

At Home Lesson God is with You (Ecclesiastes 3:1-12)

Gather your family together. Start off in prayer. Pray for each other, the church, the leaders around the world, and people who you know are in need. Ask God to teach your family something during this time together. Tell the Bible story and discuss. There's a video link under the passage with children telling a shortened version of the story. Stay open and make sure kids are invited to participate however, they are comfortable.

BIBLE STORY

Today's lesson comes from Ecclesiastes 3:1-12. You can read the story from the bible you have at home, or read the New International Readers Version (NIRV) below:

There is a time for everything.
There's a time for everything that is done on earth.
There is a time to be born.
And there's a time to die.
There is a time to plant.
And there's a time to pull up what is planted.
There is a time to kill.
And there's a time to heal.
There is a time to tear down.
And there's a time to build up.
There is a time to weep.
And there's a time to laugh.
There is a time to be sad.
And there's a time to dance.
There is a time to scatter stones.
And there's a time to gather them.
There is a time to embrace someone.
And there's a time not to embrace.
There is a time to search.
And there's a time to stop searching.
There is a time to keep.
And there's a time to throw away.
There is a time to tear.
And there's a time to mend.
There is a time to be silent.
And there's a time to speak.

There is a time to love.

And there's a time to hate.

There is a time for war.

And there's a time for peace.

What do workers get for their hard work? I've seen the heavy load God has put on human beings. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also given people a sense of who he is. But they can't completely understand what God has done from beginning to end. People should be happy and do good while they live. I know there's nothing better for them to do than that.

Watch the video on <https://jcbc.org/jcbc-kids-online/> and then discuss using the prompts below.

CONNECT AND DISCUSS

Ask these questions and explain these things to your children. Break it down on their level and adapt to their age group. The older your kids are, the more they can explain and think outside the box. Instead of defining words, ask them what it means. For younger kids, make sure to explain in the simplest terms. No matter the age, let them answer before you do. Accept their answers and make sure they know you are proud of how hard they are thinking, even if they don't get the "right" answer.

- Ecclesiastes is a big word! It is a book of the Old Testament. Ecclesiastes is a Greek word that means "preacher" or "teacher." The writer of Ecclesiastes collected wisdom together and helped teach it to people.
- Wisdom is a word that means knowing what's right and being able to make good decisions. When we have knowledge of God in our hearts, we have wisdom to do what's right and treat others the way God would want us to treat them.
- This passage teaches us that there is a time for everything. Sometimes we are sad, sometimes happy, mad, joyful. Sometimes we feel like crying and sometimes we feel like having a party! No matter what we feel or what we are doing, God is with us! God created all of our feelings and is with us even when bad things happen in the world or in our lives.
- What is something happy that has happened this week? How was God with you?
- What is something sad that has happened this week? How was God with you?
- Sometimes we see God through nature or other people. When have you seen God this week?
- This week, we are going to talk every night about where we saw God that day, so let's pay attention!

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Pray for God to show Godself to you and your family this week. Ask Jesus to keep teaching you the right way to live and how to live like you believe in Him. Thank God for keeping your family safe and pray that God heals the world from the Corona Virus.

FUN REINFORCEMENTS

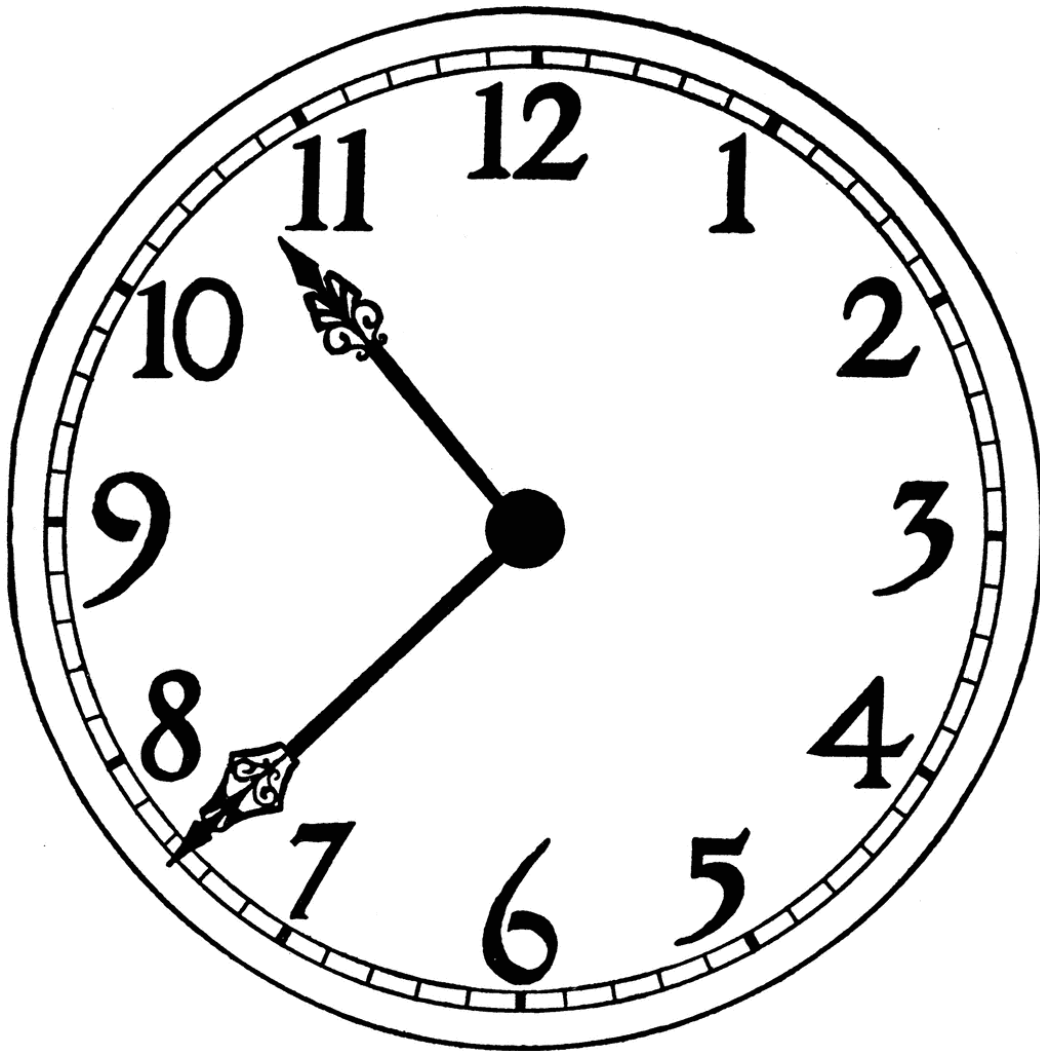
- Sing and dance along to some of our kids' favorite songs!
[My Lighthouse](#)
[Alive](#)
[This is Amazing Grace](#)
- Do something kind & missional this week!
- Try out the activity page and craft below!

Time for Everything

Print off this clock.

*Encourage kids to write or draw feelings or activities around the clock.
(ex. dancing, happy/sad faces, etc.)*

Talk about how life always moves forward and God makes a time for everything!



Seasons Trees

Talk about God created the whole world to keep moving and changing. Just like there is a time for everything in our lives, there is a time for different things in creation. Explains the seasons and how God created all of it. Then follow the instructions below.



What you need:

- 4 pieces of white card stock/paper
- Paint – finger paint, water color, or whatever you have, multicolored
- Pencil or pen

What you do:

- Use the pencil/pen to trace your kids' hand and part of the arm on each piece of paper
- Use watercolors or finger paint to color in the hand & arm to look like the trunk of a tree.
- Next, paint dots or leaves or scribbles that look like leaves around the hand to make it look like a tree! Use different colors of paint to represent the different seasons & let the kids be creative!

*** Alternate supplies: if you don't have paint (or just don't want to deal with the mess) you can use crayons or markers instead!