VEGGIETALES ON PURE FLIX FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE PURE FLIX

VeggieTales

# INTRODUCTION

Thank you for downloading **Pure Flix's VeggieTales' Family Discussion Guide**. This is a free, four-week devotional resource that will inspire you and your family to dive deeper into God's truth.

Divided into topics, this four-week guide offers parents a short devotional to read with your kids, a corresponding episode of **VeggieTales**, a related list of questions to discuss as a family, scripture and more! We hope you enjoy this powerful resource, and be sure to watch all of the VeggieTales classics right now over at Pure Flix!

VeggieTales

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#### WEEK 1 FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE: UNDERSTANDING KINDNESS AND LOVE

**FAMILY READING:** Parents, read this brief introduction to the "Understanding Kindness and Love" lesson with your children:

Showing the virtues of kindness and love isn't just about being kind to others — it's also about following Jesus. Christ tells us in the Bible that we should do two important things: love God and love others. But if we're honest: sometimes loving others can be tough.

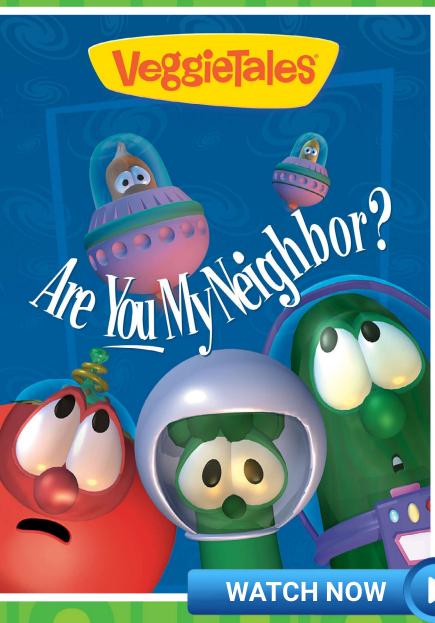
When people are mean or don't treat us well, it's easy to get frustrated or to respond in unkind ways. Other times, we might meet people who are different from us, or who share different opinions, likes and dislikes. Jesus doesn't say that we should only love those who are nice to us or those who are the same as us. Instead, he tells us to love everyone.

In fact, Jesus said in Matthew 7:12 (NIV) that we should "do to others what you would have them do to you." So, what does this mean? Well, think about how you want to be treated by others. Do you want your friends and family to say nice things to you, to treat you well and to love you? Of course you do! Everyone wants to be treated kindly, so treat others in the same manner — even strangers, those who are "different" and those who don't always treat you with kindness.



Parents, pick a night this week and gather your family together to watch "VeggieTales: Are You My Neighbor?" In this episode, some of your favorite Veggies will come together to show why it's essential we love our neighbors. Through "The Story of Flibber-O-Loo" (a VeggieTales take on the Good Samaritan parable), you will learn what it means to love others, no matter who they are. Plus, you'll join Junior Asparagus for a second adventure too!







Parents, sit down with your kids after watching **"VeggieTales: Are You My Neighbor?**" and talk through these questions. We pray these will spark wonderful discussions about the importance of loving others, especially those who are different from you:

- Who is your "neighbor" and what does it mean to love your neighbor?
- How did you feel when you saw the bandits throw the boy into a hole and then the first two people passing by didn't help?
- What did this **VeggieTales** episode teach you about kindness and why we should be nice to people who are different from us?
- Junior Asparagus doesn't want to invite Fernando to his birthday because he "talks kind of funny." Why is this wrong?
- The VeggieTales tell us, "God wants us to love everybody, not just the people who are like us." Who are some people you need to do a better job of loving in your life?

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Consider weaving the following scriptures into your breakfast or dinner routines with your kids each day, as you continue to explain the gospel's powerful call to love God and love others.

"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets." - Matthew 7:12 (NIV)

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength ... [and] Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." - Mark 12:31-32 (NIV)

"But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you..." - Luke 6:27 (NIV)

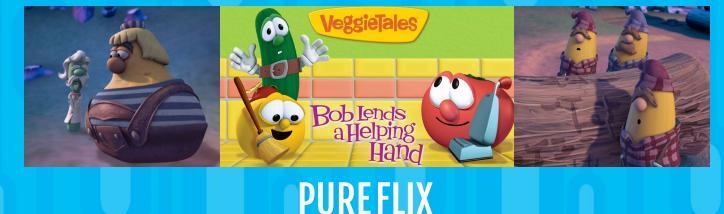
"The hearts of the wise make their mouths prudent, and their lips promote instruction. Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones." - Proverbs 16:23-24 (NIV)

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." - Ephesians 4:32 (NIV)

#### **THE CHALLENGE**

Encourage your kids to choose people to treat kindly this week. Encourage them to look for opportunities to love others. Make a list of just five of the ways they can show kindness to others during the week ahead. Also, consider sitting down together and watching " Ler ," another show about loving

others that is now streaming on Pure Flix.



#### WEEK 2 FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE: FORGIVENESS

**FAMILY READING:** Parents, read this brief introduction to the "Forgiveness" lesson with your children:

Forgiveness is one of the most important things we can do. But what does it really mean? It means letting go of any anger or frustration you have toward someone who has hurt you. If someone uses mean words or does something unkind, it's understandable why you might feel upset. After all, we are supposed to treat one another with kindness.

Or, if someone ignores you or makes you feel mad, it's easy to feel anger or hold a grudge (a grudge is when you keep having anger at another person over what he or she did to you, and you won't let it go). Sometimes, you might even make a mistake and hurt others' feelings. When you do, you'll find yourself wanting their forgiveness.

So, why is forgiveness important? To begin, Jesus forgave each of us, and he went to the cross to save us from our sins. Even though we didn't deserve it, he still showed us love. That's what true compassion, love and selfless forgiveness look like! Forgiveness is important for everyone, and it helps you let go of the anger and frustration you have. It's also a way to show kindness to people who make mistakes and who hurt us. Jesus is all about second chances — and we should be too!



Sit down as a family and watch "VeggieTales: God Wants Me To Forgive Them!?!" There are two entertaining and powerful stories that model the power of forgiveness in this episode. Junior Asparagus shows your kids why forgiveness is always the way to go, and the second episode, which focuses on Larry, delivers similar themes.



Parents, sit down with your kids after watching **"VeggieTales: God Wants Me To Forgive Them!?!"** and **"Larry's Lagoon"** before asking the following questions. Allow these questions to spark wonderful discussions about the importance of forgiving others just as Christ has forgiven each of us!

- · How did Junior Asparagus feel when he was made fun of?
- Junior's dad said, "God wants us to be kind to everybody." Why does that matter?
- Junior Asparagus struggled to forgive the grapes a second time. How often should we forgive a person who has mistreated us again and again – and why?
- Why is it important to forgive others when they hurt you?

• Larry made a big mistake in "Larry's Lagoon." How did others react, and what lesson can you take away in your own life?

Consider weaving the following scriptures into your breakfast or dinner routines with your kids each day, as you continue to explain the gospel's powerful call to forgive.

"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." - Colossians 3:13 (NIV)

"For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins." - Matthew 6:14-15 (NIV)

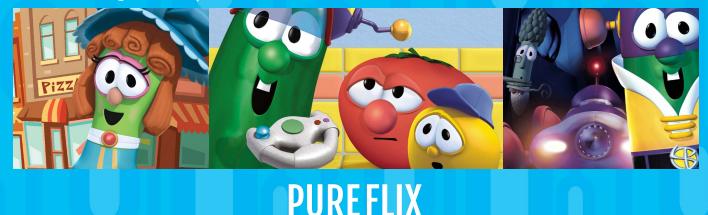
"Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord." - Leviticus 19:18 (NIV)

"If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying 'I repent,' you must forgive them." - Luke 17:3-4 (NIV)

"Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." - Ephesians 4:31–32 (NIV)

#### **THE CHALLENGE**

Encourage your kids to consider people they might be struggling to forgive, and encourage them to take that step forward. Also, challenge them to consider people whom they have hurt and encourage them to apologize and seek forgiveness. Parents can also pick 1-2 moments in their own lives when forgiveness has unfolded — and drive home the personal lessons they have learned (both on the receiving and giving end of forgiveness).



#### WEEK 3 FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE: GRATITUDE & SHARING

**FAMILY READING:** Parents, read this brief introduction to the "Gratitude and Sharing" lesson with your children:

Showing the virtues of gratitude and sharing can help us focus on improving — and appreciating — every area of our lives. Christ encourages us in scripture to thank God for all we have regardless of what happens in our lives. And that can be tough, because sometimes life isn't easy! Friends might be mean or you might find something difficult or frustrating. Either way, we are supposed to look for the bright spots.

Why, you ask? Because thanksgiving and gratitude help us center our thoughts on God and reflect on all He has provided for us; having gratitude even when life is tough helps us to focus on what we do have. The busyness of life can make it easy to get out of the habit of being thankful, so it's important to set aside time for gratitude. Every morning at breakfast or in the evening at dinner, thank God for the good things that happened — and ask Him for guidance as you embark on new victories and challenges.

And because we have so many blessings to be thankful for, remember the importance of sharing with others. From your siblings to your friends, sharing is essential. Just consider how much God gives us, and how much Jesus does. Good sharing is evidence of a truly grateful heart. So, think of ways you can be better at sharing for others.



Parents, pick a night this week and gather your family together to watch **"VeggieTales: Larry-Boy! - The Good, The Bad, & The Eggly!"** In this episode, some of your favorite Veggies will come together to show why it's essential to show gratitude and share with others. In this adventurous episode watch LarryBoy and fellow superhero, Dark Crow, as they scramble to learn a lesson in sharing. Through these characters you will learn what it means to be kind and caring.



Parents, sit down with your kids after watching **"VeggieTales:** Larry-Boy! - The Good, The Bad, & The Eggly!" and talk through these questions. We pray these will spark wonderful discussions about the importance of gratitude and sharing:

- What did this VeggieTales episode teach you about sharing and why we should work together?
- God gives us so much. So, what are some ways you can practice sharing in your everyday life?
- What do you have in your life to be grateful for? Are you grateful for any people in your life?
- Are there things to be grateful for beyond actual "gifts" or physical material someone has given you?
- Can you think of a time where someone (your parents, sibling or friend) helped you out? How did that make you feel? How can you show them your gratitude?

Consider weaving the following scriptures into your breakfast or dinner routines with your kids each day, as you continue to explain the gospel's powerful call to be grateful and share:

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." - 1 Chronicles 16:34 (NIV)

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" - 1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 18 (NIV)

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." - Colossians 3:15 (NIV)

*"I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds." - Psalm 9:1 (NIV)* 

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" -Philippians 4:6 – 7 (NIV)

# **THE CHALLENGE**

Encourage your kids to practice gratitude this week and to look for opportunities to share with others. Encourage your kids to write out and draw 20 things they are thankful for in their life. Also, consider sitting down together and letting your kids spend a little time with "VeggieTales: Madame Blueberry" and the rest of the Veggies and they'll learn that "being greedy makes you grumpy, but a thankful heart is a happy heart!"



#### WEEK 4 FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE: OVERCOMING FEAR

**FAMILY READING:** Parents, read this brief introduction to the "Overcoming Fear" lesson with your children:

Life can sometimes be hard — or even scary, but no matter what, we always have hope! Jesus makes it clear that we will face troubles in this world, but He also proclaims that, in Him, we can find peace. The Bible tells us that "God is our refuge and strength." What does that mean, you ask? That means He'll help us and protect us when we struggle. That's what "refuge" — God offers Himself a place of protection through prayer.

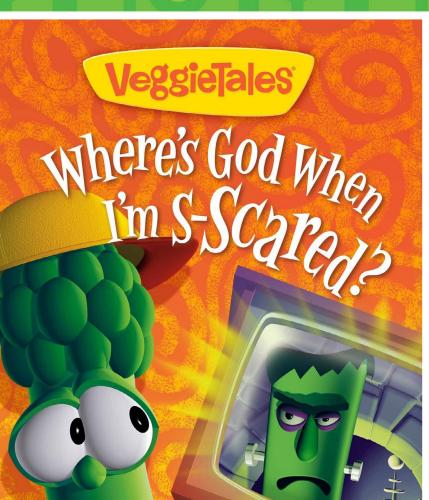
When we face troubles — no matter what they are — we can turn to the Lord to find peace and solace. When situations are out of our control, when we are scared or when we are uncertain, we can thankfully and honestly go to the Lord with whatever we're facing or grappling with.

God will not abandon you! He loves you and wants the best for you. So, when you feel those butterflies in your tummy, or when you really are feeling afraid to do or say something, pause and say a prayer to God. Ask Him for strength and for peace — ask Him to be a "refuge" for you. With God, you can truly do anything! That's what "refuge" means — God offers Himself a place of protection through prayer.



Parents, pick a night this week and gather your family together to watch **"VeggieTales: Where's God When I'm S-Scared."** In this episode, some of your favorite Veggies will come together to show how you can overcome fear through God. Watch these two stories that will teach your kids a biblical perspective on handling everyday fears.





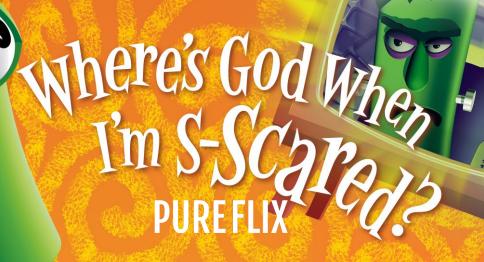


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Parents, sit down with your kids after watching **"VeggieTales: Where's God When I'm S-Scared"** and talk through these questions. We pray these will spark wonderful discussions about the importance of overcoming fear.

- Is there something you're currently afraid of? Based on watching the two stories - Junior Asparagus and the story of Daniel what are some ways you can overcome this fear?
- What did you learn from Daniel in the lion's den?
- Why is the power of prayer so important to overcoming fear?
- How do you know God and how do you rely on Him?
- When you're in a scary situation what are some things you can do in that moment to bring peace to yourself and the situation?





Consider weaving the following scriptures into your breakfast or dinner routines with your kids each day, as you continue to explain the gospel's powerful call to overcome fear.

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging." Psalm 46:1-3 (NIV)

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Philippians 4:6 (NIV)

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33 (NIV)

"For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you." Isaiah 41:13 (NIV)

"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:21 (NIV)

# **THE CHALLENGE**

Encourage your kids to overcome something they fear this week. It could be trying a new piece of food, sleeping without the nightlight on or riding their bike. Encourage them also to write out 5 steps they can take to tackle what they fear. And finally: consider watching "VeggieTales: Bully Trouble," another show about overcoming fear now streaming on Pure Flix.





#### THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING PURE FLIX

We'd like to offer our gratitude and thanks for taking the time to download and read the **VEGGIETALES FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE** from Pure Flix, the worldwide leader in faith-based entertainment.

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