



God Talk At Home

This Week's Kingdom Quest Lesson:

Handwriting on the Wall

Take Home Point:

*If you think you're high and mighty, the writing's on the wall.
Honor God and worship him, or surely you will fall!

Drive Time Home

Tickler Question: God wrote on King Belshazzar's wall. What do you think he might write about you? (*Trust in God and not our own ability to be saved.*)

Select questions and adapt for your family.

God Time at Home

FOR STARTERS: Dip a cotton swab in vinegar and mark a small piece of paper with a cross. After drying, this can be toasted in the oven or over a candle **WITH EXTREME CAUTION**. The markings will appear browner than the rest of the paper. Ask, "If God wrote on the wall of our house, what do you think he would write?"

READ THE BIBLE: Daniel 5

KEY VERSE: 1 Timothy 6:17, *"Tell those who have the riches of this world not to be arrogant and not to place their confidence in anything as uncertain as riches. Instead, they should place their confidence in God."*

TALK ABOUT IT: What did King Belshazzar order the servants to bring to his large dinner party for 1,000 nobles? (*Daniel 5:2. He ordered that the gold and silver utensils that his grandfather Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the temple in Jerusalem, be brought to him.*) Why do you think Belshazzar wanted the gold and silver utensils brought out? (*To be prideful and show off.*) Who did the people praise while drinking from the utensils? (*Daniel 5:4. They praised their gods made of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood or stone.*) What happened that made the king pale and his knees go weak with fear? (*Daniel 5:5. Fingers of a person's hand appeared and wrote strange words on the wall. The king could not understand writing.*) After Belshazzar's wise advisers failed to read the writing or tell the king its meaning, why did the queen suggest Daniel read the writing on the wall? (*Daniel 5:12. She remembered Daniel was found to have knowledge, judgment and an extraordinary spirit. He was given the ability by God to interpret dreams, solve riddles, and untangle problems.*) What did the handwriting on the wall say? (*Daniel 5:25-28. "Numbered, Numbered, Weighed, and Divided." It meant Belshazzar's days would come to an end because he had been found lacking. He would lose the throne and his kingdom to the Medes and Persians.*) How do you think Belshazzar felt when Daniel reminded him that Nebuchadnezzar was removed from the throne when he became arrogant, conceited and overconfident?

What happens when we put our faith in the things of this world like money, clothes, and things to make us happy or put our faith in doing enough good deeds? (*We find ourselves wanting more things and never being satisfied.*) Who can we put our faith in and never be found lacking? (*Jesus.*)

PRAYER POWER: Thank God for sending Jesus to take our place. We can never measure up or weigh enough by just doing more good things than bad things. Instead, we need to accept that we are sinners, and then believe that Jesus died for us so that our sins are forgiven. Ask for humility to not trust in our own abilities but to have confidence in God to save us.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

FAMILY TIME OPTIONS: One way to make sure that we don't get sidetracked and worship gods of gold and silver is to give faithfully to the Lord. Notice how Daniel did not take any payment for his interpretation of the writing on the wall. He did it for the Lord. Make a plan as a family of what you can give faithfully to the Lord so that you don't place too much importance on possessions.

"Aliens in a Strange Land" - Lesson 25