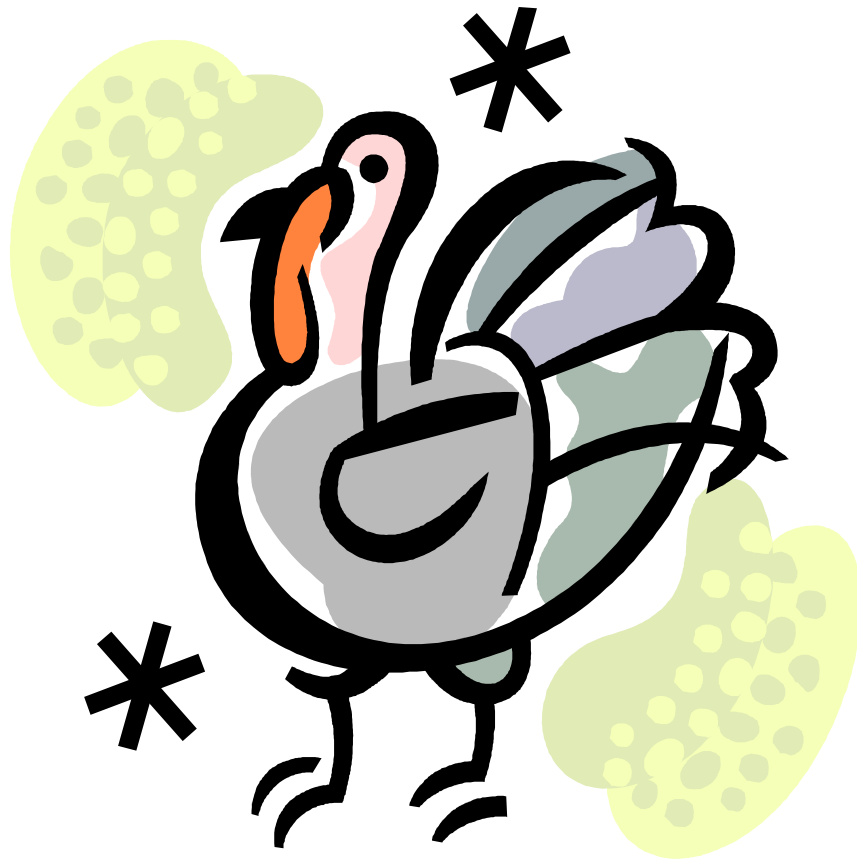


# FAMILY ACTION PACK

Volume 7—THE CHOICE TO REJOICE Series, part 1



**First Baptist Church Owasso**

**Student's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Points Earned in this Book:** \_\_\_\_\_



Dear Parents,

This is a shorter Family Action Pack because we wanted to give our kids a chance to gain some more points to use in the CROSSwalk Store before Christmas. At the end of November we'll come out with the rest of the weeks that coordinate with our current Sunday School series.



*This Family Action Pack coordinates with the "The Choice to Rejoice" Sunday School lessons.*

### **Earning Points**

Each week's activities and challenges are marked for a certain amount of points. Put your initials next to the activities that your student or family completes. Whenever the book is finished or the series is over, simply add up the total amount of points that your student has earned and write the correct total on the front of the booklet with their name. Then turn in your book in the drop-box located at the main children's registration area.



# Family Challenge

## The Lord's Prayer

*You can again gain 20 points for saying the Lord's Prayer...*

### MEMORIZE THE LORD'S PRAYER

*20 points*

Our Father who is in heaven,

Hallowed be Your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Matthew 6:9-13

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**SUGGESTION**—*Say this prayer with your child each night at bedtime. The repetition s will help them learn it.*

#### HELPS

-Kindergarteners get THREE helps total.

-1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> graders are allowed TWO helps

-4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students are allowed no helps at all.

**Parent's Initial** \_\_\_\_\_  
*20 points earned in this activity*



# Bible Memory

## Week 1

*These verses are for the whole family!*

### HELPS

-Kindergarteners get two helps per verse. (*Some challenges may contain more than one verse.*)

-1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> graders are allowed one help per verse. (*Some challenges may contain more than one verse.*)

-4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students are allowed no helps at all.

After your child says each verse, ask him what it means. We want our kids not only to memorize Scripture but to understand it as well.

*4 points each*

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Thessalonians 5:18—Give thanks in everything, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

\_\_\_\_\_ Acts 16:31—The replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”

\_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3:17—And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

*Need more challenges? Want to earn more points?*  
Try the **Extra Bible Memory** challenges at the end of this book.

**Points earned on this Page - \_\_\_\_\_**



## Family Time with God Week 1—Whatever! (You Do)

*YOU WILL NEED: No items needed. Your Bible marked at Colossians 3:17.*

### GAME—*THINGS YOU DO*

SAY: We're going to play a game and here are the rules: In a moment I'm going to say something that I did today, then we're going to go around the circle and everyone else is going to say something they did today. Then when it gets back to me, I'm going to keep going. We'll keep going around and around but here's the catch—if you take longer than 3 seconds to come up with something you did today, then your out.

Read Colossians 3:17 from your Bible

SAY: According to this verse, everything we just named we should have done in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to the Father through Him.

ASK: **What do you think this verse means?** (That no matter what you say or do, you should always be living for Jesus with a thankful heart.)

ASK: **Are there any of your actions today that didn't glorify God?**

ASK: **Are there any of your words today that didn't glorify God?**

ASK: **What are some ways we can give thanks to God?** (Through prayer, in our actions, in our words, in our attitude, in how we respond to situations—especially situations where we didn't get what we wanted or things didn't go the way we desired.)

SAY: Because Jesus died and rose again, we live for him in everything we say and do and always give thanks to God through Him.

### OPTIONAL GAME—*THINGS YOU SAY*

SAY: We're going to play another game. It's actually the same game we played before except instead of naming things we did today, we're going to name things we said today.

Re-Read Colossians 3:17 from your Bible



## **Family Prayer Requests**

PRAY that your family live for Jesus everyday in everything they say and do and always have an attitude to thanks.

***Parent's Initial*** \_\_\_\_\_  
*10 points earned in this activity*



# My Time with God

## Week 1

**Read in your Bible:** *(Younger students can have their parents read this to them and can answer the questions aloud.)*  
**Acts 16:19-34**

### Respond

What part of this Bible story sticks out to you the most?

Who were the main characters in the story?

Why do you think they chose to act in the ways that they did?

What lessons can you learn from this story that will help you to follow God?

### Pray

What would you like to tell Jesus about this story or how it fits with your life? Is there anything you would like to praise the Lord for or ask Him to do in your life?

**Parent's Initial** \_\_\_\_\_  
*10 points earned in this activity*



## Bible Bedtime Readings

The following readings are great for bedtime or any mealtime. Just take a few moments to read the Bible with your family. You don't have to ask any questions or even have a discussion about it—there is power in the reading and hearing of God's Word.

### Week 1

*2 points per reading*

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 8:12-30

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 8:31-59

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 9:1-23

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 9:24-41

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 10:1-40

*Points earned on this Page - \_\_\_\_\_*



# Character-Building Bedtime Stories Week 1

## Ravensbrook, Germany 1944

*(During World War II Corrie and Betsie Ten Boom were arrested by the Germans for helping people the Nazis were hurting. Both sisters were strong Christians. )*

Corrie and Betsie Ten Boom, prisoners 66729 and 66730, were led into Barracks 28, past rows of worktables and into a large dormitory room filled with great square tiers stacked three high. Here they would sleep, squeezed among hundreds of other inmates at the concentration camp.

Fighting claustrophobia, Corrie and Betsie squirmed into an upper deck and found their assigned places on the reeking straw. Suddenly Corrie jerked up, striking her head on a cross-slat. Something had pinched her leg. The two sisters scrambled off the tier and dropped down in a narrow aisle. Moving to a patch of light they saw them—fleas! “The place is swarming with them!” Corrie groaned. “Betsie, how can we live in such a place?”

The insects were the last straw for Corrie. She and her sister had been starved and humiliated. They’d endured filth, cold and back-breaking labor. They’d witnessed unforgettable cruelties. And now to be infested with fleas...Corrie wondered how she could go on.

Betsie had an answer. She’d read it in the Bible that morning—in First Thessalonians, where Paul urged believers to “give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God...”

Betsie suggested they thank God for every single thing about their new barracks. Corrie stared around at the dark, foul-smelling room and couldn’t generate much gratitude. Betsie thought of two things to thank God for. They’d been assigned to this place together and they’d managed to hang on to their Bible. Corrie murmured assent.

Clutching the Bible, Betsie prayed, “Thank You for all the women, here in this room, who will meet You in these pages. Thank You for the very crowding here. Since we’re packed so close, thank You that many more will hear!” Corrie grudgingly murmured assent.

Betsie continued serenely: “Thank You for the fleas and for...”

This was too much for Corrie. “Betsie,” she interrupted, “there’s no way even God can make me grateful for a flea.”

But Betsie insisted, “‘Give thanks in *all* circumstances.’ It doesn’t say, ‘In pleasant circumstances.’ Fleas are part of this place where God has put us.”

There in the narrow aisle Corrie bit her lip and thanked God for the fleas.

Corrie and Betsie did find many women in Barrack 28 eager to hear from those pages. Each evening after receiving a cup of turnip soup they’d make their way to the rear of the dormitory

where a bare light bulb cast a yellow circle on the wall, and they would read from the Bible. Soon a large group of women were gathering to listen.

The Ten Booms always read from the Scriptures. They translated their Dutch verses into German, and then eager listeners packed together on the tiers would pass the precious words back in French, Polish, Russian, Czech. To some it seemed a small preview to Heaven.

Night after night the meetings grew larger and yet no guard ever came near. So many wanted to join that the sisters started a second service after roll call. Guards patrolled everywhere at the camp; half-a-dozen always paced about in the center room of the barracks, yet for some reason none ever entered this dormitory. The women couldn't understand it.

One day Betsie discovered exactly why they could enjoy their island of religious freedom. There was a mixup about sock sizes in her knitting group. They'd asked the supervisor to come and settle it. But she refused to step through the door into the room. None of the guards would either. They said, "That place is crawling with fleas!"\*



## Giving Thanks

God wants us to have thankful hearts and to give thanks in everything, not just when things turn out good or when they go the way we want. Because of who God is and what God can do, we can give thanks in every situation, no matter what. The Bible says in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "Give thanks in everything, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

*(CONCLUDING NOTE: Betsie Ten Boom continued living for Jesus in some of the harshest conditions imaginable until she died of illness in the Nazi concentration camp. She is said to have died with an angelic smile on her face. Corrie, her sister, was released because of a clerical error one week before all the women prisoners were executed. Concerning her miraculous release she said, "God does not have problems. Only plans." She became a very powerful Christian influence and speaker concerning the grace of God and her experiences during World War II. She continued to serve the Lord until her death in 1983 at the age of 91. To learn more about Corrie and her faith, visit [www.tenboom.org](http://www.tenboom.org).)*

**Parent's Initial** \_\_\_\_\_  
4 points earned in this activity

\*Steven R. Mosley, *God a Biography*, (Phoenix: Questar Publishers, Inc., 1988), p. 189-191.



## Bible Memory Week 2

*These verses are for the whole family!*

### HELPS

-Kindergarteners get two helps per verse. (*Some challenges may contain more than one verse.*)

-1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> graders are allowed one help per verse. (*Some challenges may contain more than one verse.*)

-4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students are allowed no helps at all.

After your child says each verse, ask him what it means. We want our kids not only to memorize Scripture but to understand it as well.

*4 points each*

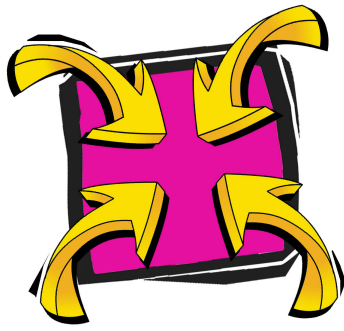
\_\_\_\_\_ Philippians 4:4—Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

\_\_\_\_\_ Psalm 118:24—This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

\_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3:15—Let the peace of God rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

*Need more challenges? Want to earn more points?  
Try memorizing the Challenge page at the end of this book.*

**Points earned on this Page - \_\_\_\_\_**



## **Family Time with God Week 2—Rejoice!**

*YOU WILL NEED: No items needed. A Bible marked at Psalm 55:22 and 1 Peter 5:7.*

### **GET STARTED**

Tell the following jokes to get started

-Can a turkey jump higher than the Empire State Building?  
*Yes. A building can't jump at all!*

-What did the turkey say to the turkey hunter?  
*"Quack, Quack, Quack"*

-What's blue and covered with feathers?  
*A turkey holding its breath*

-If the Pilgrims were alive today what would they be most famous for?  
*Their age!*

SAY: Now I have a few Thanksgiving questions for you:

ASK: **What is your favorite thing about the Thanksgiving holiday?**

ASK: **What is your favorite Thanksgiving food?**

ASK: **What is your favorite Thanksgiving dessert?**

ASK: **What is your favorite thing that our family has done on Thanksgiving?**

ASK: **What do you think a turkey's least favorite holiday would be?** (Probably Thanksgiving; maybe Christmas.)

SAY: Around Thanksgiving we seem talk more about the things we're thankful for, but God wants us to be thankful all year long. God also says that we can rejoice no matter what situations is going on around us.

Read Philippians 4:4 from your Bible

ASK: **When does this verse say we can rejoice?** (Always)

SAY: After everything I say, I want you to say, "No." Ready...(No!)  
-Does this verse say to rejoice in the Lord sometimes? (No!)  
-Does this verse say to rejoice in the Lord every once in a while? (No!)  
-Does this verse say to rejoice in the Lord from time to time? (No!)  
-Does this verse say to rejoice in the Lord when things go good? (No!)  
-Does this verse say to rejoice in the Lord when you get what you want? (No!)

REPEAT after me: "Rejoice in the Lord ALWAYS."

SAY: "Always" means always.

ASK: **What does it say to rejoice in?** (The Lord)

SAY: We can rejoice in the Lord, not in the situation. We can always rejoice and be thankful because of who God is. Even if we find ourselves in a tough situation, if we are following God, we know that He has promised to turn all things to our good. Because of who God is and what He can do, we can rejoice *in Him*, no matter what is going on around us.

EXTRA TIME

Read Acts 16:19-34 from your Bible for a great story that illustrates this kind of attitude.



## **Family Prayer Requests**

PRAY that your family will always give thanks and rejoice in the Lord.

**Parent's Initial** \_\_\_\_\_  
*10 points earned in this activity*



## My Time with God Week 2

**Read in your Bible:** (*Younger students can have their parents read this to them and can answer the questions aloud.*)  
**2 Kings 4:38-41 and 6:1-7**

### Respond

What part of this Bible story sticks out to you the most?

Who were the main characters in the story?

Why do you think they chose to act in the ways that they did?

What lessons can you learn from this story that will help you to follow God?

### Pray

What would you like to tell Jesus about this story or how it fits with your life? Is there anything you would like to praise the Lord for or ask Him to do in your life?

**Parent's Initial** \_\_\_\_\_  
*10 points earned in this activity*



## Bible Bedtime Readings

The following readings are great for bedtime or any mealtime. Just take a few moments to read the Bible with your family. You don't have to ask any questions or even have a discussion about it—there is power in the reading and hearing of God's Word.

### Week 2

*2 points per reading*

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 11:1-57

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 12:1-11

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 12:12-36

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 12:37-50

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 13:1-20

***Points earned on this Page - \_\_\_\_\_***



## Character-Building Bedtime Stories Week 2

### Beatrice, Nebraska. March 1, 1950

Everyone had a good excuse that Wednesday evening for being late to 7:30 choir practice at the Baptist Church. Ladona Vandegrift, a high school sophomore, always came early. But on this night a thorny geometry problem detained her. Torenna Estes and her sister Sadie were ready to leave home on time. But their car wouldn't start.

Mrs. Schuster could be counted on to arrive ten minutes early for practice. But she was held up at her mother's house preparing for a later missionary meeting. Pastor Klempel and his wife, always punctual, didn't make it at 7:30 either. His wristwatch, usually very accurate, was five minutes slow this evening.

Joyce Black felt it was so cold that she waited till the last possible minute to leave—a few minutes too long. Harvey Ahl had been invited over to a friend's home for dinner and in the pleasant conversation lost track of time.

Even Mrs. Paul, the choir director, failed to arrive on time. She'd always come fifteen minutes early. But on this night her daughter, who played piano for the group, fell asleep. Mrs. Paul hurriedly awakened Marilyn and they rushed to finish getting ready—but drove up to the church a few minutes late. This was the first time either had ever been tardy for choir practice.

Eighteen people made up the West Side Baptist Church choir. Tonight every one of them arrived late, something that had never happened before.

No one was there at 7:30 when the basement furnace, situated directly below the choir loft, ignited a gas leak. The loft blew up; the church was demolished. Then the choir members arrived on the scene—too late. \*



### Giving Thanks

As followers of Jesus, we can always be thankful and rejoice. Things may not always go the way we've planned but because of who God is and what God can do, we can give thanks in all circumstances. We can always rejoice, not in the situation, but IN THE LORD, because God can turn all bad things to our good. The Bible says in Philippians 4:4, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"

**Parent's Initial** \_\_\_\_\_  
4 points earned in this activity

\*Steven R. Mosley, *God a Biography*, (Phoenix: Questar Publishers, Inc., 1988), p. 211-2.



## **Bible Memory Week 3**

*These verses are for the whole family!*

### **HELPS**

-Kindergarteners get two helps per verse. (*Some challenges may contain more than one verse.*)

-1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> graders are allowed one help per verse. (*Some challenges may contain more than one verse.*)

-4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students are allowed no helps at all.

After your child says each verse, ask him what it means. We want our kids not only to memorize Scripture but to understand it as well.

*4 points each*

\_\_\_\_\_ Romans 8:28—And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who are called according to his purpose.

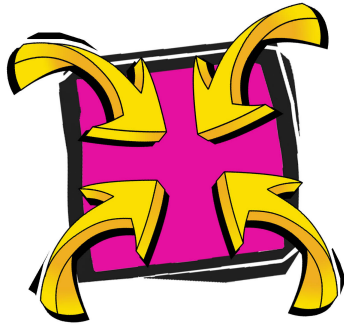
\_\_\_\_\_ Psalm 55:22—Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you. He will never let the righteous fall.

*6 points*

\_\_\_\_\_ Philippians 4:6-7— Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

*Need more challenges? Want to earn more points?  
Try the Extra Bible Memory challenges at the end of this book.*

**Points earned on this Page - \_\_\_\_\_**



## Family Time with God Week 3—Sustained!

*YOU WILL NEED: Something you can throw. A Bible marked at Psalm 55:22 and 1 Peter 5:7.*

### GET STARTED

TELL your child that you are going to throw an item to them and you want them to catch it and throw it back. Do this several times.

ASK: **What does it mean to “cast” something?** (“Casting” is another way of saying “throwing.”)

SAY: We are going to read about something that God wants us to throw His way.

Read Psalm 55:22 from your Bible

### BIG QUESTIONS

ASK: **What does God want you to “cast” on Him?** (Our cares.)

ASK: **What does it say God will do if we cast our care on Him?** (He will sustain you.) **What does that mean?**

SAY: “Sustain” comes from a Latin word that literally means “to hold below.”

*Have one person stand in front of you. Ask them to wobble. Then take hold of them to keep them steady.*

SAY: In the same way that I held him steady, God sustains us which means he supports us, supplies us with what we need and keeps us steady from falling.

SAY: Sometimes the worries and cares of this world drag us down, but we can cast our cares on God and He will sustain us.

ASK: **What else did the verse say God will do?** (He will never let the righteous fall.)

### PLAY AGAIN

TOSS the item back and forth again but each time you throw it, say a care or worry that someone might have.

**What are some cares or worries that you have? What about your friends?**

SAY: Before we pray I want to read one more verse.

Read 1 Peter 5:7 from your Bible.

SAY: Because God is so good and Jesus died and rose again for us, we can cast our cares on Him. And because we know how God will take care of us, we can always give thanks no matter what we're facing.



## **Family Prayer Requests**

*Take turns praying and let each member of your family tell God about a care or worry (something that concerns them)—something they are giving to Him. For example, “Dear Lord, Grandma is sick. Please help her to get better. I give this to you. In Jesus’ Name—Amen.”*

**Parent’s Initial** \_\_\_\_\_  
*10 points earned in this activity*



## My Time with God Week 3

**Read in your Bible:** *(Younger students can have their parents read this to them and can answer the questions aloud.)*  
**2 Kings 6:1-8-23**

### Respond

What part of this Bible story sticks out to you the most?

Who were the main characters in the story?

Why do you think they chose to act in the ways that they did?

What lessons can you learn from this story that will help you to follow God?

### Pray

What would you like to tell Jesus about this story or how it fits with your life? Is there anything you would like to praise the Lord for or ask Him to do in your life?

**Parent's Initial** \_\_\_\_\_  
*10 points earned in this activity*



## Bible Bedtime Readings

The following readings are great for bedtime or any mealtime. Just take a few moments to read the Bible with your family. You don't have to ask any questions or even have a discussion about it—there is power in the reading and hearing of God's Word.

### Week 3

*2 points per reading*

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 13:21-38

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 14:1-15

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 14:16-31

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 15:1-11

\_\_\_\_\_ Read John 15:12-27

***Points earned on this Page - \_\_\_\_\_***



## Character-Building Bedtime Stories Week 3

### England. The moors near Bamburgh. 1920s.

One summer night a Scottish youth, active in church work, decided to take a shortcut across the moors on his way to Bamburgh where he had a job. This Northumberland countryside was noted for its limestone. One deep, deserted quarry lay near Glororum Road. But the lad thought he could avoid it.

Though the night was a starless inky-black, he set out through the rock and heather. He could sometimes hear the far off bleating of sheep, the wind rustling through; occasionally a moor fowl he disturbed fluttered up noisily. Otherwise he was very much alone in the night.

Suddenly he heard a voice call out with great urgency, "Peter!"

The youth, a bit unnerved, stopped and called back into the dark, "Yes, who is it? What do you want?"

No response. Just a bit of wind over the deserted moorland.

The lad concluded he'd been mistaken and walked on a few more steps. He heard the voice again, more urgent than before: "Peter!"

He stopped in his tracks, bent forward to peer through the dense black, and stumbled to his knees. Reaching out a hand to the ground before him, he clutched thin air. The quarry! Sure enough, as Peter carefully felt around in a semicircle he discovered he had stopped on the edge of the abandoned limestone quarry—one step before a fatal plunge into the deep.

Out there in the desolate moor Someone knew him and Someone cared. Peter Marshall never forgot that. He knew that God has saved him from a deadly fall. Dedicating his life to the One who'd called him by name, he became one of America's greatest ministers of the early last century.\*



### God Sees What We Don't

As we walk through life, we can trust God. He is our Shield and our Guide. Because of who God is and what He can do, we can cast our cares on Him and trust Him with a thankful heart, even when we can't see the good that will come out of some of the situations we will encounter in life.

**Parent's Initial** \_\_\_\_\_  
4 points earned in this activity

\*Steven R. Mosley, *God a Biography*, (Phoenix: Questar Publishers, Inc., 1988), p. 149-150.



# Parent Helps Contents

What is a Family Special Time? -----page 23

Guidelines for Leading Family Special Times-----page 24

Ideas for Starting a Nightly Prayer Pattern-----page 25

Telling Bedtime Stories from Your Own Life Experiences-----page 26

Extra Bible Memory-----page 29

## What is a Special Time?

Each week contains one Special Time—Set aside one night each week for a “special time” where you and your kids can have family fun together and learn valuable lessons from God’s Word at the same time.

### Teaching Method

Children only remember 10% of what they hear, 20% of what they see, and 30% of what they hear and see. They are concrete learners, which means they retain 80 to 90% of what they do, touch, smell, taste, and help teach. This is the reason that *The Family Action Pack* contains a teaching style that will help your child to:

*Find it. Taste it. Touch it. Make it.  
Know it. Grow it. See it. Show it.  
Live it!*



## The Nine Commandments for Leading Family Special Times

### **Have Fun**

These sessions are set up for you to have fun leading your family into the truths of the Bible. If you're not having fun, then your children won't either.

### **Be Positive**

Maybe you've had a rough day and all you want to do is curl up in a cave and vegetate for a little while. Then just take a deep breath, take a few moments to relax, commit this time to the Lord, and then jump in with a positive attitude. After a few minutes, a special time with your family can change how you feel.

### **Be Willing**

Your children will only go as far as you go, which means, if you only do the activity halfway, they'll only do it halfway too. Be willing to get down on the floor, to get inside the tent, to throw a pillow or make a paper airplane. They may not remember all the things you tell them, but you're making memories that will last a lifetime.

### **Don't Pull Out the Pulpit**

Don't preach. This should be an interactive time where the whole family can talk and discuss.

### **Don't Bore**

Most of these sessions are short, fast-paced and to the point. Don't drag them out. Length of time and spirituality are not one-in-the-same. So don't talk long and don't pray long.

### **Don't Rush**

Even though these sessions are set up to be short, if your family is enjoying themselves, don't cut it off too soon. Don't be in a hurry to move on to whatever comes next in your life. And if it's that favorite TV show, just remember that God gave us DVRs for a reason...right

### **Don't Make it a Burden**

These sessions have been written trying to use items that most people already have in their houses. Imagine a group walking through a house and saying, "Everyone has toilet paper. So how can we use toilet paper to teach kids about Jesus?" Now you have an idea how many of these activities developed! You don't have to prepare or study to lead these. Just open up the session and get started. It's as simple as that.

### **Listen Up**

During these sessions you'll be asking your children a lot of questions. Listen closely and be careful not to cut them off, talk down to them or correct them in a manner that will make them hesitant to share in later sessions. Sometimes we jump to fix things without fully listening.

### **Keep it Up**

Make a commitment, put it on your calendar, and stick to it. Let this become a favorite time of the week and a top priority. After all, what is more important than what you are about to do with your family?

# Ideas for Starting a Nightly Prayer Pattern

## *Nightly Prayer Pattern*

Help your child to develop personal prayer habits by learning the Lord's Prayer and by praying together each night.

You can combine this with a bedtime story for a pattern similar to the following:

- Get Pajamas on
- Brush Teeth
- Get in Bed
- Say the Lord's Prayer
- Pray together—let each person have a turn. Each night choose something specific for which to pray. Suggestions can be found below.
- Tell a Bedtime Story
- Good-Night Hugs and Kisses

SUGGESTIONS of things about which to pray:

Tonight we are going to:

- Give God thanks for something that happened today.
- Give God thanks for someone special in our lives.
- Praise God for the ways He takes good care of us.
- Tell God how awesome He is.
- Thank God for someone who has blessed us.
- Pray for our church leaders.
- Pray for missionaries.
- Pray for our government leaders.
- Praise God for making us special.
- Thank God for giving us friends.
- Pray for your grandparents.
- Pray for someone who doesn't know Jesus.
- Thank God for giving us the Bible.
- Thank God for all the freedoms that we have.

# **Telling Bedtime Stories**

## **From your own life experiences**

### *Bedtime Stories*

Bedtime stories that teach godly character and that show how the truths of the Bible play out in daily life are an incredible tool for instilling spiritual values in your child. This semester, however, we want to help you to pull stories from your own life experiences to teach your children. Kids love stories, but even more, they love stories about you when you were young. Every parent has a heritage to pass on, stories of good choices and bad, good times and tough times, and lessons we have learned that we also want our children to learn. So, this semester, the stories will come from your past. To help you with this, we have listed topics below to stir your memory and a Scripture verse that goes with each.

#### **What is something that worried you as a child?**

Share with your child an important verse about worry: Philippians 4:6

#### **What is something you were scared of as a child?**

Share with your child an important verse about fear: Psalm 56:3

#### **What is something you enjoyed doing as a child?**

Share with your child an important verse about the things you do: Colossians 3:17

#### **Were you ever teased as a child?**

Share with your child an important verse about not doing wrong: Colossians 3:8

#### **Did you ever hurt someone with something you said? How did it make you feel?**

Share with your child an important verse about the things you say: Ephesians 4:29

#### **Did you ever tell a lie as a child? Did you get caught? What did you learn from this?**

Share with your child an important verse about not lying: Colossians 3:9-10

#### **Tell a story about a time you disobeyed your parents? What did you learn from this?**

Share with your child an important verse about obeying your parents: Ephesians 6:1

#### **As a child did you ever have any bad habits?**

Share with your child an important verse about doing everything for God's glory: 1 Corinthians 10:31

#### **Tell a memory about church as a child?**

Share with your child an important verse about staying in the habit of attending church: Hebrews 10:25

#### **Tell a story about a time you were angry.**

Share with your child an important verse about anger: James 1:19-20

#### **Tell your child about how and when you gave your life to Jesus and was saved?**

Share with your child an important verse about salvation: Romans 10:9, 13

#### **Tell a story about a time when you didn't get what you wanted as a child. How did you feel? How did you respond? Was this right or wrong?**

## **Bedtime Story Suggestions Continued...**

Share with your child an important verse about obeying your parents: Colossians 3:20

### **When was a time that God provided what you needed?**

Share with your child an important verse about how God provides: Philippians 4:19

### **Can you remember a time when God protected you?**

Share with your child an important verse about God's safety: Proverbs 18:10

### **Tell a story about a time you were tempted.**

Share with your child an important verse about temptation: 1 Corinthians 10:13

### **Share a story with your child about a time when you needed to ask forgiveness from God.**

Share with your child an important verse about forgiveness: 1 John 1:9

### **Share a story with your child about a time when you needed to ask forgiveness from a person.**

Share with your child an important verse about forgiving others: Ephesians 4:31-32

### **When was a time that you needed comfort?**

Share with your child an important verse about comfort: Psalm 46:1-3

### **Have you faced some tough times where you needed to trust God to "get you through."**

Share with your child an important verse about trusting God: Proverbs 3:5-6

### **When was a time that you needed courage?**

Share with your child an important verse about courage: Psalm 27:14

### **Share a story about your parents.**

Share with your child an important verse about honoring your parents: Ephesians 6:1-3

### **Did you have any enemies growing up?**

Share with your child an important verse about how to treat your enemies: Matthew 5:44-45

### **Did you ever treat someone wrong because they treated you wrong? Or, maybe you treated them right even though they treated you wrong?**

Share with your child an important verse about how to treat people who wrong you: Romans 12:18-21

### **Share about story about a time when someone treated you wrong? How did you respond?**

Share with your child an important verse about how to respond when people treat you wrong: 1 Peter 3:13-16

### **Have you ever felt alone?**

Share with your child an important verse about being alone a promise that Jesus gave: John 14:18

### **Share about a time that you needed God's guidance.**

Share with your child an important verse about God's guidance: Proverbs 3:5-6

## **Bedtime Story Suggestions Continued...**

**Tell your child about when you were baptized and why?** (Be sure to help them understand that baptism is a step of following Jesus after a person is saved, NOT a way of being saved.)

Share with your child an important verse that shows an example of baptism: Matthew 3:13-17

**Have you ever felt jealous?**

Share with your child an important verse about the outcome of jealousy and strife: James 3:16

**Share a story with your child about a great day that you've had.**

Share with your child an important verse about our days: Psalm 118:24

**Share with your child a time when you learned from and listened to God's Word?**

Share with your child an important verse about the Bible: Psalm 119:105



## Extra Bible Memory

*This month we begin memorizing through a chapter, one verse at a time.*

*2 points each*

### Colossians 3

\_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3:1—Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

\_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3:2—Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

\_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3:3—For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

\_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3:4—When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

\_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3:5—Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

\_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3:6—For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience,

\_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3:7—And in them you also once walked, when you were living in them.

\_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3:8—But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth.

\_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3:9—Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices,

\_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3:10—And have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him--

\_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3:11—A renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.

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