

Family Worship, Spiritual Discussion, & Prayer Guide

Why is this important for parents?

It is your God-given purpose as a parent to be the spiritual leader of your kids (Deut. 6). Read the entirety of Deut. 6... this excerpt is *only a part* of the whole command!

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (ESV)

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- Do it as a family!
- Sing together! It doesn't matter if you are bad at singing either. God says make a joyful noise, not a beautiful one.
- As you are listening to the sermon, when something sticks out to you, write it down! After the message, you and your family can compare notes. Not only does it encourage active listening, but it gives you an opportunity to share what you thought was important.



**"Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the
rock of our salvation!" Psalm 95:1**

**"Make a joyful noise to the Lord,
all the earth; break forth into
joyous song and sing praises!"
Psalm 98:4**

Spiritual Discussion

Here are some general tips:

Validate your kid's feelings. It's okay for them to feel what they are feeling. Use phrases like, "I can see why you would feel that way," or, "It makes sense for you to feel that way."

Don't feel like you have to have all of the answers. I know you don't have all the answers, and it creates an environment of openness when you admit that you don't have all of the answers. It also creates an opportunity for your family to search for the answer together. Make sure if you don't know the answer to a question to literally say, "I don't know the answer."

Try using different Bible translations. If something doesn't make sense in your Bible, try looking at a different version. ESV is great, but it can be hard to fully understand sometimes. Try looking at NIV if you get stuck, or email Nik for help (he would really love to help!).

General Discussion Questions

(Parents: make sure you yourself answer these in the discussion too!)

What is the passage?

Who is the author of the text?

WHAT WAS THE "TAKE HOME MESSAGE" OR MAIN IDEA OF THE PASSAGE?

WHAT STUCK OUT TO YOU & WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST IN THE MESSAGE/PASSAGE?

WHAT DID THAT MESSAGE/PASSAGE SAY ABOUT GOD? WHAT ATTRIBUTES OF HIS CAN BE SEEN?

HOW DID THAT MESSAGE/PASSAGE POINT TO JESUS AND WHAT HE HAS DONE FOR US? (P.S. OLD TESTAMENT IS GREAT FOR THIS... JESUS EASTER EGGS ARE EVERYWHERE!)

WHAT DID THE MESSAGE/PASSAGE SAY ABOUT PEOPLE?

WHAT DID THE MESSAGE/PASSAGE REVEAL ABOUT YOURSELF?

Family Prayer

LOOK AT MATTHEW 6 FOR THE LORD'S PRAYER AND GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO PRAY. WE'RE USING IT AS A TEMPLATE AND PUTTING IT IN OUR OWN WORDS. WE ENCOURAGE YOUR FAMILY TO DO THE SAME. YOU CAN SPLIT UP THE SECTIONS AMONG YOUR FAMILY.

- ADORATION: Acknowledge how great and awesome God is! If you are familiar with the attributes of God as they have been revealed through scripture, praise him for being those things. (v. 9)
- HE IS IN CONTROL: Make a general recognition about how God's plans are better than the plans we make. He knows better than we do, He is more wise than us, etc. (v. 10)
- HE PROVIDES WHAT WE NEED: Recognize that God is the source of all good things, including the things we need to survive. (v. 11)
- HEART CHECK: Recognize that in the same way that God died and sacrificed and forgave us, we need to do the same for other people who have hurt us. (v. 12)
- LEAD US FROM TEMPTATION: Recognize that it is God who keeps us away from temptation, and we need his help to keep us from walking towards bad stuff, towards sin. (v. 13)

If praying together is not something that you and your family do on a regular basis and it feels weird and awkward at first...that's okay! Prayer takes practice and remember that it is not a performance art. Jesus is clear in Matt. 6. The purpose of prayer is to make your heart in line with God's desires, not to sound eloquent!