



Understanding

MAIN IDEA

- **God remembers that we are weak.**

MEMORY VERSES

*As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.
¹⁴For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.
—Psalm 103:13-14*

SCRIPTURE

- 1) Genesis 2:7-9a, 15-17
- 2) Genesis 3:17-19
- 3) Psalm 103:9-10a, 13-14



LESSON SUMMARY

In this lesson, we emphasized the reality of human weakness and the compassionate nature of God. For both adults and children alike, there are things that we cannot do no matter how hard we try. This is true of us physically but also, and more importantly, we are weak and fail to love, trust, and obey God as we should. Why is this so? We recalled the story of Adam and Eve and their sin against God and how we, as their descendants, are born with a sin nature. We are helpless sinners and are deserving of God's rightful punishment. Yes, God is angered by sin. But anger is not all He feels. God is also understanding.

We carefully explored the meaning of Psalm 103:13-14, where God likens Himself to a compassionate father. He knows that we are weak and needy creatures. We are not God. He knows that no matter how hard we might try, we cannot perfectly obey Him. He remembers that we are like dust. This is wonderful news for His children!

PRAYER POINTS

As you review this lesson with your child, pray...

- *that this lesson will go deep into the heart of your child.*
- *that your child would be rightly amazed at God's compassionate nature, prompting him or her to want to repent of sin and run to Jesus for forgiveness.*



AS YOU WALK BY THE WAY

- Review Psalm 103:13-14. **Can you give me some examples of how you and I are weak like dust?** [Possible responses: We are physically weak, get sick, forget things, do not always keep our promises, do not always obey our parents or God, etc.] **Can you tell me how [Daddy] has treated you with understanding when you were weak? How is God's understanding even better than that? In what ways has God been understanding with our weaknesses—especially our failure to love and obey Him as we should?**
- **Since God is understanding, does that mean that it really does not matter if people disobey Him and sin?** Explain that God is angered by sin. Even though He is understanding and knows that we are weak, He has the right to punish sin. His understanding nature does not ignore sin.

- Explain Psalm 103:13, especially the phrase "to those who fear him." **What does it mean to "fear" God? Think about your own daddy: Is there a right kind of fear that children should have toward their parents? What does**

this kind of fear look like? [honor, respect for his authority, trusting his decisions, a desire to please and obey him, etc.] **How could you show this kind of fear toward God this week?**

ACTION STEP

This week, with your parents or an older sibling's help, read all of Psalm 103. As you read the verses, look for answers to these questions: What is God like? What are we like? How should we respond to God?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Follow the maze to find the correct words to complete the verses.

As a father shows _____ to his _____, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear _____. ¹⁴For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are _____.—*Psalm 103:13-14*

