

FAMILY CONNECTION

Use the following thoughts and questions to have a spiritual conversation as a family. Don't emphasize having the right answer, but focus on spending time discussing the Word as a family.

SCRIPTURE | 1 Samuel 7:1-12

SESSION SUMMARY

In this session, Samuel led the Israelites to cry out to God—to repent and turn away from their idols. He promised that if they obeyed, God would rescue them. And He did. After that, Samuel set up an Ebenezer, which was a stone set to remind them of God's help. This story teaches us that God desires to restore us even when we stray from Him. These are the main themes:

- Repentance is necessary (1 Sam. 7:1-8).
- God responds to our repentance (1 Sam. 7:9-12).

CONVERSATION QUESTIONS

- Does our family struggle with apologies? How can we get better at apologizing when we're wrong and graciously forgiving if we're the offended party?
- What does it look like when our family "[longs] for the LORD" (1 Sam. 7:2)?
- Why does our family sometimes struggle to obey God quickly?

FAMILY CHALLENGE

Grab a smooth stone for each family member along with permanent markers, paint markers, or paint. Think of ways God has shown up for your family. Then invite each family member to choose a characteristic of God (love, faithfulness, mercy, etc.) they feel is represented in your family's story. Decorate your stones, with each family member lettering the word he or she chose onto his or her stone. Once they dry, find a place outside (or out of the way if you don't have a place outside) to stack these stones or lay them together. Let these stones serve as a reminder of the ways and times God has been there for you.