

HOW TO HAVE A FAMILY DEVOTION

+BOOKS: A TOOL TO GUIDE OUR DEVOTION

1) Open a book that talks about God's Truths:

-The Bible

-you can pick an attribute of God and find a Bible story or passage that talks about that attribute

-you can pick a Bible story from the Old Testament or New Testament that discuss characters talking about or reflecting God's truths

-Children's devotional book

-when picking a book check that it shows themes that reflect God truthfully and include a Bible passage for each devotional (see resources document for links)

2) Retell: take some time to summarize the passage or Bible story

+TALK ABOUT IT: A TIME WHERE WE CAN SHARE OUR THOUGHTS

Three types of questions you can ask:

1) Connection to the story or Bible passage

Ex. Have you experienced it or gone through it?

Ex. Is there something similar that happened in your life or someone you know?

2) Lessons I learned

Ex. What is something new that you didn't know before?

Ex. What is something that was a good reminder?

3) Application or Change we can make

Ex. What am I going to change because of the lessons learned?

Ex. How can you show others these truths?

*these questions could be answered by dad and mom or the kids! Both are helpful to our understanding of God's Word!

+ACTIVITY: SOMETHING TO US REMEMBER THE TRUTH

Ideas of different family activities

-make a craft (paper craft, origami, comic book, draw a picture, etc.)

-Sing a song from children's worship, a praise song, or a hymn together as a family

-Do a fingerplay or read a poem that relates to the Bible passage

-Act out the Bible story or passage

*get creative! This list is to act as a guide so if your family thinks of something try it! Also, some days this section will be 7+ minutes long, some days will be 1 minute long- and that is totally fine!

+PRAY: A TIME TO TALK TO GOD

You can use the A.C.T.S format:

A: Adoration- what characteristics of God is told? (ex. "God you are...")

C: Confession- what specifically are you sorry for? (ex. "God I'm sorry for...")

T: Thanksgiving- what are you thankful for that God has given or done for you? (ex. "God we thank you for...")

S: Supplication- what is something that you are asking God to do or help you do? (ex. "God please..." – pray for your family, church, school, the world, etc.)

Ways you can structure Prayer Time:

1) One person can pray to end the time

2) Practice sentence prayer (to teach your children how to pray)

a. Each person goes around to say their A, C, T, and S

b. Break it down where one person does A, one does C, one T, and one S