

middle school



Lesson 9 / July 28, 2024

God Lives at My House

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 9

Focus:

Fill your home with God.

ECHOES Focus:

That your students will have a deeper appreciation of Christian training through family structure.

Lesson 9

Bible Basis:

Deuteronomy 6:6-9, 20-21, 24

Lesson 9

Memory Verse:

These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

—Deuteronomy 6:6-7

ECHOES Verse:

One generation commends your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts. — Psalm 145:4

Students will consider their generation and how it interacts with others as they discuss filling their home with God.

Materials:

Internet access

As you all move closer to adulthood, you'll likely start to hear more and more about your generation—Generation Alpha. Though the birth years marking a generation are always loosely defined, Gen Z typically includes those born between 2010—2024. Generation Alpha members are younger than Generation Z, who are younger than Millennials, who are younger than Gen X-ers, who are younger than Baby Boomers, who are younger than The Silent Generation, who are younger than The Greatest Generation. People from all seven of these generations are alive today. Those who study generations remark on their defining characteristics and how their values and choices affect cultural change.

➤ **What characteristics, values, or choices do you think describe your generation?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Students may identify traits such as the following—digital natives, valuing equality, being realistic about life's challenges, blending work and life, etc.—or they may mention others.)

Play this video [4:37; start at 0:35; stop at 3:10].

Gen Alpha is growing up. Do you understand their slang?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b2OzaJUcNi4>

➤ **Were you familiar with most of this Gen Alpha slang? What words would you add to this list?** (Accept all reasonable answers.)

There is much still to learn about Generation Alpha and how you'll change the world. Each generation is impacted by the changes around them and brings about change of their own. Sometimes people from different generations clash because they view the world so differently and misunderstand one another. However, there is value in connecting with people from a variety of generations. Each generation has stories that are important to share and specific strengths to compliment those from other generations.

➤ **What values, skills, or stories have you learned from those from older generations?**
(Accept all reasonable answers such as work ethic, being present in the moment, or life skills we used to rely on such as sewing or gardening. Personal or historical accounts can increase understanding.)

The Bible speaks often of generations, particularly in terms of family, and commands one generation to pass on faith to the next.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

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Lesson 9 / July 28, 2024

God Lives at My House

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 9

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Lesson 9

Memory Verse:

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Psalm 145:4

Materials:

- Index cards
- Pens/pencils

If your class is meeting online, invite students to bring supplies with them to class.

One of the wonderful things about both church and home is that many generations come together under one roof. We have the responsibility and privilege to learn from one another in these spaces. This is especially true when it comes to faith. No matter how different our experiences may be from those who are older or younger than us, one thing remains the same—God’s faithful love. God was there at the beginning of time and will be there to the very end. God’s truth has been relevant and life changing at every moment in history and for every person who has experienced it. In a world of changing tides (both good and bad) God is a solid rock.

➤ **Do your older Christian family members talk to you about your faith? What have they taught you about faith? What would you like to ask?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Family favorite Bible verses or values may come to mind. Students might like to ask about believing God is good when things are bad, or how faith and reason coexist, or why getting up to go to church matters.)

➤ **What practices do all the generations in your home share to celebrate your faith? What new faith practices could you begin to share together?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Prayer, particularly at bedtime or mealtime, may be popular answers as well as attending church and celebrating Christian holidays. There are many creative ways to bring prayer, Scripture reading, story-sharing, meditation, and celebration into family life. Allow students to brainstorm new ways to share faith as a family.)

➤ **As you inherit the faith, you can pass it on. Using its defining strengths, how can Generation Alpha pass on the faith to the next generation?** (Accept all reasonable answers. As innovative, digital natives who are savvy communicators; overly connected; passionate about equality; and realistic about life's challenges, Gen Alpha could have a broad reach, put faith into action, include and uplift those often neglected, make accessibility the standard not the exception, and address the tough questions their generation will refuse to ignore. They may be better able to blend faith with the rest of their lives, rather than compartmentalize. And for those with practice interacting with people of all ages, they'll be ready to share the message specifically for a new generation of hearers.)

Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home). Have your students write out today's memory verse on the card. Building on the discussions above, challenge students to share the memory verse with and interview an older family member about their faith story this week, or have students ask to start a family faith practice at home.

Close in prayer.

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