

In God's Big Story

Time after time, the Israelites forgot about God and went their own way, worshiping false gods. As a result, their enemies attacked and defeated them, yet God continued to show them mercy by sending leaders called judges to rescue them.

Wonder Truth: God Is Merciful

Scripture: Judges 2–3

WATCH GOD'S BIG STORY



THE JUDGES

[ELEMENTARY VIDEO](#)

[EARLY CHILDHOOD VIDEO](#)

WORD OF WONDER

Work together this week on memorizing this verse! Use our [motions video](#) or this [video](#) to help you!

ELEMENTARY:

Even if we are not faithful, he remains faithful. He must be true to himself.

— 2 Timothy 2:13 (NirV)

EARLY CHILDHOOD:

God is faithful. That's who He is.

—from 2 Timothy 2:13

WONDER ABOUT IT!

- What's one thing you're learning about God and the wonder of His big story?
- How do you see God's story as part of your own story?

WORSHIP@HOME

[Listen](#) and [watch](#) from our worship playlists any time!

**EXPERIENCE MORE
WONDER@HOME
ONLINE!**



FAMILY CONVERSATIONS

Families, use this to prompt conversations at the table, in the car, and anywhere else your family experiences life together.

- What does *mercy* mean? *(to show mercy is to forgive someone and hold back from treating them as their actions deserve)*
- What do you think is the opposite of mercy?
- Do you talk to God more when you are happy or sad? Why do you think this is true?
- Do you find it easy or hard to ask others for help? Why do you think that is?
- Is there any mess that is too big for God's mercy?



HANDS ON

Mercy Pancakes

In God's big story, the Israelites made a lot of wrong choices, but every time they cried out to God for help, He sent judges to lead them back to Him. God showed the Israelites mercy—He didn't treat them as they deserved. God is always ready to show us mercy too!

Enjoy "mercy" pancakes as a family. Prepare batter using the recipe below. Thoroughly clean a condiment squeeze bottle and fill it with the batter. Invite family members to take turns carefully squeezing batter onto the pan in the shape of an "M." (Exercise caution near the hot stove.) Older children can try writing the entire word "MERCY" with batter!

During this time, extend mercy to one another. If someone gets frustrated or speaks unkindly, be quick to forgive. Then talk together as you enjoy your mercy pancakes: **When has someone shown you mercy? When has God shown you mercy?**

Pancake Recipe: 2 large eggs, 2 cups milk, 2 ¼ cups self-rising flour

1. Whisk egg and milk together. Add in the flour.
2. Heat a skillet over low-medium heat. Add butter or cooking spray. Pour batter and cook for 1–2 minutes. Flip pancakes when bubbles appear.



WALK IT ACT IT MOVE IT

Mercy Money Minute

Hide an assortment of coins in a room and remember where they are. Invite your child into the room and encourage him to find all the coins in one minute. If he asks for help, use a flashlight to shine light in the direction where he should look, but only if he asks for help. If he finds all the coins in one minute, play again and challenge him to find the coins in less time. (Or invite your child to hide the coins and to help you find them if you ask.) Soon your child will learn that he will spend less time searching in the wrong direction if he asks for help.

When you're finished, discuss: **Too often we try to go our own direction, and we find ourselves frustrated. We forget that God knows the way that we should go. In the book of Judges, the Israelites often wandered away from God, but He always provided a way for them to return to Him! God is merciful!**

- When has someone shown you mercy?
- When has God shown you mercy?

Wonder Ink®

THINK AGAIN LESSON 5