



BELIEVE + LIVE
CONVERSATIONS
WITH JESUS

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



HI FAMILIES

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.

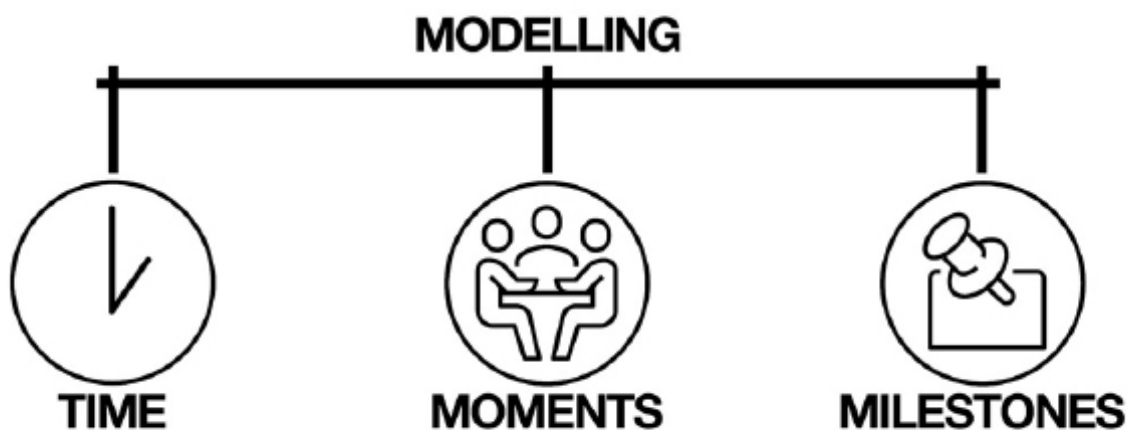
Family Discipleship is the vitally important, yet mostly ordinary spiritual leadership of your family.

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



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, Word of God

Date of Sermon

30th Jan 2022

Bible Reading

John 1:1-18

Big idea

Jesus makes God known to us

Application

Know God through the person of Jesus:

Come to church, read the bible, pray regularly: to know the person of Jesus

Kids Big idea

Jesus makes God known to us.

Kids Application

Know God through the person of Jesus:

Come to church, read the bible, pray regularly: to know the person of Jesus

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.

Read John 1:1-18 Together

In the beginning, the Word was already there. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 All things were made through him. Nothing that has been made was made without him. 4 Life was in him, and that life was the light for all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness. But the darkness has not overcome the light.

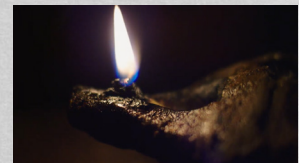
6 There was a man sent from God. His name was John. 7 He came to be a witness about that light. He was a witness so that all people might believe. 8 John himself was not the light. He came only as a witness to the light.

9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. 10 The Word was in the world. And the world was made through him. But the world did not recognize him. 11 He came to what was his own. But his own people did not accept him. 12 Some people did accept him and did believe in his name. He gave them the right to become children of God. 13 To be a child of God has nothing to do with human parents. Children of God are not born because of human choice or because a husband wants them to be born. They are born because of what God does. 14 The Word became a human being. He made his home with us. We have seen his glory. It is the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father. And the Word was full of grace and truth.

15 John was a witness about the Word. John cried out and said, "This was the one I was talking about. I said, 'He who comes after me is more important than I am. He is more important because he existed before I was born.'" 16 God is full of grace. From him we have all received grace in place of the grace already given. 17 In the past, God gave us grace through the law of Moses. Now, grace and truth come to us through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God. But the One and Only is God and is at the Father's side. The one at the Father's side has shown us what God is like.

OR Watch & Listen

LUMO-GOSPEL OF JOHN CHAPTER 1:1-18 on Youtube



EY
+
K

Read John 1:1-18 together as a family.

After reading the passage together, discuss what stands out to each of you.

Now watch this video retell of the passage by The Gospel Project to help enhance your understanding:

The Gospel Project for Kids: Christmas (John 1) on Youtube



Y

Read John 1:1-18 together as a family.

Now read the passage a second time but this time substitute 'JESUS' anywhere 'THE WORD' is mentioned in the passage.

What does this passage help us learn about who Jesus is, what he is like, and what he came to do?

Begin to make a list of all the ways Jesus is described in this passage.

(The Word, God, Life & Light for all people, True Light, Human being, The One and Only, Full of Grace & Truth, Jesus CHRIST...)

Keep this list in a safe place, we'll add to it over the coming weeks.

Pray

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for sending your son Jesus so we can know you.

As we learn more about Jesus and what he's like, help us remember we're also learning you and what you're like. Help us to be closer friends with you. - Amen

KNOW

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

EY Spend some time as a family thinking about your favourite superheroes.
What makes them special?
Where did they come from?
Are they just human, or do they have special powers?

Read John 1:1-5&14 together as a family. As you read together have your kids yell 'JESUS' anywhere 'THE WORD' is mentioned in the passage. Explain that 'The Word' is a special name (nickname) given to Jesus. Just like Bruce Wayne is 'Batman', or Clark Kent is 'Superman', Jesus is 'The Word'.

What have you learned about Jesus from this passage?
Is He just human, or does He have special powers?

He is God (v.1); All things were made through Him (v.3)

Where did He come from?

He was there from the beginning, with God (v.1) He came to earth to be with us (v.14)

What makes Him special?

He was with God, and he IS God (v.1)

K Read John 1:1-18 together as a family.
Now read the passage a second time but this time together as you read together have your kids yell 'JESUS' anywhere 'THE WORD' is mentioned in the passage.
What does this passage help us learn about who Jesus is, what he is like, and what he came to do?

Who was with God in the beginning?

The Word/Jesus

What does verse 1 say about God and the Word/Jesus?

The Word/Jesus was God

How can we know God better?

By getting to know Jesus we also get to know God, because Jesus/The Word is God.

Y Watch this video together as a family to help you understand John 1:1-18.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XgslCbXOOIE&ab_channel=BibleProject



What is significant about verse 1?

It reflects the start of Genesis 1. Jesus was there in the beginning with God, and he was God.

What choice do people face when Jesus (God's light) enters the world?

They could reject him, or accept him and become children of God. (v.9-13)

Verse 14 says: "The Word became a human being. He made his home with us. We have seen his glory. It is the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father." Why is this important?

Like in the tabernacle in the old testament, Jesus came to be the way people are united back with God. Knowing Jesus is the best way we can know and learn about God.

Pray

Dear God,

Thankyou for sending Jesus into the world to show us what you're really like and to make us your children.

Help us to get to know you through the person of Jesus, your son.

-Amen

ENGAGE

As parents, encourage your family to reflect on the bible passage and the big idea through a creative/active/engaging activity.

EY Write the words 'Created things' & 'Uncreated Things' on two different papers. Have a series of pictures/words to sort, place each picture on the corresponding piece of paper. (Eg. God, animals, humans, earth, stars)
Make sure you also have a picture of a cross to represent Jesus.
Where would you put Jesus?

According to John 1:3 He belongs in the Uncreated things with God. He's been around since the beginning with God, because he IS God. He helped CREATE all things.

K Spend some time as a family thinking about your favourite superheroes. What makes them special? Where did they come from? Are they just human, or do they have special powers?

Read or review John 1:1-5&14 together as a family. Explain that 'The Word' is a special name (nickname) given to Jesus. Just like Bruce Wayne is 'Batman', or Clark Kent is 'Superman', Jesus is 'The Word'.

What have you learned about Jesus from John 1?
Is He just human, or does He have special powers?

He is God (v.1); All things were made through Him (v.3)

Where did He come from?

He was there from the beginning, with God (v.1) He came to earth to be with us (v.14)

What makes Him special?

He was with God, and he IS God (v.1)

Draw or make a superhero 'cape' then write all the things we learn about Jesus/God from this passage. Make sure to leave room to add more names as we read the rest of John 1 in the coming weeks.

Y Read or Review John 1:1-18 together as a family. Together or as individuals have a go at writing a poem or song about Jesus from what you've learned about who Jesus is from this passage. Maybe refer to your list of the descriptions of Jesus in the passage to help you.

Pray

Dear God,

Thanks for sending Jesus to help us know you better. As we learn more about you help us to live the lives you want us to.

Amen

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.

EY Consider getting the book 'Any Time, Any Place, Any Prayer', or watch this video of it being read. Then talk as a family about how prayer can help you grow closer to God:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OI2S6bwLXf4&ab_channel=TheGoodBookCompany



K Review or Re-Read John 1:1-18 together as a family.
Discuss how Jesus makes God known to us.
What are some ways we can get to know God better by getting to know Jesus better?
Being involved at church, reading the bible regularly, talking to God through prayer.

Y Think about your best friends.
How do you know them?
How much do you know about them?
What things do you do to stay connected with them, and know them better?
How do you know God?
What things can you do to stay connected to Him, and know Him better?

Pray

Take time to pray for each other individually.
Pray that you each will get to know God better through his son.

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 Listen to this song by Hillsong Kids and be reminded that Jesus, the GodMan, is better than any superhero ... he is God with us.

Jesus You're My Superhero – Hillsong Kids

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bx_p3iuo2iA&ab_channel=Pete



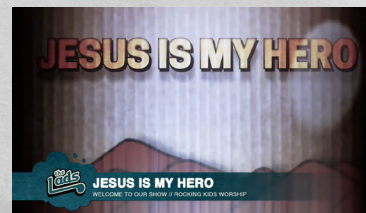
K Listen to these songs we sing in kids church that reminds us that Jesus was there in the beginning when the world was created, and that he wants to be our best friend, and our hero.

Creator – The Lads

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPkA71b7f0Q&ab_channel=UkarauKakepare

Jesus is my hero – The Lads

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=veoWQ5LfZ00&ab_channel=BigBigWorship



Y Listen to this song you might remember from kids church that reminds us that Jesus was there in the beginning when the world was created, and that he wants to be our best friend.

Creator – The Lads

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPkA71b7f0Q&ab_channel=UkarauKakepare



Pray

Dear God,

Thanks for sending Jesus to show us what you're really like; to help us know you better; and to make us your children. Helps us to grow closer to you and grow to be the people you want us to be.

Amen

