



# SALT OF THE EARTH

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

WEEK 2

## **FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP IS KIND OF A BIG DEAL.**

The Bible instructs parents to make God front and centre in home life. To teach them at all times of the day about God and his ways (Dt 6:4-7). To show them Jesus and why he is worth following more than anything (Luke 18:15-17). To bring your children up in the training and instruction of the Lord (Eph 6:4). Put simply a parent's primary ministry is to raise their children to be disciples of Jesus.

## **Family Discipleship is the vitally important, yet mostly ordinary spiritual leadership of your family.**

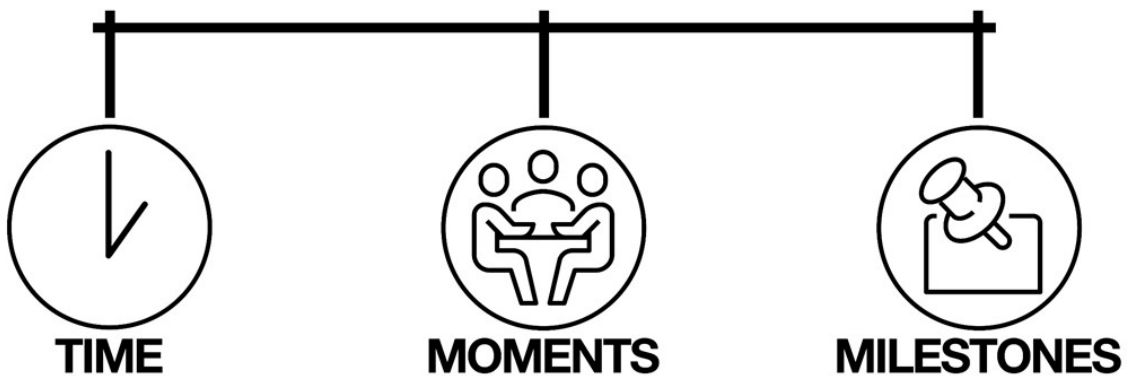
Family discipleship has many facets that come together to help God work in the hearts of our children to make them disciples of Jesus. (The following categories are from the excellent book Family Discipleship by Matt Chandler & Adam Griffin – check it out!)

### **MODELLING**

Serving as a godly example for your family, living out your genuine walk with God, and demonstrating true repentance when you fall short.

## **FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP**

### **MODELLING**



Creating intentional time built into the rhythm of the family's life for the purpose of thinking about, talking about, and living out the gospel.

Capturing and leveraging opportunities in the course of everyday life for the purpose of gospel centred conversations.

Marking and making occasions to celebrate and commemorate significant spiritual milestones of God's work in the life of the family and child.

This Family Discipleship Guide is designed to be a tool for parents to use in creating intentional TIME with the family rhythms to dig into God's word and live out our response to what Jesus has done for us.

We've broken the guide in into 5 parts each with its own specific way of engaging the bible passage our church is looking at this week:

**READ** - read the Bible passage and reflect on what it means for your family.

**KNOW** - know deeper by engaging in creative family activities.

**DO** - work out what all the family should do in response to God.

**FOLLOW** - examine the lives of others who have followed Jesus in the past.

**SING** - listen to and even sing songs that respond with our hearts to Jesus.

You might like to use these as 5 separate daily devotions, or you might like to group some of the sections together to make a couple of family devotional times but leave yourself room to use other resources you've found elsewhere. Remember these are a collection of tools, not rules, for family discipleship time.

# QUICK VIEW

Jesus says we are the salt of the earth, but we can lose our saltiness. We need to keep working at living for Jesus in ways that make us stand out in the world for Him. When we live in ways that stand out for Jesus, then we will also be light of the world, shining so that God can be glorified for the way he works in us.

None of this is possible in our own strength. The Pharisees worked hard at keeping rules in their own strength, but we need to be even better than that. Only Jesus was better than the Pharisees. So it is only when we submit our lives to Jesus and let him work through us that we will be truly salt of the earth, light of the world.

## **Date of Sermon**

25/07

## **Bible Reading**

Matt 5:13-20

## **Big idea**

Jesus tells us as his disciples, we are the 'salt of the earth' – he calls us to have a righteousness that exceeds that of the Pharisees. When people see a community living like this they praise the disciples' Father in heaven.

## **Application**

Spend time reflecting on your security, confidence and identity in Christ, and how you show the distinctiveness of Jesus to the world. Get ready to get specific in weeks to come.

## **Kids Big idea**

Jesus told his disciples that we are the salt of the earth, so our lives should show how great God is.

## **Kids Application**

Spend time thinking and praying about how you show the world you are loved by Jesus

## **Key Verse**

Matt 5:13

## Key Song

Kids Song

This Little Light of Mine



Youth Song

Salt of the Earth by GOSPEL READY



## Moments

Look at themes of flavour this week as you eat. Reflect on Jesus calling us salt of the earth, and how we are called to not lose that saltiness stand out like the flavours we taste.

Also look for opportunities to talk about light shining this week. Reflect on Jesus calling us the light of the world, and how we should not hide it.

## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

We thank you for Jesus Christ, and how his death & resurrection has brought us into your family. Now we are salt of the earth, all because of Jesus. But Lord we know that we can do things to lose out saltiness, and not stand out for Jesus in this world. Lord forgive us and help us to live out being salt & light in the world. And may all the glory go to you.

In Jesus name,

Amen.

# READ

As parents, encourage your family to personally reflect on the Bible passage, and what it means for them. Try to guide this so it lands close to the big idea.

## EARLY YEARS

Read Matthew 5:13-16 (NIRV)

What does it mean that we are the salt of the earth (v.13)?

What does it mean that we are the light of the world (v. 14)?

## KIDS

Read Matthew 5:13-20

What does it mean that we are the salt of the earth (v.13)?

How can we lose our saltiness?

What does it mean that we are the light of the world (v. 14)?

How does being salt of the earth help us be the light of the world?

## YOUTH

Read Matthew 5:13-20

What does it mean that we are the salt of the earth (v.13)?

How can we lose our saltiness?

What does it mean that we are the light of the world (v. 14)?

How does being salt of the earth help us be the light of the world?

Verse 20 shows the high standard God expects. How can you hope to achieve that?

Dear Heavenly Father,

We thank you for Jesus Christ, and how his death & resurrection has brought us into your family. Now we are salt of the earth, all because of Jesus. But Lord we know that we can do things to lose out saltiness, and not stand out for Jesus in this world. Lord forgive us and help us to live out being salt & light in the world. And may all the glory go to you.

In Jesus name,  
Amen.

## PRAY



# KNOW

As parents, encourage your family to know with their head and their hearts what God is teaching you this week.

## ALL AGES

Make/buy some unsalted popcorn.

Have two bowls – one with unsalted popcorn, one with salted popcorn. Get everyone in the family or growth group to have some of each and compare the taste.

Is it clear which one is salty?

What does the salt do for the taste of the popcorn?

As the salt of the earth we should stand out clearly in the world. We need to bring Jesus flavour to everything we say & do. It should be as obvious as the salty popcorn that we follow Jesus. If we lost that saltiness then we are no good for anything. But if we keep it we will stand out for Jesus and people will see God working in us, and glorify our Father in heaven.



Do some 'popcorn' prayer.

Prayers 'pop' around from person to person as each person says one quick sentence of praise or prayer. And don't worry if two people end up praying at once. God hears all our popcorn prayers.

## PRAY

## DO

As parents, encourage your family to work out real and practical ways they can respond to God in light of the Bible passage. Land the application in this section.

## EARLY YEARS

Go and look at a light switch together. Make it a goal that whenever a light gets turned on this week that you pray for a friend who doesn't know Jesus. Pray that God can use you to be salt of the earth and light of the world for them.

## KIDS & YOUTH

Get each family or growth group member to identify one area of their life where they are not the salt of the earth & light of the world enough (an area of life where they do not stand out for Jesus enough). Then get each family member to identify how they will better stand out for Jesus this coming week.

Write them down on a piece of paper and put it on the fridge.

We will revisit this list next week to see how each family or growth group member is going.

Gather in a circle and get each person to pray for the family member on their left about the area of their life they will work on.

## PRAY



# FOLLOW

As parents, encourage your family by looking at the lives of people who have followed Jesus throughout history.

## EY & KIDS

What is the highest number you can count to? Ten? A hundred? A thousand? A million?

When Dwight Moody was around you would have had to count up to big numbers indeed. Dwight told a hundred million people about Jesus and a million of them became Jesus' friends!

Dwight became Jesus' friend when he was a young man working in a shoe shop. Straight away he started telling his friends and family how they could be Jesus' friends too. Soon he set up a Sunday school for the poor children in Chicago in America, where he lived. Lots and lots of children heard how they could be Jesus' friend too. He set up a meeting for grown-ups, and lots and lots of them heard how they could be Jesus' friend. He travelled to England, Scotland and Ireland, and lots and lots and lots of people came to hear him tell them how they could be Jesus' friends too. When he went back to America even more people came to hear him - lots and lots and lots and lots, thousands and thousands and thousands, millions and millions and millions!

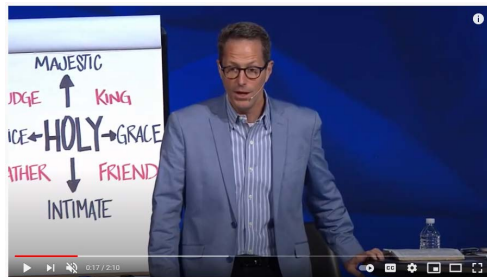
Dwight set up a college to train other people to tell even more millions and millions how Jesus could be their friend too. Who could you tell about Jesus today?

From 'Everyone a Child Should Know' by Clare Heath-Whyte

## YOUTH

Watch this short story of how God used one man to call Dwight L. Moody to become a Christian.

And then God used Dwight L. Moody to tell millions of people about the good news of Jesus



The Story of D.L. Moody  
1,887 views · Sep 17, 2019

Here are some quotes by Dwight L. Moody

“We are told to let our light shine, and if it does, we won't need to tell anybody it does. Lighthouses don't fire cannons to call attention to their shining – they just shine.”

“A man ought to live so that everybody knows he is a Christian... and most all, his family ought to know.”

Dear Lord,  
We thank you for Dwight L. Moody and the way he shared Jesus with millions of people around the world. We also thank you for Edward Kimball who shared Jesus with Dwight L. Moody. Lord may you keep spreading the good news of Jesus all over the world, even using people just like us.  
In Jesus name,  
Amen.

## PRAY

# SING

As parents, encourage listen and even sing along together to songs that are a great way of responding with our hearts to what we are growing in together.

## EY & KDIS

### This Little Light of Mine



## YOUTH

### Salt of the Earth by GOSPEL READY



Lord thank you for music and how it encourages us.  
Lord keep my heart praising you day & night.  
In Jesus name,  
Amen

## PRAY