

Scripture Passage: Romans 8:35,37-39

Memory Verse: Romans 8:35,37

Theme Song: More Than Conquerors

Big Idea: Nothing can separate us from God's love.

READ

Read the Scripture passage aloud to your family. If your kids can read, consider having one of them read or letting them take turns reading.

Romans 8:35,37-39

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SING

Play the song from the *Doorpost Songs: More Than Conquerors* album and sing together. If needed, print copies of the lyric sheet for your family.

MEMORIZE

Pick a section of the verses to memorize as a family. Use the suggestions below or choose your own. Use the long version for older children and the short version for preschoolers.

Long Version (Romans 8:35,37)

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?...No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Short Version (Romans 8:37)

In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

LEARN

Read the Big Idea and short devotional aloud to your family. If you have time, use the discussion questions at the end of the devotional.

What's the Big Idea?

Nothing can separate us from God's love.

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Family Devotional

Do you know what gravity is? It's is a pretty amazing thing. Gravity is the force that keeps everything on the earth from flying off into space. It's the reason you'll always come back down when you jump up. It's the reason everything you drop falls to the floor. Nothing is too big for gravity. It works on the biggest building and the largest animal! And nothing is too small for gravity. It works on the tiniest bug and the smallest drop of water. Gravity worked yesterday, it will work today, and it will work tomorrow. Gravity works on top of the tallest mountain, and it works at the bottom of the deepest ocean. As long as you are on the earth, nothing can separate you from gravity.

Knowing that everything on earth is not going to suddenly start flying into space is important, but even *better* is knowing that God loves us. And God's love for us is even *stronger* than gravity. Our Bible verse today tells us that nothing can separate us from God's love. No matter where you are, no matter what you've done, no matter what problems you have, God loves you. He loved you yesterday, he loves you today, and he will love you tomorrow. There is not a single thing in the entire created universe that could change the fact that God loves you.

Now, *that's* pretty awesome!

Because God loves us – and he will *never* stop – we don't have to be afraid. We know that no matter what we face he loves us and will take care of us. When we have the God who made the universe on our side, what do we have to fear? Trouble? No problem. Hardship? Not worried. Persecution? (That's when people are mean to those who believe in Jesus.) Not a chance. Danger? No sweat.

We don't have to be afraid, not because *we're* so awesome and wonderful, but because the God who *loves* us is awesome and wonderful, and *nothing* can separate us from his love. Through him, we can face anything that comes our way. So next time you jump and come back to earth instead of flying into space, be thankful for gravity, and be thankful that the God who *created* gravity loves you, and will never stop!

TALK

Talk about what you have learned as a family. Use the questions below or ask some of your own.

1. Is there anything in the entire universe that can separate us from God's love?

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2. Since we know that nothing can separate us from God's love, do we have to be afraid? Why not?
3. How does it make you feel to know that nothing can separate you from God's love?

PRAY

Pray together. Here are some ideas:

- Thank God that nothing can separate us from his love.
- Thank God that, because he loves us, we are "more than conquerors," no matter what problems we face.
- Ask God to help us trust him no matter what.

FAMILY ACTION STEP

Here's one way your family can put into practice what you learned today.

Start a "More Than Conquerors" jar with your family. Leave strips of paper and pens by the jar. Whenever you see God's love, provision or protection, write down what happened and stick it in the jar. For example: *God protected us in the thunderstorm last night, or God gave me courage to tell a friend about Jesus.* After a few months, have a family celebration night where you read everything that was put into the jar.