

## FAMILY CIRCLE

WEEK OF MAY 23<sup>RD</sup>  
LAMENTATIONS 5  
DAY 2

## REDWOOD CHURCH



> **PRAY:** Open your Family Circle with prayer. Pray that God will teach your family about His desire to restore us as we learn about Israel's request for God to restore them.

> **CONNECT:** Choose an item that needs to be restored (broken toy, old frame that needs fresh paint, etc). Seek to restore it to its earlier beauty. (Explain that you may not be able to restore something perfectly, but God can.) You may need to explain what it means to restore something (to return someone or something to a former condition, place, or position).

> **STUDY:** Read Lamentations 5.

> Pay close attention to verses 19-22. Israel had been in a pattern of sin and ignoring the warnings of God's prophets. After being held in slavery as a punishment for sin, they cried out to Him, truly sorry for their sin and longing to obey Him. In the final verses, they recognize that it is only by God's grace and His power that they may be restored to Him.

> Jesus ultimately restored us to God by paying for our sin on the cross. The right relationship that God desired for us to have with Him is only possible because Jesus took our place and paid for all of our sins.

### > **DISCUSSION FOR CHILDREN:**

1. Do you have a favorite toy or something else that you would like to see restored? Why? How would restoring that thing make you happy?
2. If it would bring you joy to restore one of your toys, do you think it would bring God joy if He restored you? Do you know what God did to restore you? (Parents, this may be a great opportunity for you to share the basics of who Jesus was and what He did to restore us to God, using your own words that your children can understand.)

### > **DISCUSSION FOR TEENS:**

1. What does Jeremiah mean in verse 7 when he says that his generation is paying for the sins of their ancestors? Do you think this is fair? Why or why not?
2. How do you feel when you read the dismal description Jeremiah writes about in verses 11-17? Why do you feel this way?
3. What are characteristics of a life that has been restored? Do you see those characteristics in your life? In the lives of your family members?

> **PRAY:** Thank God for His ability and desire to restore us to Himself, even when we sin. Thank God for the example of His love for Israel, even when they did not follow Him. Thank God for sending Jesus to bring restoration to our relationship with Him forever.

