



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

THE ISRAELITES WANTED A KING



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of 1 Samuel 7–10 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

Have you ever visited a frozen yogurt shop that allows you to choose your own toppings? They have so many choices: crumbled cookies, fruit, sprinkles, and even whipped cream that makes your sweet treat even sweeter! It's very tempting to want all the toppings, but that would only lead to a stomachache and lots of regret!

The people of Israel did not like the judges God had put in charge of leading them. When they saw how other nations around them had kings, the Israelites wanted a king of their own! Samuel warned the people that they would regret asking for a king, but the Israelites didn't care. So, God gave the people what they wanted—a king named Saul.

The Israelites chose their own way and rejected God's way. Sin is choosing anything that goes against God and His commands. We've all sinned because we thought our way would be better than God's way. But God is so great that He had an even better plan to save us! God sent Jesus to be the perfect King. When it came time for Jesus to die on the cross, He chose to follow His Father's plan even though it meant Jesus would have to suffer. Jesus trusted God's plan and gave His life to save all who believe in Him!

The Israelites rejected God as King and chose Saul to be their king. When we sin, we also reject God's rule in our lives as King. Jesus, the King of kings, died for our sin and rose again so we could be forgiven.

***Pray:** God, help us trust in You and Your plans for us. When we want to choose our own way, give us the strength to follow You. And when we sin by choosing our way instead of Yours, remind us of the forgiveness that is found in Jesus. Amen.*



Family Worship Experience

LEARN SCRIPTURE

The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.



**The LORD has established
his throne in heaven, and his
kingdom rules over all.**

Psalms 103:19



Family Worship Experience

SING SCRIPTURE

Finish your family worship experience by playing the Key Passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to help your family trust in His goodness and His plans—even when unexpected things happen. How does our faith grow in difficult situations? How does remembering God’s faithfulness help you to face the unexpected?

Evenings

Praise God for His faithfulness to you today. Thank Him for being with you all day—no matter what happened. Where did you see God’s goodness in your day? How does celebrating His goodness today help us prepare for tomorrow?



Family Activities

For Fun

Play “king for a day” throughout the week, allowing each family member to have a turn making decisions like what game the family will play, what movie the family will watch, or what dessert the family will eat. Discuss how earthly kings are often tempted to do things their own way, but Jesus, our heavenly King, rules over all, and always does what God the Father wants.

To Serve

Take time to pray for the leaders who serve your community. Write a letter to them letting them know your family has prayed for them and for the job God has given them to do.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

SAUL RESCUED ISRAEL



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of 1 Samuel 11–13 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

The American Bison is the largest mammal in North America, weighing up to 2,000 pounds! While their size is impressive, the way they protect one another is even more amazing. When danger is near, the herd of bison will circle around the young calves and weaker bison to protect them. The herd sticks together to keep every member safe!

In 1 Samuel 11, the people of Jabesh were terrified when the Ammonite army surrounded their city. The men knew they were not strong enough to fight. Their only hope was for someone to come with help to save them, so they called on Saul. Saul gathered men from across Israel and Judah. Like bison who protect one another, the people came together to fight. God helped the men defeat the Ammonites and save the city of Jabesh.

Even though God had used Saul to keep the Israelites safe and deliver them from their enemy, Saul struggled to obey God. When he faced the Philistine army, Saul didn't wait for Samuel and tried to make an offering to God, which was only allowed by priests. Samuel told Saul that God would soon choose another king to replace Saul—a king who would be a man after God's own heart.

God would give the people a new king, but the ultimate promise was to send Jesus who is the greatest King. When we needed an even greater rescue, God sent Jesus to save us from sin and deliver all those who believe in Him! When we realize all Jesus has done to save us, our response should be to worship Him as the King of kings!

Saul defeated enemy armies for Israel but failed to obey God. Jesus defeated our greatest enemies—sin and death—and always obeyed God. All who trust in Jesus will be saved and receive changed hearts that desire to obey God.

Pray: God, we praise You for sending Jesus to be our Deliverer. He has come to save all who believe in Him, and He offers victory over sin. Help us trust in Him as King. Amen.



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to help you be aware of those you might encounter today who need love, encouragement, and to hear about Jesus. Ask God for boldness to serve those people today. How might God use your family to point others to Jesus?

Evenings

Thank God for sending Jesus to be the King over all kings! Think about all the ways Jesus is the perfect King. Make a list of the reasons and spend time praising Him for each one.



Family Activities

For Fun

Start a stopwatch and challenge family members to try and guess when two minutes has passed. Discuss how Saul waited much longer than two minutes for Samuel to arrive but gave in to impatience and failed to obey God.

To Serve

Talk with your church leadership about enlisting a group of families from your church to serve your community. This could involve serving at a food pantry or helping clean up a local park together. After serving with the group, discuss how people working together can have a greater result than everyone working alone.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

SAUL DISOBEYED GOD



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of Samuel 14–15 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

In 1964, Jim Marshall, a linebacker for the Minnesota Vikings, made history for the wrong reasons. The opposing team fumbled the football, which Jim picked up and ran 66-yards into the end zone! The problem was that Jim had run the wrong way! Instead of 6 points for his team, Jim's mistake gave 2 points to the other team!

Like Jim, we all make mistakes, and mistakes have consequences. For King Saul, his mistake was disobeying God, and it cost him his kingship. After defeating the Amalekites, Saul's army took the sheep, goats, and cattle for themselves. God's instructions were to destroy everything and take nothing, but the men were hungry and did not obey God's commands. Because of Saul's disobedience, Samuel told Saul that God was disappointed and would soon replace him with another king.

Even though Saul was king, he was not perfect. Saul sinned against God, and his sin had consequences. Our sin has consequences too—the biggest of which is to be separated from God for all eternity. Our only hope is found in Jesus—the perfect King! Opossums are known for “playing dead” when a predator attacks. When threatened, the animal's body goes limp, its tongue comes out of its mouth, and a pungent odor is released to make it smell like the animal has been dead for a while. Talk about a stinky situation!

Saul disobeyed God's commands and was rejected as king. We all disobey God's commands when we sin. Only Jesus perfectly obeyed God at all times. When we believe in Jesus, we are made right with God and accepted by Him.

***Pray:** Jesus, thank You for perfectly obeying God, even to the point of death on a cross. Because You perfectly obeyed and gave Your life for us, we can have forgiveness and acceptance by believing in You. We praise You as the perfect King. Amen.*



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to remove pride in your life and to help you put others first. How does pride in ourselves stop us from loving others as we should? How can pride lead us into other sinful behaviors?

Evenings

Ask God to grow your love for Jesus so that you can serve Him with all your heart. Why should our love for Jesus lead us to live in obedience?



Family Activities

For Fun

Play a game of “Mother/Father, May I?” as a family. Have one family member give instructions to others on how many steps to take and how they should take the steps (baby steps, giant steps, bunny hops, and so forth.) Before taking the steps, the family member must ask, “Mother/Father, may I?” If they fail to ask before taking a step, they must go back to the beginning and start over. After the game, discuss the ways Saul disobeyed God and the consequences that came from his sin. Remind kids that sin has consequences, and that God always has a better way for us to follow so we can enjoy and glorify Him.

To Serve

Put together care baskets for cancer patients who are undergoing treatments. Search online to get ideas of items to include in the basket. Deliver the basket to a patient or donate through a local cancer center. Take a moment to pray for the patient and their treatments. Reminds kids that even though the patients are enduring trials that they would not have chosen for themselves, God is still good and has a plan for their lives.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

SAMUEL ANOINTED DAVID



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of 1 Samuel 16:1-13 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

In 2016, a bidder at Sotheby's auction paid \$61,250 for a small piece of fungus! Before you think he was silly, this fungus was a European White Truffle, a rare delicacy. Chefs from around the world crave truffles to use in their recipes. Even though it's a fungus that grows in the dirt, it has been set apart as one of the most treasured foods in the world.

If you stumbled across a truffle in the wild, you might not even know what it is. It doesn't look like something that could sell for thousands of dollars. Much like truffles, it can be hard to judge people just by looking at the outside. When God told Samuel to find the next king of Israel, it would've been easy to look for the strongest warrior, wisest teacher, or most handsome prince. Instead, God chose David, a shepherd boy who was the youngest of his family.

David didn't look like the obvious choice for king, but God saw beyond his appearance and treasured David as the king He wanted. Much later, God would send another king that looked different than what the people expected. His name is Jesus, and He is the King above all kings!

David did not look like a king on the outside, but God saw his heart and chose him to be the next ruler. Jesus looked like an ordinary man to the people around Him, but He is God's Son and the Savior of the world.

***Pray:** God, we praise You because You are wise. You give purpose and value to those the world might overlook. We praise You for seeing beyond what we can see and using all things for Your glory. Amen.*



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to help you not judge people by their looks, intelligence, or popularity. Ask God to help you see people the way He sees them and to love them the way He wants you to love them. How does God view people differently than the world? How does being made in the image of God give all people value?

Evenings

Praise God for using the unlikely and unexpected to accomplish His plans and bring glory to Himself! How was Jesus a different type of king than what people expected? How might God want to use you and your friends to bring Him glory?



Family Activities

For Fun

Take a trip to the grocery store and pick out fruit together that looks delicious. While you enjoy your fruit, discuss how we can usually tell if fruit will be good on the inside by how it looks on the outside. It is different, however, with people; we can't tell what people's hearts are like by only looking at their appearance. Only God knows everyone's heart.

To Serve

Ask your church staff for a list of families with children who attend a preschool or younger elementary class at your church. Send a card to each child with a note that encourages them to love Jesus and serve Him. Remind them that God can use them for His glory even as young children.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

DAVID PLAYED FOR SAUL



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of 1 Samuel 16:14-23 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

Have you ever heard of a lyre? No, not like the person who doesn't tell the truth. The lyre is a stringed musical instrument with a distinctive horseshoe shape. In Bible times, lyres came in many different sizes, and they were commonly used to put music to poetry and storytelling. The lyre led to the creation of more well known instruments like the harp, lute, and even the modern guitar.

After God's Spirit left Saul, he was troubled and distressed. His servants thought that some beautiful music might help calm him down. So, they went looking for someone who could play the lyre, and they found David.

Even though David had already been chosen by God to be the next king, David didn't act proud or say, "I'm too important to help!" Instead, he showed humility. He served King Saul by playing the lyre whenever Saul felt troubled. David's music helped Saul feel peaceful again.

David's willingness to play music for Saul, even though he had been chosen by God to be the next king, shows great humility. David didn't think about how great he was or how he was going to be king one day. Instead, he wanted to help and serve Saul. Jesus is the greatest example of humility. He left His throne in heaven to come serve those who needed forgiveness and salvation only He can provide. That's music to our ears!

Even though David knew he would be king one day, he served King Saul faithfully. Even though Jesus is God, He humbled Himself and took the form of a servant. He served His disciples by washing their feet, and He served His people by dying on a cross for their sin and rising again.

***Pray:** God, thank You for showing us how to be humble through the story of David and even more through the life of Jesus. Help us remember that serving others is more important than being the best or most important. Teach us to love and serve others the way Jesus has loved and served us. Amen.*



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to help you serve others with grace and selflessness, just as Jesus did. Ask Him to show you the joy of putting others before yourself. What are some ways you can put others before yourself today?

Evenings

Thank Jesus for the countless ways He has served us. Thank Him for coming to walk among us, teach us, and ultimately give His life to save us. How does Jesus' love and service to you motivate you to love and serve others?



Family Activities

For Fun

Lead each family member to write down several acts of kindness or service they can do for others. These can be simple tasks like helping a sibling with their homework, writing a thank you note to a neighbor, or volunteering to help with dinner. Fold the papers and place them in a jar or can. Each day, draw one act of kindness from the jar. Make it a family event where everyone participates in completing the chosen task. After completing each act, gather as a family to discuss how it felt to serve others and how it might have impacted them.

To Serve

Make a list of items to put in a care package for a neighbor. Go shopping as a family to purchase the items and make the care packages. Encourage each family member to write a heartfelt note or card to include in the packages. Distribute the care package to your neighbor by delivering it personally or leaving it at doorstep. Talk as a family about how it feels to serve others and do something that will brighten their day.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

DAVID DEFEATED GOLIATH



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of 1 Samuel 17:1-50 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

For centuries, people have used levers and pulleys to make life easier. The lever and pulley are simple machines that use the laws of physics to lift and move massive amounts of weight. By using these machines, a single person can lift heavy weights that no human could move with their strength alone.

When the Israelites stood against the Philistine army, they were terrified. They knew they had no power to defeat Goliath or the Philistines with their own strength. David came to the battlefield just in time to hear the large Philistine warrior mocking the Israelite army. He knew God was with him and would defeat his enemy, so he stepped up to fight Goliath.

When David approached to fight, Goliath mocked his size and his choice of weapons. David replied, "You come to fight with a spear and sword, but I come to fight in the name of the Lord! God always wins His battles!" God used David and the stone from his sling to defeat Goliath and save the Israelite army!

The Israelites were helpless to defeat the giant enemy Goliath, but God sent David to save them. We are helpless to defeat our enemies of sin and death, but God sent Jesus to save us by dying for our sin and rising again.

***Pray:** God, thank You for being our Defender! When we had no hope to save ourselves, You sent Jesus to defeat sin and give eternal life to all who choose to believe and follow Him. Amen.*



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LORD, there is no one like you. You are great; your name is great in power. Who should not fear you, King of the nations? It is what you deserve.

Jeremiah 10:6-7a



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Thank Jesus for defeating sin through the cross and conquering death through His resurrection. Think about this battle He has already won and how you can face today with courage because He is victorious!

Evenings

Ask God for courage to step out in faith and do what He calls you to do. Why can you trust God to be with you when you serve Him?



Family Activities

For Fun

Work together to build a cardboard box tower that is nine feet, nine inches tall. Use a small pillow or beanbag to try to knock the tower over. Discuss how intimidating a warrior that tall would have been.

To Serve

Visit a city park on a hot day to pass out bottled water. Talk with people to form new friendships. Invite them to your church if the opportunities arise. Remind kids that water is a basic need of all people—especially on a hot day—but our greatest need is Jesus! Like God used David to defeat the giant enemy, God sent Jesus to conquer sin and death for us!



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

DAVID SHOWED MERCY



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of 1 Samuel 24 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

After the American Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln became known for his mercy by issuing pardons to many soldiers who had fought in the war. President Lincoln wanted to reunite a divided country, and he knew that showing mercy was the way to peacefully move forward. It's unknown how many pardons Abraham Lincoln issued, but his actions left an impression on history and brought healing to the United States.

Saul was out to kill David. When David had the chance to get revenge, he showed mercy. David's act of mercy demonstrated that he was committed to doing what was right, even when it was difficult. He trusted that God would handle the situation.

When someone wrongs us, it can be tempting to get even, but God calls us to trust Him. Trusting God means believing that He has a plan and that He will work things out in His time. Therefore, we can choose to show kindness and mercy. And the greatest help in showing mercy is remembering that God has shown us such great mercy by sending His Son, Jesus, to die in our place.

Saul was trying to kill David, but David chose to show Saul mercy. When the people were killing Jesus, He showed them mercy and said, "Father, forgive them." We all sin, but God shows us mercy through Jesus, who died for our sin and rose again.

***Pray:** God, help us trust You with our problems and reflect Your love in our actions. Thank You for Your mercy towards us through Jesus. Help us to extend that same mercy to others. Amen.*



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to help you reflect His mercy today. Ask God to give you opportunities to show kindness and forgiveness to others and ask Him to also give the strength you need to do so.

Evenings

Praise God for His unmatched kindness and mercy towards us. How have you seen God's mercy in your life? How can you remember His kindness and reflect it to others?



Family Activities

For Fun

Set up an obstacle course through your house or backyard that includes four stations where family members must stop in the course. At each station, give a scenario such as "Your friend accidentally spills soda on you"; "A classmate cuts in line"; or "Someone forgets to return your toy." Ask the family member to tell how they would show mercy in the situation. Consider tailoring the scenarios to current struggles your children may be facing. Encourage each family member to think of a different answer to the scenario. If your family has older kids, allow them to provide additional scenarios for the game.

To Serve

Organize a neighborhood food drive to collect donations for a local food pantry. Set a date for the food drive and create flyers and posters to promote the event. Ask neighbors to simply put food on their porch or beside their mailbox on the given date. As a family, walk through the neighborhood and collect the food donations to give to the food pantry.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

DAVID BECAME KING



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of 2 Samuel 5:1-4; 7 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

Hoshi Ryokan, a hotel in Japan, is the oldest family business in the world. The hotel was started in 718, and it has been owned and operated by the same family every day since. The business has now been passed down through forty-six generations!

It's rare to see something like a home, farm, or business pass from generation to generation without interruption. David probably felt shocked and honored when God promised that someone from his family would be king forever. In an age when kings would rise and fall, God's promise shows how powerful He is to keep the family of David on the throne forever. Only God can keep such a promise!

God made another promise. He promised to send a Savior who would rescue people from sin. The promised Savior is Jesus. Jesus came from the family of David and is now the King of kings who sits on the throne forever!

God promised to build a forever kingdom through David's family. This promise is fulfilled in Jesus, a descendant of David. Jesus is King over everything, and anyone who trusts in Him is welcomed into His forever kingdom.

***Pray:** God, You always keep Your promises. You kept Your promise to David, and You kept Your promise to the world by sending Jesus as the Savior. Help us believe in Your promise of eternal life for all who choose to trust in Jesus. Amen.*



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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to help you discover His plans for your life. Ask Him to remind you that His plans are better than your own plans. How can knowing God better—who He is and what He has done—help you trust in His plans for your life?

Evenings

Praise God for always keeping His promises! Thank Him for the ways His faithfulness increases your faith in Him. How was God faithful to David? How has God been faithful to you?



Family Activities

For Fun

Look together at wedding pictures. If you are not married, show wedding pictures of close friends or extended family members. Explain that in a wedding, the husband and wife promise each other and God to be faithful to each other for their lives. Discuss how God made an everlasting promise to David that was fulfilled in Jesus.

To Serve

Volunteer to serve with a ministry of your church for the next four weeks. Talk as a family about the volunteer opportunity and how important it is to honor the commitment made to the church. Talk with kids about how God is always faithful to keep the commitments He makes to His people. We can always trust God to keep His promises!



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

DAVID SINNED AND WAS RESTORED



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of 2 Samuel 11:1–12:14 and Psalm 51 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

Have you ever been in the kitchen when your mom is icing a cake that smells and looks Every year, more than 62,000 wildfires erupt in the United States. These wildfires destroy more than 7 million acres of land each year. The worst part of all is that human carelessness is the main cause for these devastating fires. Many of them start with just a spark and burn for months!

The thought of one spark leading to a devastating wildfire reminds us of what happened in King David's life. David sinned against God by inviting Bathsheba to his palace. This was the spark of sin that fanned into a wildfire of sin. David's disobedience continued as he took another man's wife, had the man killed in battle, and tried to cover up his sins with lies.

David tried to hide his sin from God, but nothing is hidden from Him. Like the devastation caused by wildfires, David's sin had major consequences in his life.

Sin continues to wreak havoc in our lives too. We face consequences here and now when we disobey, but the greatest consequence is that sin separates us from God. It causes us to miss out on the relationship with God that we were created to have. But there is good news! The good news of Jesus is that He came to take our sin and all its consequences on Himself. He died in our place and then came back to life to offer eternal life to all who trust in Him.

When David admitted his sin before the Lord, he was forgiven. When we confess our sins to the Lord and believe in Jesus, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

***Pray:** God, You are great, and nothing is hidden from You. Even when our sin deserves to be punished, You loved the world enough to send Jesus. Help us confess our sin and seek the forgiveness You offer to us through Jesus. Amen.*

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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Thank God for the forgiveness He made available through Jesus. Think of Jesus' sacrifice and the peace it brings to those who trust in Him. How can we share the hope found in Jesus with others? Why is it important for us to tell others about Jesus' sacrifice?

Evenings

Ask God to guard you from sin and the consequences that come with sin. Ask Him to give you delight in His Word so that it can help you not sin against Him. How does reading God's Word help you to grow closer to Him? How can staying near to God help you to avoid the temptation of sin?



Family Activities

For Fun

Re-enact Nathan's story of the rich man, the poor man, and the sheep, using marshmallows or a favorite treat to represent the sheep and two family members to represent the rich man and the poor man. Discuss how the story represents David and what he did when he took another man's wife.

To Serve

Gather toiletry items and non-perishable snacks that can be donated to meet the needs of a homeless shelter or handed out to individuals you might encounter as a family. Remind kids that God has provided for our greatest need by sending Jesus to save us from our sin.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

SOLOMON BECAME KING



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of the book of 1 Kings 2:1-4,10-12; 3:1-15 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

If you could ask for anything in the world, what would you ask for? You might ask for money, fame, or superhero powers. You could even ask for a lifetime supply of candy, but then you'd probably need to ask for a dentist!

When God gave Solomon the chance to ask for anything in the world, Solomon asked God for wisdom. Solomon wanted wisdom to know right from wrong and to help him honor God as king over Israel. God gave Solomon the wisdom he requested, and God added to it long life, riches, and honor. Solomon became the greatest king of his generation, and all of Israel was blessed because of the gifts God had given to him.

James 1:5 says, "Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God—who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly—and it will be given to him." God wants to give us wisdom to know Him and how to honor Him with our lives. He wants us to know what is right and good so that we can follow Him even when it's hard. Most of all, God wants to give us the wisdom to believe in Jesus and trust in Him as Lord!

God gave Solomon wisdom to lead His people. Jesus is wisdom, and He leads those who trust in Him to eternal life. When we follow Jesus, we become wise.

Pray: God, thank You for the gift of wisdom. Give us wisdom to know You and to know the forgiveness you provide through Jesus. Amen.



Family Worship Experience

LEARN SCRIPTURE

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**Don't be wise in your own eyes; fear
the LORD and turn away from evil.**

Proverbs 3:7



Family Worship Experience

SING SCRIPTURE

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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to give you wisdom for today. Ask Him to guide you in the choices you make today and in the conversations you have with others. Why do you think God wants to give us wisdom? How does the wisdom of knowing God help us obey Him?

Evenings

Praise God for His never-failing plans for your life. Ask Him to help you trust in His plans even when you don't understand. How can we know that God has a plan for our lives? Why can we always trust in His plans?



Family Activities

For Fun

Take turns answering the question, "What would you ask God for if He gave you the same opportunity He gave to Solomon?" Write down each family member's response on a poster board. Talk about how each request might be a good or bad choice depending on how it was used. Discuss why Solomon asked for wisdom and why it was the best request!

To Serve

Choose a local charity or ministry organization to bless with gifts. Call them to ask what they would ask for if they could have anything to help them in their ministry. As a family, deliver some gifts to the organization and pray with them for the work God has called them to do.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

SOLOMON BUILT THE TEMPLE



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of 1 Kings 6–8 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

Do you get excited when your grandparents or another relative is coming to visit? To get ready for their visit, the whole family begins cleaning the house, preparing special meals, and making special plans to entertain them. You pull out all the stops to welcome them and spend quality time with them while they're staying with you.

When Solomon became king, the people of Israel spent seven years building a temple for God. The temple had cedar panels with ornamental flowers. The furniture and equipment were made of bronze, and everything inside the temple was covered in pure gold!

Every detail of the temple was special. The people worked hard to prepare a place for God to come and dwell with them. It was worth their effort to have a place where they could spend time with God and know that He was with them!

The first chapter of John describes Jesus like this: "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We observed his glory, the glory as the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). We no longer need to go to a temple to visit God because He came to us! All who believe in Jesus and trust in Him receive eternal life, which means we will dwell with Him forever and ever!

Solomon built the temple, but he knew that the fullness of God did not live there. Jesus is the fullness of God, and He came to dwell on earth (John 1:14). Only those who trust in Him will be forgiven of their sin and live with God forever.

***Pray:** God, You created the universe and rule over everything, but You still love us and want to live with us. We praise You for giving Israel the temple to know that You were with them, and we thank You for the promise of eternal life through Jesus—to know that we can live with You forever! Amen.*



Family Worship Experience

LEARN SCRIPTURE

The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.



**Don't be wise in your own eyes; fear
the LORD and turn away from evil.**

Proverbs 3:7



Family Worship Experience

SING SCRIPTURE

Finish your family worship experience by playing the Key Passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Thank God for your local church and the people who worship with you each week. Although we no longer need a building, we can thank God for the community and facility He gives us to worship Him. What are some ways you can support your local church?

Evenings

Thank God for the Holy Spirit who is God living with and in every person who trusts in Jesus. Praise God for sending His Spirit as a reminder of the promise of eternal life.



Family Activities

For Fun

Look up some beautiful church buildings in your neighborhood or town and drive together to look at them. Discuss how the beauty of these buildings honors and glorifies God, but that we don't need a beautiful building to meet with God. Because of Jesus, we can meet with God anywhere.

To Serve

Volunteer to clean inside or pick up sticks outside for your local church. As you work, talk with kids about how we no longer need a building to worship God. At the same time, we can work to make the building more beautiful to draw the attention of the community and introduce them to Jesus!



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

SOLOMON THOUGHT ABOUT LIFE



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of Ecclesiastes 1:1-11 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

Calvin Seibert is a professional artist who specializes in creating beautiful and intricate sandcastles. Using simple tools like plastic buckets, trowels, and his hands, Seibert turns piles of sand into geometric, architectural masterpieces. However, Seibert knows that no matter how detailed and beautiful his sandcastles are, they will eventually be washed away by the tide.

In the book of Ecclesiastes, Solomon was trying to show us that life without God can feel like we're just building sandcastles. We might try to find happiness in toys, games, or being popular, but those things don't last. Only God can give us true joy and purpose.

It's easy to spend all our time thinking about what new toy we want or how we want to be liked by all our friends. But Ecclesiastes reminds us to focus on what's important: knowing God, loving others, and doing good things that please Him. When we focus on loving God and helping others, life has meaning! The things we do for God will last forever.

People spend their lives trying to get riches, power, and fame, but none of it lasts. Only a life spent trusting in Jesus as Savior and following Him will matter in the end. Jesus lived, died, and rose again so we could find purpose in Him and be with God forever.

***Pray:** God, thank You for reminding us that real happiness and purpose come from You. Help us not chase after things that don't last but focus on what really matters—loving You and loving others. Amen.*



Family Worship Experience

LEARN SCRIPTURE

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the LORD and turn away from evil.**

Proverbs 3:7



Family Worship Experience

SING SCRIPTURE

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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to help you see things you and others can do for His glory. Ask for His help in chasing after those things today. Why is it important to pay attention to the things God is doing and asking us to do each day? How does seeing those opportunities help us to pursue the things that will last?

Evenings

Praise God for sending Jesus to be the Savior and King who reigns forever and ever. Thank God for providing forgiveness and salvation for us that lasts forever. How does the eternal work of Jesus help us live for things that will last? How does the promise of eternal life remind us that our lives are meant for more than temporary things?



Family Activities

For Fun

On a big sheet of paper, ask family members to draw pictures or write about things that make them happy for a little while (like toys, games, or snacks). Then, on the other side, draw things that last forever and make God happy (like showing kindness, loving others, and praying). Hang the sheet up in your kitchen or living room to remind your family that what we do for God is what really matters!

To Serve

Work with church leadership to research the history of your church. Discover who the founding leaders and members were who faithfully worshiped God together when your church first began meeting. If these founding leaders and members are still living, write them notes of thanks for their faithfulness to the Lord's church. Pray together as a family, thanking God for your church and for new churches meeting around the world.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

THE QUEEN OF SHEBA VISITED SOLOMON



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of 1 Kings 10:1-13 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

Barnaby Swinburn is a British boy who is incredibly smart! In January 2024, at just 12 years old, Barnaby scored 162 on an IQ test he received for Christmas. His IQ score is believed to be higher than geniuses like Albert Einstein, and it placed Barnaby in the top 1% of the population. Sounds like Barnaby is super smart!

When God gave Solomon the wisdom he asked for, people from other parts of the world heard about Solomon. When the queen of Sheba heard about Solomon, she wanted to know if he was truly as wise as the rumors she'd heard. When she talked with Solomon and saw his kingdom, the queen knew that Solomon was blessed.

Solomon's wisdom came from God. When people saw the way Solomon ruled with justice and righteousness, it was a picture of the God who had given Solomon that wisdom. In an even greater way, God shows us His justice and righteousness by sending Jesus to save sinners. Jesus is greater than Solomon because He comes with the highest wisdom, greatest authority, and perfect righteousness.

The queen of Sheba was amazed at the wisdom God had given King Solomon. The people who heard Jesus teach were amazed at His wisdom, authority, and power. Jesus has all wisdom, authority, and power because He is God's Son who came to live, die, and rise again.

***Pray:** Thank You, God, for showing us Your justice and righteousness through Solomon and even more through Jesus. Help us trust in Your wisdom over all the other treasures of this world. Most of all, help us see how Jesus is perfect wisdom and perfect righteousness for us. Amen.*



Family Worship Experience

LEARN SCRIPTURE

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the LORD and turn away from evil.**

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Family Worship Experience

SING SCRIPTURE

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Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to give you wisdom for the situations you will encounter today. Ask Him to help you use the gifts He gives you to help others and show His goodness to them. If God was pleased that Solomon asked for wisdom, how do you think He feels when we ask for wisdom?

Evenings

Thank God for the wisdom of His Word, the Bible. Praise God for giving us all 66 books of the Bible to help us learn about Him, see His plan to save us through Jesus, and show us how to live for Him. How has the Bible been wisdom to help you?



Family Activities

For Fun

Decorate a small box or jar as a “Wisdom Box.” Every time you have a question or a problem you need help with, write it down on a slip of paper and put it in the box. Ask God to help you find the answers in His Word or from the wise advice of others. After some time, check back and see how God has helped you through those challenges! Use the same slips of paper to record the ways God’s wisdom helps you and celebrate His goodness toward your family.

To Serve

Research organizations that help translate the Bible for people groups who don’t have the Bible in their language. Discuss how God’s Word is wisdom for these people and why we want to help put Scripture into their language to help them know God. Pray for the people groups who will receive the Bible in their language. Ask God to give them wisdom to know Him and believe in Jesus.



Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

WISDOM OF GOD'S PEOPLE



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of Proverbs 1:1-7; 3:1-12; 4:10-19 from the Bible.



Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

On March 1, 2017, a group of people set the world record for the largest game of telephone. 1,792 participants lined up and passed a message person-to-person to break the previous game record and to raise money for a local charity. It's amazing to see how so many people can come together for a good cause, but one can only imagine how mixed up that message got as it was passed on!

God showed His love to Solomon by giving him wisdom to rule as king over Israel, and God shows us His love by making sure that the wisdom He gave Solomon is passed on to us through the Bible. Wisdom is more than just being smart or getting good grades. It's about knowing the right thing to do and doing it.

The book of Proverbs is full of wisdom to show us how to love God, follow Him, and enjoy life with Him. Proverbs 3:5 reminds us to trust in God with all our hearts and not lean on our own understanding. That means, even when we don't understand everything, we should still trust that God knows what's best for us. When we love and trust God, He gives us wisdom to make better decisions and know right from wrong.

Solomon's proverbs encourage God's people to trust in the Lord. Jesus trusted in God His Father throughout His life on earth, all the way to His death on the cross for our sins. He rose again and continues to lead us to love and trust God the Father.

***Pray:** God, thank You for Your wisdom. Help us trust You with all our hearts and lean on Your understanding, not our own. Please guide us in making good decisions and teach us to listen to the wise advice You put in our lives through Your Word and through others who know You. Amen.*



Family Worship Experience

LEARN SCRIPTURE

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the LORD and turn away from evil.**

Proverbs 3:7



Family Worship Experience

SING SCRIPTURE

Finish your family worship experience by playing the Key Passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



Family Prayer Time

Mornings

Ask God to help you trust Him today—even if you don’t always understand what you’re going through. Ask Him to remind you of His promise to be with you and to guide you at all times. How does God’s presence with you help to face difficult times?

Evenings

Thank God for giving us the Holy Spirit to live with us and in us when we believe in Jesus. Thank God for how the Holy Spirit reminds us of Jesus’ teachings and helps us grow in the wisdom of God’s Word.



Family Activities

For Fun

Draw a large tree on a piece of paper. Use green construction paper to create leaves that can be taped to the tree. On each leaf, write down a wise saying or piece of advice you’ve learned from the Bible or from people in your life. This can be your parents’ advice, Bible verses, or something you’ve learned at church. Talk about the ways God has given us His wisdom and watch how your tree of wisdom grows!

To Serve

Ask those who lead in your church’s children’s ministry to give you a list of Bible storybooks or resources needed in the ministry. Consider purchasing and donating a few of the books or resources as a way of helping younger kids hear God’s wisdom. Pray over the donations and ask God to use the items to teach kids of His goodness and faithfulness.