



NO ORDINARY FAMILY TIME WITH GOD – WEEK 6

FOR PARENTS:

Proverbs 22:16 says, “Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.” The lasting impact you are making is well worth the continued effort! This week you and your family will be encouraged to seek out relationships that encourage you to live for Jesus during every season of life. Here’s one thing we know, raising kids isn’t always easy, but know this—you are not alone. Other parents are going through the same things you are. Our encouragement for you is to build relationships with other families of believers. These friendships will encourage and support you on the parenting journey.

WEEK 6 TRUTH FOR LIFE

God designed us with a need for other believers who help us live fully for him.

THINGS YOU NEED:

- **A Bible** (preferably, a Bible for every member of the family, or you can share)

FAMILY TIME WITH GOD

Begin with prayer: Father God, we are so excited to spend time with you tonight. We invite your presence to fill this room and our hearts. Help us to hear and apply your truth. Help us to be more than an ordinary family; we want to be a family who experiences and shows your love to the world. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: *Have two family members do jumping jacks (or push-ups, sit-ups, or even just jumps) for 15 seconds and see who did the most. Then have another family member join the person who lost and compete again. (2 vs. 1) Combine your scores. Obviously, two should beat one.*

There’s a true story of a man who went hiking alone in Canyonlands National Park in Utah. While hiking he lost grip and fell into a big opening, knocking a HUGE rock down into the same hole. The rock trapped his right arm against the wall, and he couldn’t get out. He made an even bigger mistake by going alone and not telling anyone where he was going. It was scary but he was able to make it out over 5 days later. Imagine if he had gone with someone, or at least told someone where he was going? **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10** says, “Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble.” Spot on!

God designed us to **NEED** other **believers** to fully live for God the best way possible. The Bible is full of examples of this. Can you think of any? (*David & Jonathan, Elijah & Elisha, Ruth & Naomi, Paul & Timothy.*) While one friend can be there to help and encourage, **Ecclesiastes 4:13** says “...**Three** are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.”

Let's look at an example of this and read **Exodus 17:8–13** together. *If everyone has a Bible, have a contest to see who can find it first. When found, have the kids take turn reading a verse.*

Moses by himself was good, but there's no way he could've held his arms up as long as the Israelites needed. But when Aaron and Hur helped and supported him, victory was sure. Remember, three are even better!

For older kids: *Talk about examples in their lives where their friends have helped them live for God. Get specific.*

For little ones: *Re-create the scene. Have one kid hold up something as long as they can, then have two others support when they start to get tired. Point out how teamwork works!*

God used three people working together to bring victory to an entire nation. Imagine what he can do in your life when you partner with one or two other believers.

For older kids: *Read Exodus 17:14-15. A banner was something like a flag, that armies used to identify and unite themselves together. God is the banner that unites you with your brothers and sisters in Christ where you can experience victory. What do you need victory over right now? What friend(s) can help you?*

For little ones: *Talk about their friends and which ones help them live more like Jesus. How? (They are kind, they are polite, they obey their parents, they don't say rude things, etc.)*

Pray: Father God, we praise your holy name. We know that you have created us to need godly friendships. We are thankful for those you have already put in our lives to meet that need. Because we love you so much, we ask that you would give us even more friends that also love you. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Continue to pray for the friendships your children have. Pray they will be God-honoring and producing victories. Also pray for new friendships to begin that will encourage and motivate them to live for God.