

The Family Puzzle

GOD'S WORD

“For this cause, I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.”

Ephesians 3:14–15 (WEB)



THE STORY

In class, LJ draws his whole family. A classmate says his three big sisters aren't his real sisters because they don't look like him. LJ folds the drawing up and throws it away. Mom smooths it flat and holds him close, Dad tells him how a kind man became his dad by love, Pastor Reed says nobody in God's family is half or step, and his sisters come home and finish the family puzzle with him.

It closes with the story of Ruth, who was not born into Naomi's family but chose to stay: “Your people will be my people, and your God my God” (Ruth 1:16).

TALK ABOUT IT TOGETHER

1. Why did LJ fold up his drawing and throw it away?
2. What did Mom, Dad, Pastor Reed and his sisters each show LJ about family?
3. Ruth wasn't born into Naomi's family, but she chose to stay. What makes someone family?

PRAY TOGETHER

God, thank You for my family, every single piece of it.
When someone says we don't belong together, remind me that You put us together and love holds us there.
Help me love my family the way You love me. Amen.

TRY THIS WEEK

Make a family puzzle. Draw everyone in your family on one sheet of card, cut it into a few big pieces, and put it back together at dinner. Each person who places a piece says one thing they love about someone else in the family.

DRAW IT

Draw your family, every piece of it, and write one word that holds you together.