

♥ FAITH & FAMILY

TOGETHER TIME!

During family prayer times this week, don't forget to thank Jesus for doing powerful things. Write on separate slips of paper some of the things Jesus did. Ask each family member to choose a slip of paper. Each person can read the selected paper and then pray and thank Jesus for the powerful thing He did.



Photo by BananaStock

GAME TIME!

Play a fun game that will help family members think of some powerful things Jesus did. Have one person start by saying, "Jesus has power over everything. He healed a man who could not walk." The next family repeats what the first person said and adds one more powerful thing Jesus did. Keep going, with each family member repeating what has already been said and adding another powerful thing Jesus did. Keep going until you are out of ideas.

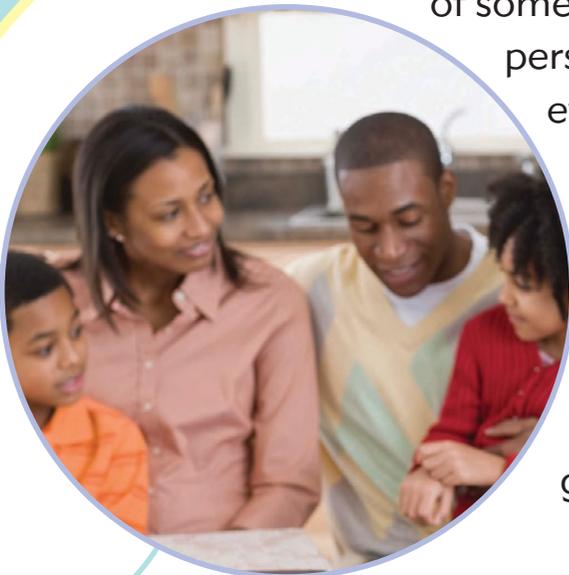


Photo by Jupiterimages

LOOK IN THE BOOK

Read together this week's Bible story from John 4:43-53. Remember, **Jesus is God. He has power over everything.**

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CARE & SHARE

Jesus took the time to help someone who had been sick for 38 years. As a family, think of someone you know who has been sick or homebound for a long time. Make a card, draw a picture, or bake something special to take to the person. Pray and ask God to help you show compassion to the person. Then go together and visit the person.



Photo by Jupiterimages

GAME TIME!

Have a Tell About Jesus scavenger hunt. Ask family members to think of items around your home that they could use in order to tell others about Jesus (e.g., pencil, marker, stuffed animal, computer, money, Bible). Give everyone several minutes to find a few items. Encourage them to be creative in their thinking! Gather everyone back together and ask a volunteer to show one of the items found. The rest of the family must guess how that item could be used to tell others about Jesus. Award small prizes or pieces of candy for good responses!

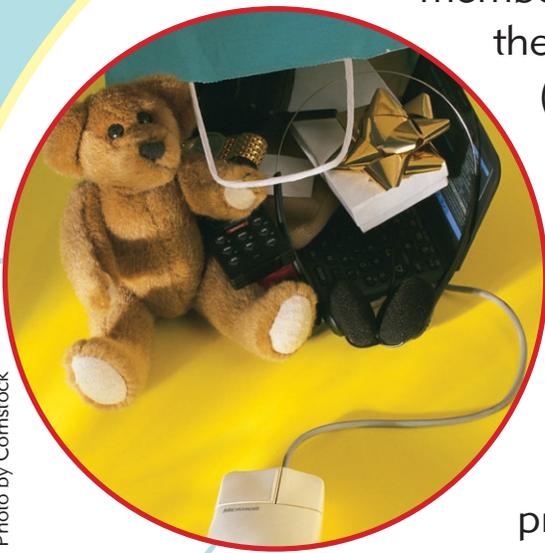


Photo by Comstock

LOOK IN THE BOOK

Read together this week's Bible story from John 5:1-9.
Remember, **Jesus sees people's needs. He can help them.**

♥ FAITH & FAMILY

TOGETHER, TIME!

Enjoy a family worship time. Read some Scriptures about Jesus and the great things He did. Be sure to include the story of Jesus healing a woman and a young girl from Mark 5:21-42. Worship Jesus with your songs. Pray and praise Jesus for His greatness.



Photo by Jupiterimages

FAMILY CREATIONS

Together, search the Internet or old magazines for images of people who have a lot of knowledge. The images might include doctors, scientists, and teachers. Print or cut out the pictures, and then glue them onto a poster board. Then cut from construction paper five large letters: J, E, S, U, S. Glue these letters overtop the pictures on the poster board. Talk about how there is only one person who has all knowledge—Jesus!



Photo by Katy McDonnell

LOOK IN THE BOOK

Read together this week's Bible story from Mark 5:21-42. Remember, **Jesus is God. He knows everything.**

FAITH & FAMILY

GAME TIME!

Play a game of charades. Ask family members to name things they can do to follow Jesus. (Examples: share, pray, help, obey, tell others) After naming several ways to follow Jesus, take turns choosing one of the ways and acting it out while the rest of the family tries to guess what is being done.



Photo by Thinkstock Images

CARE & SHARE

As a family, make a list of things you can do to share Jesus' love with others. Can you bake something? weed a flowerbed? push a lawnmower? dry some dishes? fix something that is broken? Once your list is ready, write beside each way to serve the name of someone who might benefit from that act of service—a grandparent, a neighbor, a friend. Choose a project your family will do together.



Photo by Comstock Images

LOOK IN THE BOOK

Read together this week's Bible story from Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:13-35, 50-53; John 20:19-21:19. Remember, **We should tell others that Jesus is alive.**

♥ Faith & Family

FAMILY OUTING

Take a “thanksgiving walk” inside and outside your home. Start in the kitchen. Ask family members to look around the kitchen and find things they want to thank Jesus for. Encourage everyone to say their prayers of thanks. Visit each room in your home and then go outside your home. In each place, look around and thank Jesus for giving your family what it needs.

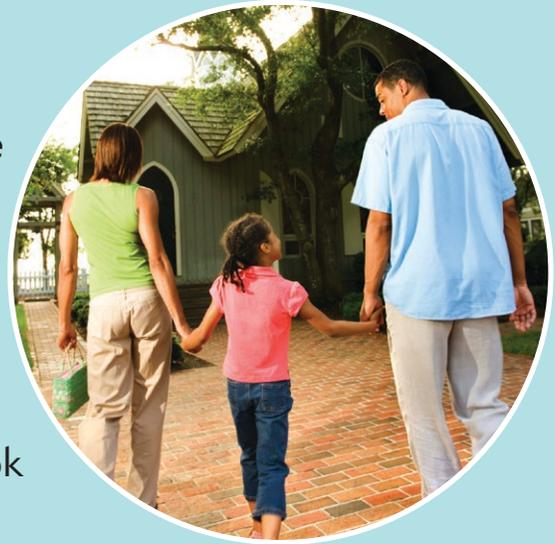


Photo by Jupiterimages

FAMILY CREATIONS

As a family create a food alphabet of thanks. On half sheets of drawing paper, write the letters of the alphabet (one letter per sheet). On the sheet with the letter *A*, draw or list food items beginning with that letter—apples, avocados, asparagus. See if your family can think of at least one food item per letter to draw on the papers. Create a title page that says “Thank You, God.” Display the pages in your kitchen or use the pictures to make a book you can display on your dining room table.

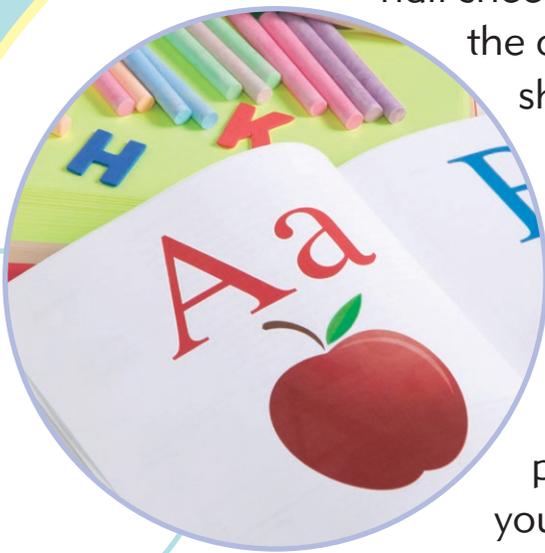


Photo by Jupiterimages

LOOK IN THE BOOK

Read together this week’s Bible story from John 6:1-14.
Remember, **Jesus cares for us. He gives us what we need.**

FAITH & FAMILY

TOGETHER TIME!

This week, spend some time as a family learning how to praise Jesus. You can praise Jesus in your prayers by praising Him for being awesome, for being God's Son, for taking care of you, for loving you, and for giving your family a place to live and grow together.



Photo by Stockbyte

FAMILY OUTING

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the people had a praise parade. Plan a family praise parade. Walk or ride together in a car to a favorite neighborhood park. Along the way, sing songs that praise Jesus. Talk about how Jesus must have felt when He rode into Jerusalem and people were shouting praise and giving honor to Him. If possible, cut some palm branches or purchase them from a local florist. Pass a palm branch and let each person express a praise to Jesus. Then display the palms on a door or table in your home.



Photo by Brand X Pictures

LOOK IN THE BOOK

Read together this week's Bible story from Matthew 21:1-11; John 12:12-19. Remember, **We should praise Jesus.**

FAITH & FAMILY

GAME TIME!

Play a family game of Telephone. Whisper in the ear of one person something about Jesus' resurrection. The person who hears the message can whisper it in the ear of another family member. Continue until everyone has heard what you told about Jesus' resurrection. Then have someone else start the chain and whisper a fact about Jesus' resurrection.



Photo by Roger Weber

FAMILY CREATIONS

As a family, celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Make resurrection eggs to give to others. Fill plastic eggs with the following items (1 item per egg): small wooden crosses, red hearts made from craft foam or construction paper, small rocks, cotton balls, and wrapped candies.

Write the following words on small slips of paper and put the papers in the appropriate eggs: The cross—Jesus died on a cross. The rock—Jesus was put in a tomb made of rock. The heart—Jesus died because He loves us. The cotton ball—Jesus came back to life and then went up to Heaven through the clouds. The candy—The resurrection of Jesus is sweet!



Photos by Jupiterimages and Hemera Technologies

LOOK IN THE BOOK

Read together this week's Bible story from John 18:1-4, 24; 18:28-20:18. Remember, **We should believe and follow Jesus.**

♥ FAITH & FAMILY

GAME TIME!

Have fun exploring together items that sink and float. Provide a tub of water. Have each family member find something they think is heavy enough to sink and something light enough to float. Test each item. Talk about why people usually sink in water. Thank Jesus for His power to always be with you. Worship Him because He is God.



Photo by Jupiterimages

CARE & SHARE

On a stormy or gloomy day, do a project that will brighten someone else's day. Think of someone who may need cheering. Then discuss as a family what you could do to help that person. Could you video your family singing or acting out a Bible story to send to the person? Could you compose a family e-mail to send? Could you simply call the person and take turns talking to him or her? Be sure to let the person know that Jesus loves him and is with him always—even on rainy days!



Photo by Ryan McVay

LOOK IN THE BOOK

Read together this week's Bible story from Matthew 14:22-33. Remember, **Jesus is God. He is always with us.**

♥ FAiTh & FAMiLy

FaMiLy OUTiNg

Plan to visit the place where your church meets. If possible, arrange to talk to someone who knows about the history of your congregation. When and where did the people first start to meet together? Who were some of the leaders? How has the congregation changed over the years? Talk about how the congregation shares with and serves others—both inside and outside of the congregation. As a family, thank God that you can be part of the church.



Photo by Jupiterimages

CARE & SHARE

People from all over the world were in Jerusalem for Pentecost. The Holy Spirit came on Jesus' followers, and Peter stood up to preach. People all over the world still need to hear about Jesus. Find out about a missionary your church supports. As a family, write and send an encouragement e-mail to the missionary. Pray every day for that missionary. Have a yard sale and send the proceeds to the missionary. Become involved in helping others know about Jesus.



Photo by Jupiterimages

LOOK iN THE BOOK

Read together this week's Bible story from Acts 1:12-14; 2:1-8, 14, 22-24, 36-42. Remember, **We can be part of the church.**

FAITH & FAMILY

FAMILY CREATIONS

As a family, make some stickers that can be used to help tell others about Jesus. Purchase a package of blank mailing labels or self-sticking name badges. Write "Jesus is the Son of God!" on the labels and decorate them with markers. Adults in the family can include the stickers on envelopes when they pay bills or send other correspondence. Kids can give the stickers to friends and neighbors.



Photo by Hemera Technologies

CARE & SHARE

Plan and host an "unbirthday party." Hand out invitations inviting neighbors or friends to a party that celebrates everybody's birthday on the same day. Decorate with streamers and balloons. Play traditional party games. Serve birthday cake and ice cream. Before the party, prepare plenty of small prizes and party favors. On each prize or favor, write or add a sticker that says "Jesus is the Son of God!" or "Jesus loves you." As your guests play games and enjoy the party, you will also be telling them about Jesus.



Photo by Spike Mafford

LOOK IN THE BOOK

Read together this week's Bible story from Acts 3:1-19; 4:4. Remember, **We can be ready to tell about Jesus.**

♥ FAITH & FAMILY

TOGETHER TIME!

As a family, talk about why you should never be embarrassed to tell about Jesus. Play a What If game. Ask, "What if someone laughs at you while you are telling about Jesus?" Together come up with what you can do to respond appropriately in the situation. Continue the game, asking other questions, such as "What if a friend stops talking to you because you tell about Jesus?" or "What if someone lies about you because you tell about Jesus."



Photo by Thinkstock Images

FAMILY CREATIONS

Purchase snack-size candy bars or individually wrapped candies. Together, think of some fun sayings that somehow refer to the kind of candy and also tell about Jesus. For instance, on a Nestlé Crunch® bar, you could attach a card that says, "If you're in a crunch, Jesus has the power to help you." On a roll of Smarties®, the card could read: "Following Jesus is a smart thing to do!" See how creative your family can be in thinking up sayings. Then prepare the treats and give them to friends and relatives!



Photo by Jupiterimages

LOOK IN THE BOOK

Read together this week's Bible story from Acts 4:1-31.
Remember, **We can live boldly for Jesus.**

♥ FAiTh & FAmily

GAME TIME!

Play a Bible verse game. Choose a verse or passage of Scripture you want to memorize together. Write the verse on a chalkboard or dry-erase board. Say the verse aloud together and then have one family member erase one or two words. Say the verse again, including the missing words. Continue until all the words are erased and the family can say the verse aloud together.



Photo by Comstock

TOGETHER TIME!

Set a time when your family will read God's Word together. Choose and read aloud a passage of Scripture that may not be as familiar as some favorite Bible stories. Encourage family members to ask questions about what was read. If you don't know the answers to some of the questions, ask someone or consult a Bible reference book. You can also read a verse from an adult Bible and then read the same verse from a children's Bible. Emphasize how important it is that we keep learning from God's Word.



Photo by Brand X Pictures

LOOK IN THE BOOK

Read together this week's Bible story from Acts 8:26-40.
Remember, **We can know and understand God's Word.**

♥ FAITH & FAMILY

CARE & SHARE

Do some family activities that will help your neighbors and friends know that your family believes in Jesus. Help an elderly neighbor with yard work or other chores. Bake some cookies and take them to new neighbors or neighbors you have not yet met. Using your abilities to serve others is one way to be part of the church.



Photo by Sam Royds

FAMILY OUTING

Plan a family picnic at a park. Pack a lunch or supper.

Include an ice chest full of ice and cans of soda or frozen treats. Pack extras of these.

Try to find a place near a playground where there will be other families. After you have played awhile, open the cooler and enjoy the sodas and treats. Hand out the extras you have brought to the people in the park. Let them know you are doing this because Jesus has given you so much and you want to share His love with others.



Photo by Jupiterimages

LOOK IN THE BOOK

Read together this week's Bible story from Acts 9:36-42.
Remember, **We can serve others.**