

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL OUTLINES

By Pastor Danny Cheney

And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up...You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Deuteronomy 6:6-9

Family Devotional

Building Faith, Strengthening Families

WEEK 1

Read John 1:19-34

Take time to read these verses. Make sure everyone is paying attention. I suggest reading in a version that easier for children to understand such as NKJV, NIV, NASB, The Message. When done point out specifically the following Scriptures and ask the questions. Allow the children to give the answers they think are right. Allow them to finish even if they may not get the answer right. Then instruct them about the right way.

VERSE 29

- **What is sin?** *Sin means missing the mark, failure, wrongdoing, taking the wrong course.*
- **In what ways do we sin?** *Share what types of sin are prominent among kids...You should instruct them in this area.*
- **How do we find forgiveness of sins?** *"Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!"*
- **Share with them that Jesus is the only way to find forgiveness of sins...***Look at verse 12*
- **Encourage your children to always make sure they confess their sins to the Lord...***Turn to I John 1:9*

Prayer Focus

When you are done with your devotional, take a few moments to pray. Pray for America, your kids, and your church. Ask God to bless your home.

WEEK 2

Read John 1:35-51

Take time to read these verses. Make sure everyone is paying attention. I suggest reading in a version that is easier for children to understand such as NKJV, NIV, NASB, The Message. When done point out specifically the following Scriptures and ask the questions. Allow the children to give the answers they think are right. Allow them to speak even if they may not get the answer right. Then instruct them about the right way.

VERSE 37

- **Have you followed Jesus this week?** - Ask your kids how it has been at school.
- **Do all of your friends know that you are a Christian?**
- **Is it hard to follow Jesus sometimes at school when you know others don't?** - Be aware of what your kids face. Ask them if they are ever made fun of for being a Christian. Share with them about times that you may have been persecuted for your faith.

VERSE 41-42

Notice how Andrew went and found his brother Peter and told him about the Messiah. Share with your kids the importance of sharing their faith in Christ.

- **Do you ever tell others about Jesus?** - Parents this means you need to share your faith too.
- **Who are some of your friends that need Jesus?**
- **Do you pray for them?**

Prayer Focus

When you are done with your devotional, take a few moments to pray. Pray for the kids that your child mentioned that needed Christ. Lay hands on each other and pray for boldness to share Christ. Pray for more opportunities to share the Gospel.

WEEK 3

Read John 2:13-22

Take time to read these verses. Make sure everyone is paying attention. I suggest reading in a version that easier for children to understand such as NKJV, NIV, NASB, The Message. When done point out specifically the following Scriptures and ask the questions. Allow the children to give the answers think are right. Allow them to speak even if they may not get the answer right. Then instruct them about the right way.

Verses 17

Notice how Jesus was passionate about how His Father's House. It did not please Him when people were disrespectful of the temple. Take this time to instruct your children in how to act in God's House. How to respect the church property and be respectful during services.

- **How are we supposed to act in church?**
- **Is it OK for us to run around and get into everything?**
- **When the service is going on how should we act? Should we talk and not pay attention?**

Prayer Focus

When you are done with your devotional, take a few moments to pray. Ask God to help them know how to act in His house. Pray for your church and ask God's blessing to be upon His House.

WEEK 4

Read John 3:1-16

Take time to read these verses. Make sure everyone is paying attention. I suggest reading in a version that easier for children to understand such as NKJV, NIV, NASB, The Message. When done point out specifically the following Scriptures and ask the questions. Allow the children to give the answers think are right. Allow them to speak even if they may not get the answer right. Then instruct them about the right way.

- Who was Nicodemus?
- What does it mean to be born-again?
- Why did God give His only son to die for us? (Verse 16) Explain to them how hard it would be for you to give them up to die for the world. Explain to them the immense love of God in giving us Jesus.
- How do we receive the eternal life Jesus spoke of in verse 16?

Prayer Focus

When you are done with your devotional, take a few moments to pray. Thank God for sending His only Son. Pray that God would keep your kids in His hands and that they would never stray from Him all the days of their lives.

WEEK 5

Read John 4:1-10

Take time to read these verses. Make sure everyone is paying attention. I suggest reading in a version that is easier for children to understand such as NKJV, NIV, NASB, The Message. When done point out specifically the following Scriptures and ask the questions. Allow the children to give the answers they think are right. Allow them to speak even if they may not get the answer right. Then instruct them about the right way.

- **Why did Jesus need to go through Samaria? Verse 4** (*He went through Samaria because He knew He needed to minister to the woman at the well. He normally would not have taken that route.*) Sometimes the Lord will lead us to places we have never been before because He wants us to do something for Him.
- **Why was the woman at the well amazed that Jesus asked her for a drink? Verse 9** (*Note For Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans. The Jews did not like the Samaritans. It had been a prejudice for many generations. Jesus spoke with her because He didn't see her as a Samaritan but as a woman who needed Christ.*) Talk with your children about why we should not be prejudice against other races or social statuses.

Prayer Focus

When you are done with your devotional, take a few moments to pray. Ask God to help you and your children to not be prejudice against anyone, even if they aren't like you. Ask God to give you an opportunity to share His love with others and to bring others into your path.

WEEK 6

Read John 4:10-15

Take time to read these verses. Make sure everyone is paying attention. I suggest reading in a version that is easier for children to understand such as NKJV, NIV, NASB, The Message. When done point out specifically the following Scriptures and ask the questions. Allow the children to give the answers they think are right. Allow them to speak even if they may not get the answer right. Then instruct them about the right way.

- **When you drink a coke or even water do you get thirsty again?**
- **What kind of water does Jesus give that will keep us from getting thirsty again? Is it physical water or spiritual? Verse 15** (*Explain to your kids that the things of this life, Material possessions, relationships can never satisfy us without a relationship with Jesus Christ. Let your kids know that many people try to gain more in life because they are trying to fill a void that only Jesus can fill.*)
- **How long will this water last us?** (*the water springs up into everlasting life. The well will never go dry and it promises us for eternity.*)

Prayer Focus

When you are done with your devotional, take a few moments to pray. Ask God to help you and your children be satisfied with Jesus. Pray for help to overcome the desire to always gain more material things. Ask God to help you gain more spiritually.

WEEK 7

Read John 4:20-26

Take time to read these verses. Make sure everyone is paying attention. I suggest reading in a version that is easier for children to understand such as NKJV, NIV, NASB, The Message. When done point out specifically the following Scriptures and ask the questions. Allow the children to give the answers they think are right. Allow them to speak even if they may not get the answer right. Then instruct them about the right way.

- **What does worship mean?** (*Worship means worthship or stoop as an act of submission*) *Worship is more than a song or an expression such as raising our hands or kneeling down. Worship is a willingness to surrender your life to Christ. Worship is giving worth to Christ and His sacrifice on the Cross.*
- **What type of worshippers is God looking for?** (*Worshippers in Spirit and Truth*)
- **What does in Spirit and In Truth mean?** (*explain that worship is not as much how you worship but the heart of your worship.*) *Truth means transparent, sincere, according to scriptural mandates. We must worship Him most of all with a sincere heart not in just mere words. Express to your children the importance of worshipping God daily with their lives and with their voices. (On your own study the psalms to share with your children what biblical ways of worship are.)*

Prayer Focus

When you are done with your devotional, take a few moments to pray. Let this be a time of worship. Maybe sing a song together or just take a few moments to worship the Lord in your own way. Ask God to help you learn to worship Him with a pure heart.

WEEK 8

Read John 4:27-34

Take time to read these verses. Make sure everyone is paying attention. I suggest reading in a version that is easier for children to understand such as NKJV, NIV, NASB, The Message. When done point out specifically the following Scriptures and ask the questions. Allow the children to give the answers they think are right. Allow them to speak even if they may not get the answer right. Then instruct them about the right way.

- **How do we know what God's Will is? Verse 34**
- **Why is it so important to follow God's Will?** (*Explain to them a time that maybe you got out of God's will and share with them from that experience.*) *From verse 34 we see that doing the will of God is what Jesus describes as the very substance that made His life worth living.*
- **Is it hard to follow God's will sometimes?** (*Explain to them that sometimes doing God's will breaks us out of what is comfortable for us.*)
- **What do you think God's will for your life is right now? When you grow up?** (*Let your kids share their dreams and goals even if you do not think it is God's will. Write these down and keep them in a scrapbook or a place that you can refer to later and see how things turned out.*)

Prayer Focus

When you are done with your devotional, take a few moments to pray. Ask God to show you His will. Pray that God would order your children's steps. Pray for God's hand to keep them and help them fulfill their dreams in life.