

Summer 2019

Together

• Know • Grow • Serve



The goal of this guide is to equip and encourage you to begin regular family devotions by reading the big story of the Bible. The Bible is one big story of God's redemptive plan to bring people back into a right relationship with Him. Parents have the primary responsibility of passing their faith on to their children with the support of other like-minded believers.

To use this guide, plan to work on one session per week on a day and time that would work well for your whole household to participate. Each of the seven parts of each session are meant to lead your family to know, love, and apply God's Word. You are free to make this guide work for the individual needs of your family. The "Read the Word," section directs you to read from the version your family prefers. In "Discuss the Word"; there are suggested questions and answers. In "Apply the Word," are questions meant to facilitate a deeper discussion with your family. The "Jesus is the Word"; section will show your family that Jesus is at the center of the big story. Each week, there will be a verse to memorize that will deepen your relationships with Christ. Deepen your faith by spending time in God's Word daily using the "Stay in the Word" passages. Use the prayer given as a model or suggestion but ultimately, God wants to hear what is on your heart.

May your family be blessed and refreshed by God's Word this summer!

THE GOSPEL

GOD'S PLAN for US

Session 1: God Created the World and People

Read the Word

Open your Bible and read aloud *Genesis 1-2*.

Discuss the Word

1. Why did God create the world?
A. God created the world for His glory.
2. Who was there in the beginning?
A. God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have always been.
3. How did God create the heavens and the earth?
A. He spoke and it happened.
4. Was God's creation bad or good?
A. It was good because God is good.
5. What warning did God give the man?
A. He could eat from any of the trees in the garden, except for one, the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Apply the Word

Use the following questions to begin thinking through and applying the Bible to your family life.

1. What are some parts of creation you enjoy?
2. How can seeing each other as God's creations strengthen our family relationships?
3. Since we were created to bring God glory, how can we live on mission for Him?

Jesus is the Word

The Bible tells us that all of creation was created through Him, by Him, and for Him. God created people in His own image and provides for everything He made. People are special because God made people to live forever in a relationship with Him. Through His Son, Jesus, we can have eternal life with God just as He planned.

Memorize the Word

Colossians 1:16

Stay in the Word

Read the following passages this week.

- Proverbs 8: Wisdom's view of creation
- Job 38: The greatness of nature
- Job 39: The wildness of nature
- Job 40: God's mastery of nature
- Psalm 8: Praise for the Creator
- Psalm 98: Nature joins in the praise

Pray

God, You created everything and everything You created was good. We are thankful that You care for us. When we pray, You hear us. Draw our hearts to You. We want to give You glory because You are our Creator and King. You made us in a special way—in Your own image—and You love us. Thank You for Your Word that helps us know what is true. Amen.

Session 2: Sin Enters the World

Read the Word

Open your Bible and read aloud *Genesis 3*.

Discuss the Word

1. What did God say would happen if Adam and Eve ate the fruit?
A. They would die.
2. What did the serpent say would happen?
A. They would not die and they would be like God.
3. What did Adam and Eve do when they heard God in the garden?
A. They hid.
4. Did God promise that one of Eve's descendants would destroy the serpent one day?
A. Yes
5. Did God let Adam and Eve stay in the garden?
A. No, God sent them out of the garden.

Apply the Word

Use the following questions to begin thinking through and applying the Bible to your family life.

1. In what ways do we see the effects of sin in the world?
2. How should we respond to the brokenness caused by sin?
3. Because Christ came to take away the guilt of our sin, how should we live for Him?

Jesus is the Word

Ever since Adam and Eve sinned, all people have been sinners. Our sin separates us from God, but God still loves us. God promised a Rescuer would come from Eve's family. God sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God.

Memorize the Word

Romans 3:23

Stay in the Word

Read the following passages this week:

- Isaiah 52: Salvation prophesied
- Isaiah 53: The role of the suffering servant
- Luke 15: Three stories about God's love
- John 3: Jesus explains, "born again"
- John 10: The good shepherd
- Romans 3: God's provision for sin

Pray

Lord God, we confess that we have not obeyed You perfectly. Thank You for sending Jesus to rescue people from sin. Give us boldness to share this good news with the world! Amen

Session 3: Noah and the Ark

Read the Word

Open your Bible and read aloud *Genesis 6-9:8*.

Discuss the Word

1. What did God do to punish people's sins?
A. He sent a flood to cover the whole earth.
2. Who found favor in the sight of the Lord?
A. Noah
3. What did God tell Noah to build?
A. An ark
4. What was God's promise to Noah?
A. God promised to never again destroy the earth with floodwaters.
5. What sign did God give as a reminder of His covenant?
A. A rainbow

Apply the Word

Use the following questions to begin thinking through and applying the Bible to your family life.

1. What are some things that our family does that might grieve God? What steps can we take to change?
2. What can we learn about God's love for us through His love for Noah?
3. How can we model grace to one another?

Jesus is the Word

God rescued Noah and his family from the flood. The story of Noah points ahead to a greater rescue. God's Son, Jesus—the only perfectly righteous One—came to take the punishment for our sin. By trusting in Him, we are saved from the punishment our sin deserves.

Memorize the Word

Romans 6:23

Stay in the Word

Read the following passages this week:

- Acts 26: Paul testifies of his conversion before a king
- Romans 5: Peace with God
- Galatians 3: Salvation unavailable by obeying the law
- Ephesians 2: New life in Christ
- 1 Peter 1: Future rewards of salvation
- 2 Peter 1: Making your salvation sure

Pray

God, thank You for sending a Rescuer! We deserve to die for our sin, but You loved us and sent Your Son. Help us to trust You and obey You, for Your glory. Amen.

Session 4: Tower of Babel

Read the Word

Open your Bible and read aloud *Genesis 11:1-9* .

Discuss the Word

1. What did the people use to build the tall tower?
A. bricks
2. Why did people build a tall tower?
A. They wanted to bring glory to themselves.
3. How did God keep the people from building the city?
A. God confused their language and the people stopped building the tower because they couldn't understand one another. Then the people scattered all over the earth.
4. What was the city named?
A. Babel or Babylon
5. Why does God deserve all glory and honor?
A. God is our Creator and King.

Apply the Word

Use the following questions to begin thinking through and applying the Bible to your family life.

1. Why is it important for our family to consult God in the decisions we make?
2. What are some successes our family has experienced? Did we take credit for those or did we give God the glory?
3. What are some ways we can work together to advance God's kingdom?

Jesus is the Word

People chose to give glory to themselves instead of God. They ignored God's plan, so God confused their language and scattered the people all over the earth. One day, Jesus will gather together all of God's people—people from every tribe and people who speak all kinds of languages—and they will worship Him together. (Revelation 7:9-10)

Memorize the Word

Ephesians 2:8-9

Stay in the Word

Read the following passages this week:

- Isaiah 58: Worship that God appreciates
- Amos 2: Sins against God by His own people
- Amos 6: Warning to the complacent
- Micah 6: What the Lord requires
- Matthew 6: Jesus speaks on material things
- James 2: How to treat the rich and the poor

Pray

Lord God, we confess that like the people who built the tower of Babel, we desire glory for ourselves. We seek our own fame, though You alone deserve all honor and glory. Forgive us, and show us the joy that comes in living for You instead of for ourselves. We love You! Amen.

Session 5: Jesus' Birth

Read the Word

Open your Bible and read Luke 2:1-21.

Discuss the Word

1. Where was Jesus born?
A. Bethlehem
2. Where did Mary put Baby Jesus?
A. In a feeding trough or manger
3. Whom did the angel tell about Jesus' birth?
A. Shepherds
4. What did the Shepherds do after they visited Jesus?
A. They told others about Him.
5. What does the name Jesus mean?
A. Savior

Apply the Word

Use the following questions to begin thinking through and applying the Bible to your family life.

1. What can our family learn about God's character by looking at the conditions surrounding Jesus' birth?
2. What are some proofs that our society tends to value pride over humility?
3. How can we demonstrate God's love to those who are pushed to the side in our society?

Jesus is the Word

Jesus' birth was very good news! Jesus was not like other babies. Jesus is God's Son. God sent Jesus to earth from heaven. Jesus came into the world to save people from their sins and be their King.

Memorize the Word

Galatians 4:4

Stay in the Word

Read the following passages this week:

- Luke 1: Preparing for Jesus' arrival
- Mark 1: The beginning of Jesus' ministry
- Mark 9: A day in the life Jesus
- Matthew 5: The Sermon on the Mount
- Matthew 6: The Lord's Prayer
- Luke 15: Parables of Jesus

Pray

Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be born. We are so happy that He came to rescue us. Help us to tell others this great news. Amen.

Session 6: Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection

Read the Word

Open your Bible and read Matthew 27:11-66.

Discuss the Word

1. Did Jesus deserve to be arrested?
A. No, Jesus never did anything wrong.
2. How did Jesus die?
A. Jesus died on the cross.
3. Where did they put Jesus' body after He died?
A. A tomb
4. Who went to Jesus' tomb early in the morning?
A. Mary
5. What did the Angels tell Mary?
A. Jesus is alive!

Apply the Word

Use the following questions to begin thinking through and applying the Bible to your family life.

1. What are some fears our family experiences?
2. Can you describe the first time you believed the truth of Jesus' resurrection?
3. How can our family encourage others who fear death with the truth of Jesus' resurrection?

Jesus is the Word

The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus is the center of the gospel. We deserve to die because of our sin, but Jesus died in our place. He was the blood sacrifice made once and for all for the forgiveness of sin. God was pleased with Jesus' sacrifice and raise Jesus from the dead to reign as King over all creation. We are forgiven only through Jesus.

Memorize the Word

Romans 5:8

Stay in the Word

Read the following passages this week:

- John 3: A conversation with Jesus
- John 14: Jesus' final instructions
- Matthew 26: Betrayal and arrest
- John 20: Resurrection
- Luke 24: Jesus' appearance after the resurrection
- Acts 1: The promise of the Holy Spirit

Pray

Dear God, thank You for the gift of Your Son, Jesus. Help us to remember that Jesus' death on the cross was for us. He died the death we deserve for our sin. We also celebrate because Jesus is alive! Though our bodies may die, we have hope that we too will live forever with You. We love You. Amen.

Session 7: Jesus Will Return

Read the Word

Open your Bible and read Revelation 21-22.

Discuss the Word

1. What did John see in his vision?
A. Heaven
2. What came down out of heaven?
A. A New Jerusalem
3. What were the city walls made of?
A. Jewels
4. What were the streets to be made of?
A. Gold
5. What will happen when Jesus comes back?
A. He will make all things new.

Apply the Word

Use the following questions to begin thinking through and applying the Bible to your family life.

1. What are some ways we are tempted to be like God, like Adam and Eve did?
2. How can our family reflect God in our neighborhood and community?
3. How can we comfort each other with the gospel when we lose a loved one?

Jesus is the Word

Jesus promised to come back to the earth soon. When Jesus returns, those who trust in Jesus will be with Him and enjoy Him forever. God will undo every bad thing caused by sin. There will be no more death, no more pain, no more tears. Jesus is making all things new.

Memorize the Word

Acts 1:11

Stay in the Word

Read the following passages this week:

- John 14: I Am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life
- Romans 8: The groanings of our present state
- Philippians 3: Righteousness through faith in Christ
- 1 Thessalonians 5: The Day of the Lord
- Revelation 22: The end of history
- Matthew 24: Signs of the End of the Age

Pray

Dear heavenly Father, we are so amazed at Your grace and mercy. Thank You, Lord, for inviting us to a relationship with You and thank You for providing a way for us to have that relationship! Jesus truly is the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. You provide for us in more ways than we can even begin to understand. We love You. Amen.

Resources for your family

- The Gospel Project Family App: This low-cost quarterly app is available through the LifeWay Kids app and includes the Bible story videos, audio version of the key passage songs, learning activities, coloring pages, and more.
- The Gospel Project Lite App: This free quarterly app is available through the LifeWay Kids app and includes activities to help children learn each unit's key passage.
- The Big Picture Interactive Bible: This full-text Bible includes several Gospel Project features such as Big Picture Questions, Christ Connections, and more.
- It's All about Jesus Bible Storybook: This children's storybook contains 100 stories straight from The Gospel Project.
- The Big Book of Bible Stories for Toddlers: This preschool storybook contains several Old Testament and New Testament stories.
- 52-Week Bible Story Devotional: This devotional shares the values of The Gospel Project.
- Preteen Learner guide: The Preteen learner's guide will help your preteens to develop a love and habit of having their own time with God. This free guide is available digitally at <https://www.gospelproject.com/preteen-supplement-downloads/>.
- Adult Daily Discipleship Guide: This resource is for adults who are using The Gospel Project. Because the session plans align for all ages, if your adults are not using The Gospel Project in their small group ministry, they can use this on their own to go deeper into the stories their children are learning about.
- ABC: Family Devotional: This resource is written for the whole family to study together. It is available for purchase at answersingenesis.org
- Free Reading Plans can be found online

Sequoia Heights Kids Fall 2019

August 4-September 1



August 21, 2019

Kids move to new classes on September 8, 2019

