

Revive Our Hearts Thoma - Easten

with Barbara Reaoch

BEFORE YOU BEGIN: TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED

Ready to prepare a child's heart for Easter? We are, too! Before we begin, there are some important things you should know:

These devotions are about trusting Jesus, not our own goodness—that's faith. They are about living for Jesus, not ourselves—that's repentance. They are for kids who already believe and for those who do not yet believe in Jesus. And because we need to continually preach the gospel to ourselves, that means parents, grandparents, caregivers, these are for you, too.

Each week's content is divided into four "days" or lessons. Use all or part of each lesson to best meet the needs of your family, no matter what ages it includes. Brief and consistent beats long and irregular at every age. These simple and clear lessons give parents and caregivers the framework to teach eternal Truths. Pray and ask your Father to keep your eyes on the goal and for the power of God's Word to override your inadequacies.

Before you begin each session prepare your own heart through prayer. Each lesson includes these sections:

READ

Read the Scripture verses, shortening or lengthening according to your family's attention span.

Do not skip reading God's Word. Tell your kids, "This is God's Word, we want to hear Him speak to us!"

Read the paragraph that discusses the verses. Emphasize the main Truth in bold.

TALK ABOUT IT

"Talk About It" questions help children discover how Truth connects with their lives. The first question helps children discover the passage content. The other questions help kids discover Truth to apply to their lives.

- Modify the questions to fit your children's ages and needs.
- Ask God to help you share how the lessons apply to your own life.
- Pray to respond to your family with grace and without condemnation.

PRAYER

How do we teach our children to pray? By modeling. Use the example in each lesson to get you started.

WHO IS GOD?

This paragraph helps your family understand who God is.

ACTIVITY

Search Scripture verses to discover examples of God's characteristics. Discuss how to apply what you've learned.

MEMORIZE

God's Word is more powerful than our word, and it's how we get to know Him. Memorizing Scripture as a family will help you grow in your faith together. In addition, what a child memorizes often sticks for a lifetime!

Barbara Reaoch is the author of *A Better Than Anything Christmas* (2020). She served as Bible Study Fellowship's International Children's Division Director and currently enjoys writing from her home in Minneapolis, Minnesota. You can find her at www.barbarareaoch.com, on Facebook, and @barbarareaoch on Instagram.

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