



BELIEVE + LIVE
CONVERSATIONS
WITH JESUS

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



WEEK 7

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.

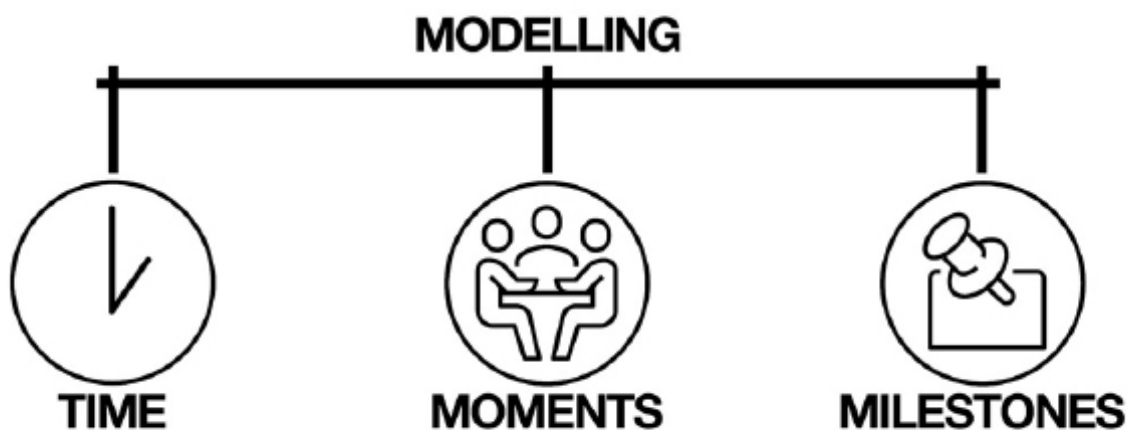
Family Discipleship is the vitally important, yet mostly ordinary spiritual leadership of your family.

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

More Jesus

Date of Sermon

13 March 2022

Bible Reading

John 3:22-36

Big idea

We must become less and Jesus must become greater.

Application

Reorder your priorities

Kids Big idea

It's not about us, it's about Jesus.

Kids Application

Put your energy into serving your friend Jesus, and enjoy Him being made great.

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 3:22-36 Together

After this, Jesus and his disciples went out into the countryside of Judea. There he spent some time with them. And he baptized people there. 23 John was also baptizing. He was at Aenon near Salim, where there was plenty of water. People were coming and being baptized. 24 This was before John was put in prison. 25 Some of John's disciples and a certain Jew began to argue. They argued about special washings to make people "clean." 26 They came to John and here is what they said to him. "Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan River is baptizing people. He is the one you told us about. Everyone is going to him." 27 John replied, "A person can receive only what God gives them from heaven. 28 You yourselves are witnesses that I said, 'I am not the Messiah. I was sent ahead of him.' 29 The bride belongs to the groom. The friend who helps the groom waits and listens for him. He is full of joy when he hears the groom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. 30 He must become more important. I must become less important. 31 "The one who comes from above is above everything. The one who is from the earth belongs to the earth and speaks like someone from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above everything. 32 He is a witness to what he has seen and heard. But no one accepts what he says. 33 Anyone who has accepted it has said, 'Yes. God is truthful.' 34 The one whom God has sent speaks God's words. That's because God gives the Holy Spirit without limit. 35 The Father loves the Son and has put everything into his hands. 36 Anyone who believes in the Son has eternal life. Anyone who does not believe in the Son will not have life. God's anger remains on them."

OR Watch & Listen

[LUMO-GOSPEL OF JOHN CHAPTER 3:22-36](#)

EY

Read John 3:22-36 together as a family. As you do pay attention to the different feelings/emotions of each of the people in the story. Stop and point to the corresponding emoji on the feelings chart as you encounter a new character in the reading.

K

Read John 3:22-36 together as a family. As you do pay attention to the different feelings/emotions of each of the people in the story. Stop and point to the corresponding emoji on the feelings chart as you encounter a new character in the reading.

How do you feel knowing Jesus is the promised messiah/saviour they were waiting for?

Y









Read John 3:22-36 together as a family. As you do pay attention to the different feelings/emotions of each of the people in the story. Make a list of each of the characters in the reading and their emotions. Take some time to consider what you might have felt in the same situation and why.

How do you feel knowing Jesus is the promised messiah/saviour they were waiting for?

PRAY

Heavenly Father,
Thank you for offering us new life through your son Jesus.
Help us to be excited about how great YOU are and not be distracted by the good gifts you give us.
Amen

FEELINGS CHART

		
SCARED	HAPPY	SAD
		
ANGRY	EXCITED	WORRIED
		
SURPRISED	SILLY	FRUSTRATED

KNOW

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

EY Review John 3:22-36 together as a family then watch this video:

+ **Christ Church Anglican Lavender Bay - John 3,22 36 He must become greater kids spot**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NeXkDixWdrM>

K In what ways had God blessed John the Baptist?

How did he and his disciples feel when Jesus started getting more attention?
How has God blessed you?

How can you use God's blessings to point other people to him?

Y Re-read John 3:22-36 together as a family.

What do John the Baptist's disciples tell him is happening? See John 3:25-26
What is their concern?

They're concerned John's followers are leaving him to follow Jesus.

How does John respond to the concern expressed by his disciples? See John 3:28-30

John reminds them that he is the Messiah/the promised rescuer.

How does John describe Jesus' identity in verse 31?

John describes Jesus as the one who comes from above, who is above all.

Jesus is from heaven and is more important than anyone else.

How did John view himself in relation to Jesus? See John 3:29

Like the 'best man' at a wedding helps the Groom get ready, John was there to help get people ready for Jesus.

How does John respond to the fact that "everyone is coming to Jesus?" See John 3:29b

It caused him to greatly rejoice.

How can you use God's blessings to point other people to him?

PRAY

Dear God,

Thankyou sending Jesus make a new way for us to have life in your kingdom.

Help us to live like John, and put our energy into serving you and helping people know and enjoy how great you are.

Amen

ENGAGE

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

Family Activity

Have one member of your family read each word on the following list and the three possible definitions that go with it. Then try and guess which one is correct. Only one definition for each is correct.

Wow-wow:

- a. the name of the doggie in the window
- b. a gibbon from Sumatra
- c. a girl in a pink cat-suit

Saraband:

- a. a headband worn by pirates
- b. a pop group led by a girl named Sara
- c. a stately Spanish dance

Timoneer:

- a. a wart on the ear lobe
- b. ship's lookout or helmsman
- c. Irish boy who lives up the road

Yaffle:

- a. to waffle on, speaking nonsense
- b. a green woodpecker
- c. an item of riding table

Skulpin:

- a. a remedy for head injuries
- b. a type of hat pin
- c. picky fish with large head

Herriot:

- a. a small boy's chariot
- b. a fine or tax
- c. a Yorkshire vet

Conventicle:

- a. a secret gathering
- b. a gathering of small nuns
- c. a small nun's gathering

Salmagundie:

- a. a little known Eastern author
- b. a mixture of mean and chopped-up eggs
- c. a scots expression for 'Sally - pass my underwear'

Whigmaleerie:

- a. an Irish banshee
- b. a trinket or gewgaw
- c. lively jig danced by bald Scotsmen in hair pieces

Eglantine:

- a. a sweet pudding made with eggs and gelatine
- b. a sweet briar rose
- c. a girls name like 'Clementine'

The true definitions are:

1b ; 2c ; 3b ; 4b ; 5c ; 6b ; 7a ; 8b ; 9b ; 10b

How did you know which were the true definitions?

Some were obviously false, but other were more confusing.

Ultimately you had trust the reader to tell you which definitions were correct.

God's people had been waiting a long time for the Messiah, God's promised rescuer. John the Baptist came to prepare the way for God's promised rescuer, lots of people knew he had important things to say/share. But when some of his followers started following Jesus instead, others got upset that they were deserting John. They were a little confused and thought John was more important than Jesus.

Re-read John 3:27-33 and see how John helped his disciples know that Jesus is the most important person to pay attention to:

John replied, "A person can receive only what God gives them from heaven. 28 You yourselves are witnesses that I said, 'I am not the Messiah. I was sent ahead of him.' 29 The bride belongs to the groom. The friend who helps the groom waits and listens for him. He is full of joy when he hears the groom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. 30 He must become more important. I must become less important.

31 "The one who comes from above is above everything. The one who is from the earth belongs to the earth and speaks like someone from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above everything. 32 He is a witness to what he has seen and heard. But no one accepts what he says. 33 Anyone who has accepted it has said, 'Yes. God is truthful.'

PRAY

Dear God,

Thankyou sending Jesus to show us the way to your kingdom.

Help us to make you the most important thing in our lives.

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

Review John 3:22-36 together as a family.

Remember that John lived his whole life telling people to get ready to follow God's promised rescuer. Then when Jesus came, he was happy for others to follow Jesus instead of him because Jesus was more important. Why not watch this video to remember how John lived, and how it shows us to put our energy into serving our friend Jesus, and enjoying Him being made great:

Crossroads Kids' Club - God's Story: John the Baptist

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7NMHOLPWeTM&t=127s&ab_channel=CrossroadsKids%27Club

What things can you do yourself, or in your family, to serve your friend Jesus?

K

Review John 3:22-36 together as a family.

Do you want to be famous when you grow up?

Do you want to be popular at school and have everyone like you?

What about winning, do you like winning?

Think of all the time and energy you would need to make these things happen.

What if we chose to put our energy into serving Jesus?

This life shouldn't be about us, it should be about Jesus and making him great.

What things can you do yourself, or in your family, to serve your friend Jesus?

Y

Read or review John 3:22-36 together as a family.

Check out this spoken word piece called 'Make Jesus Famous':

<https://youtu.be/Z3fKJVI2JYg>

Do you want to be famous?

Do you want to be popular at school and have everyone like you?

What about winning, do you like winning?

Think of all the time and energy you would need to make these things happen.

What if we chose to put our energy into serving Jesus?

This life shouldn't be about us, it should be about Jesus and making him great.

What things can you do to make Jesus famous?

PRAY

Take time to pray for each other individually.

Take time to pray for the things that you each might need particular help with from the Holy Spirit.

Ask that God will continue to work in each of your lives to help you grow to be the mature followers of Christ that he wants you to be.

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 we sing at kids church that reminds us that Jesus is the most important person to follow and obey, because Jesus is the BOSS.

Jesus is the Boss – EMU Music

<https://youtu.be/3UI01ZPsQC8>

K

Listen to this song we sing at kids church that reminds us of the fruit of God is Great, and we should live for him.

God is Great – Quiz Worx

<https://vimeo.com/686577687/f761796e90>

Listen to this new song we've been learning in kids church that reminds us that God deserves all the praise and glory, not us.

To God All Praise And Glory – The Sing Team

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y3nTSGdS9Jo&ab_channel=GospelSongRecords

Y

Reflect on this song we sometimes sing in church that reminds us of that it's only through Jesus that we have new life, and he deserves to be praised.

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me – City Alight

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwc2d1Xt8gM&ab_channel=CityAlight

PRAY

Dear God,

Thank you for giving us Jesus to make us part of your kingdom. Help us to give you all the glory and not seek it for ourselves.

Amen

