they respond to questions.

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Discuss:
 - What images or words come to mind when you hear the word "rescue"?
 - Have you ever seen a rescue, been rescued, or had to rescue someone else?
 - Do you think people act any differently after they've been rescued? Why or why not?



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2 | Hear

SUPPLIES

- Bibles

INSTRUCTIONS

- Make sure everyone has access to a Bible.
- Look up and read Ephesians 1:7-12.
- Discuss: What thoughts or ideas came to mind when you read these verses? Did anything stand out to you?
- Go through the passage again. After reading each verse, discuss:
 - What do you think this verse means?
 - Why might Paul have wanted to write it?
 - What is its significance in our lives?
- After reading the passage, discuss:
 - What does Jesus rescue or save us from? (Sin, which is anything that stands between us and God, including our selfishness and our own not-so-perfect ways)
 - What does Jesus save us to? (A relationship with God, membership in his family, life with God forever)
 - What could blind us from our need for rescue?
- Look up and read John 1:10-14.
- Discuss:
 - What came to mind or stood out to you when you read these verses?
 - What do you think "birth that comes from God" (verse 13, NLT) means?

3 | Huddle

SUPPLIES

- None

INSTRUCTIONS

- Point out that although **God wants to rescue everyone through Jesus**, he doesn't force this rescue on anyone. Instead, God gives us a choice. It's like he says, "I love you so much that I want you in my family. I sent my Son to rescue you into it, but you can decide if you'll follow him."
- Discuss:
 - Have you accepted Jesus' rescue and found your place in God's family?
 - If you have, how has it changed you, the way you think, and the way you live?
 - If you haven't, are there any questions or things you want to understand better?
 - This week, how can you use everyday conversations to point people towards Jesus?
- Encourage the students to think of who they want to see become part of God's family this year.
- Pray for those who have yet to learn about Jesus and his offer of rescue. Pray that your group would welcome others into the family with love!