

# Moses and the Journey of Faith

## Family Devotional Ideas

### Week Two

#### **Lead Your Kids to their own “Promised Land!” (give them a promised gift!)**

What would it have been like to be the Israelites waiting for God’s promised blessings? For Moses and God’s people then, as quoted in Exodus 3:8, they were promised their own “good and spacious land...a land flowing with milk and honey.” For you and your kids, perhaps there is a longed-for gift or needed blessing that would be meaningful to wait for and receive together! *This activity can extend throughout the 40 Days.*

#### **A. Selecting a Gift**

Think about what gift your family has been talking about, needing, or would immediately feel the positive difference it makes in your home and in your lives. For the Israelites, God’s promise of a land was dramatically different than being slaves in a foreign land. You might want to select an item that would have universal appeal in your family so that everyone can remember receiving a special gift they liked and could use/benefit from.

#### **B. Announcing a Promise**

As God called Moses to connect with His promises through the burning bush in Midian, call your kids to attention with a special announcement one morning this week. Something like this might be your announcement: “Kids, we are going to get a great gift for our family! It’s \_\_\_\_\_!” (allow a moment of celebration and questions about the gift) **Do NOT tell your kids exactly WHEN\* you all will receive the gift; rather, this is a moment to announce that it is coming and how great it will be when you all have it here.** Allow the excitement to build (again, stressing the importance of doing something really good) and if asked “WHEN will we get it?” keep on answering “Trust me, you’ll get it and it will be great!” Then after a few minutes, go about your business of the day.

*\*You must on your own select a time that you will present the gift to your family. For parents with older kids, the gift could be given at the end of the 40 days. For those with younger kids, that may be too long to wait.*

#### **C. Reminding your family of the Promise/build anticipation for the gift**

Every day, open or end your day reminding your kids that this great gift is coming and talk excitedly about it together. **Allow your kids to share their emotions over the coming gift – remember, this is an important part of the experience!** They might feel excited and delighted that it’s coming, or they might get frustrated that they don’t know when it’s coming. They might halfway through the waiting period give up hope that you’ll ever come through on your promise. (Each time they ask “When?!” remember to patiently and happily tell them that you won’t tell them exactly when, but to get excited because it’s going to be great.)

**D. Give the Promised Gift**

On the day that you've chosen, call a family meeting and present the gift with great fanfare. Celebrate and enjoy the gift. Ask your kids "How did it feel to wait for this gift?" and "How does it feel now that it's here?" Read Exodus 3:8 and more of the Moses story if you want to. Explain to your kids that God promised to the Israelites a good and spacious land, but didn't provide every detail about how or when they would get it. God invites us to keep asking Him for what we need and want, and also to wait and trust God for His timing in giving us the promised gifts.