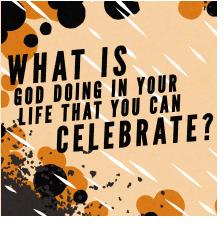
Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.





Day 1

Go to bit.ly/SundaysAtHomePreteen and watch this week's episode of The So & So Show.

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You liked:

2. You learned:

3. You'd like to know:

Read Nehemiah 6:15-16, 8:1-17

After you read about the completion of the wall, grab a sheet of paper and your favorite coloring/drawing utensils and draw a picture of what you imagine that scene might have looked like.

Don't forget to include the people celebrating with food and drinks, as well as the tents and shelters they made to celebrate the Feast of Booths—the feast to help them remember how God took care of them in the wilderness after He led them out of slavery in Egypt.

Do you still have the stones from last week? If so, you can make mixed media art, gluing the stones to your paper to make a wall. You can even get small sticks from outside to make the shelters and tents.

And don't forget the smiles—God's people had much to celebrate, and so do we!



Day 3

Instead of asking God for help today (which is great! You should always do that!), make today a day of gratitude prayers.

Celebrate what God has done—and what He is doing— in your life.

For example, instead of asking for Him to help you do well on your test, thank Him for helping you learn—and for great teachers! If you are always asking for patience with your little brother or sister, celebrate a time when you WERE patient, and thank God for helping you to do so! You can fill in the blanks below to help you know how to pray.

Dear God, I know I need to
right now,
Dear God, thank You for helping me
and for
giving me
You are a great and generous God,
and You have done so many
things worth celebrating, like
and
Help
me to see even more of Your work in
my life. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen.

Day 4

Today you are going to look for ways to celebrate what God has done.

Get a sheet of paper and interview everyone who lives in your house. (If you have close friends who live in your neighborhood, you can include them too!)

Ask each of them to share at least two (more is even better!) things that God is doing (or has done) in their life. Maybe it's a prayer God answered. Or maybe He helped them make a wise choice or to make up with a friend they had been fighting with. Or it could even be something they've seen God do in the world, like sending Jesus to be our Savior.

Write their answers in different spots on the sheet of paper.

Then take the paper and cut or tear it up so each person's answer is on a small scrap. Fold them up and place them in a bowl. Hold on to it for tomorrow.

P.S. Ask an adult in your house if they can supply some kind of celebratory food for tomorrow—ice cream, cookies, popcorn, popsicles, etc.



Day 5

What is God doing in your life that you can celebrate?

It's party time! Spread the word that you're going to have a 5–10-minute party at some point during the day. (If your family always eats a meal together, it could be good to plan for right after that.) Tell everyone you're going to play a quick game and then share a treat to celebrate.

When everyone gathers, take turns pulling the answers people gave from the bowl and guessing which person you think wrote down that answer. (If people pull out their own answer, they can put it back in the bowl and choose another.)

Once every answer has been read, take a minute to pray and thank God for all the ways He is working in your lives.

Then dig in and enjoy your treat, celebrating what God has done!