

Read: Isaiah 55:10-11

God's Word is Always Powerful in Our Lives

Isaiah 55:10-11

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

"What church do you go to?" Noah asked. "Huh?" Tyler was confused. Why was Noah asking him this, and why in the dugout during the 3rd inning? "I don't really go to church," Tyler said. Nine-year-old Noah was equally confused—and concerned. "Well you should go to church to learn about Jesus and heaven. It's really important. My family goes all the time. Your family should come some time." And that was that. Noah was about to bat, so the conversation was over.

It was four months later that Noah was getting a drink of water before church one Sunday when out of nowhere he saw Tyler's family walk into church. He ran over to give Tyler a fist bump. Noah's parents said they were so glad to see Tyler's parents in church instead of at a baseball field. That's when Tyler's parents explained. Tyler's dad had just lost his job. The family was afraid and looking for some answers. They remembered that a couple months ago Noah had invited Tyler to church, so they thought they would try it out.

As it turned out, the good news of the Savior Jesus was so comforting to Tyler's family that they came back to church again . . . and again . . . and again, until they finally joined the church a few months later. Just think! A family joined a church and became believers in Jesus all because one year before that nine-year-old Noah said a few things about Jesus during a baseball game!

Wow! God's Word is so powerful! The amazing thing is that we can count on God's Word being powerful and working every single time!

God tells us today through the prophet Isaiah that just like the rain falls from the sky and *always* makes the ground wet and *always* causes things to grow, so we can *always* count on God's Word to do what God wants it to.

Sometimes the Word may give a little wake up call, like an alarm clock in the morning, as it tells people to stop sinning and turn back to God. That's called the law. Other times the Word is so comforting and soothing, like aloe on a sunburn, as it tells people that Jesus has washed away their sins. That's called the gospel. But every single time, God's Word will be powerful as it goes to work.

So, tell a teammate about Jesus! Invite a friend from school to church! You never know how God's Word will work, but it *will* work! You might just see that friend sitting next to you in church one day. Even better, you might just see that person with you in heaven!

The questions below are to help families discuss this devotion. The questions are divided by age group as suggestions, but anyone could reflect on any of the questions as they desire.

Questions for Younger Children

- What does God use to “water” your faith and make it grow?
- Do you know anyone that needs to know about Jesus? Do your parents?

Questions for Elementary Age Children

- Jesus used regular, everyday people like fishermen to be his disciples and to preach. What does that mean about you?
- Is there someone you can invite to church? How will you invite them? When will you invite them?

Questions for Middle School and Above

- Evaluate this statement: There are times that people are simply too stubborn for God's Word to work in their hearts.
- Evaluate this statement: We know God's Word is powerful because we can see it working in people.

Closing Prayer:

Dear Jesus, thank you for your powerful Word. Help me find ways to share it with other people. I know you will bless it when I do. Amen.

Hymn: CW 293 – God's Word is Our Great Heritage

God's Word is our great heritage
And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age
Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way;
In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure,
We keep its teachings pure
Throughout all generations.