

# Jesus on trial

Week 8 - Light of the World

family

disciples

guide

READ  
KNOW  
ENGAGE  
DO  
SING

# 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.

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.

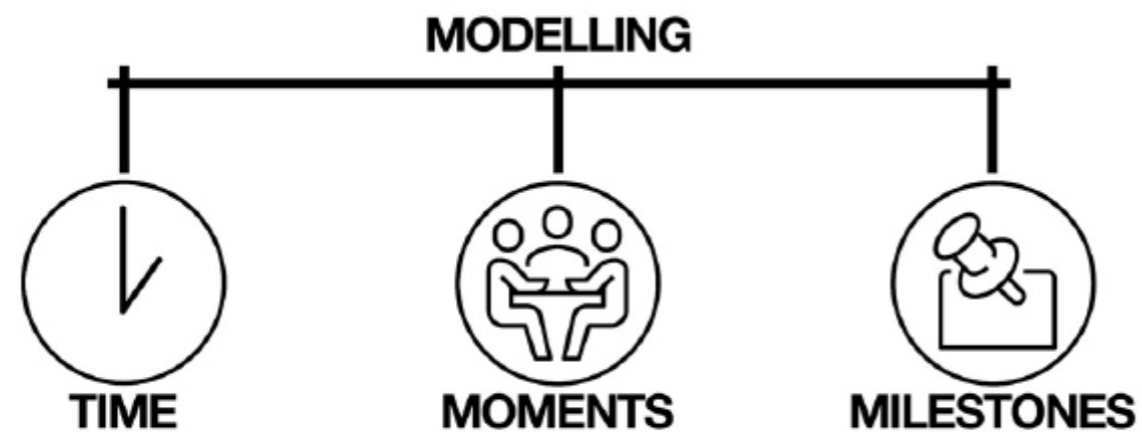
**DO** – work out what all the family should do in response to God.

**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.

## **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.

# Light of the World

## Date of Sermon

12th June 2022

## Bible Reading

John 8:12-30

## Big idea

Jesus is the light of the world

## Application

Know Jesus through the cross

## Kids Big idea

Jesus is the light of the world

## Kids Application

Show people through the cross that Jesus is God

# 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 7:1-24 Together

*[Early years especially might like to read a shorter reading of John 8:12,25-30 and do it in the NIV]*

12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'  
13 The Pharisees challenged him, 'Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid.'  
14 Jesus answered, 'Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going.  
15 You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. 16 But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. 17 In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. 18 I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me.'  
19 Then they asked him, 'Where is your father?' 'You do not know me or my Father,' Jesus replied. 'If you knew me, you would know my Father also.'  
20 He spoke these words while teaching in the temple courts near the place where the offerings were put. Yet no one seized him, because his hour had not yet come.  
Dispute over who Jesus is 21 Once more Jesus said to them, 'I am going away, and you will look for me, and you will die in your sin. Where I go, you cannot come.'  
22 This made the Jews ask, 'Will he kill himself? Is that why he says, "Where I go, you cannot come?"'  
23 But he continued, 'You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. 24 I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am he, you will indeed die in your sins.'  
25 'Who are you?' they asked. 'Just what I have been telling you from the beginning,' Jesus replied. 26 'I have much to say in judgment of you. But he who sent me is trustworthy, and what I have heard from him I tell the world.'  
27 They did not understand that he was telling them about his Father. 28 So Jesus said, 'When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he and that I do nothing on my own but speak just what the Father has taught me. 29 The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases him.'  
30 Even as he spoke, many believed in him.

### OR Watch & Listen

[YOUTUBE - LUMO-GOSPEL OF JOHN CHAPTER 8:12-30](#)

## Early Years & Kids

What do you like about this story?

What is confusing about this story?

Who is important in this story? How do you know?

*Jesus shows his importance through what he says.*

What does this story teach us about Jesus?

*He is the light of the world.*

*He was sent by God the Father.*

*Jesus on the cross ("You will lift up the Son of Man") will ultimately show what he says is true.*

## Pray

Dear Heavenly Father, thank for sending Jesus to be the light of the world. We can trust everything Jesus said and did because you are the one who sent him. Thank you that he died on the cross and rose again. Help me to always believe in Jesus.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

# KNOW

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

## Early Years

Read John 8:12, 25-30

How is Jesus the 'light of the world' (v.12)?

*Those who follow him will know the way to go with their life.*

Who else can you trust about Jesus (v.26)?

*God the Father sent Jesus and can be trusted.*

How will Jesus be lifted up (v. 28)?

*'The Son of Man' is Jesus referring to himself. He will be lifted up on the cross. His death and resurrection will prove that he is truly from God.*

## Kids

Read John 8:12-30

How is Jesus the 'light of the world' (v.12)?

*Those who follow him will know the way to go with their life.*

Who else is a witness to who Jesus really is (v.18)?

*God the Father is witness to Jesus as well.*

Why will those listening not be able to go where Jesus was going (v. 21)?

*Jesus was going to the cross to pay for sin. No one else could do that.*

What will happen to those who don't believe in Jesus (v. 21, 24)?

*They will die in their sins. Be forever separated from God.*

How will Jesus be lifted up (v. 28)? And why will that prove he is who he says he is?

*'The Son of Man' is Jesus referring to himself. He will be lifted up on the cross. His death and resurrection will prove that he is truly from God.*

## Youth

Read John John 8:12-30 together as a family, or you could choose the shorter reading of John 8:12, 25-30.

What motivates the characters to act as they do?

*(Faith? Love? Fear? Anger? Envy? Insecurity? Command by God?)*

Is there any significance to the time or place of the passage that gives meaning to what is happening?

*(If it's the NT, are there any OT links and vice versa? Are there similar scenes in other parts of the bible to contrast and compare?)*

What is the significance of what happens in the passage?

*(What changes as a result of the events of this passage? Is it a personal change? A community change? Are the consequences negative or positive for the different characters?)*

## Pray

Make a list of the claims Jesus makes about himself in this passage.

Take it in turns to pray a prayer of thanks for Jesus being one of those things.

# ENGAGE

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

## Early Years

Build a cubby or blanket fort at home.  
Try to make it as dark as you can inside.  
Either setup some lights inside that you can turn off, or simply get a torch that will help you see in the darkness.

Gather in the blanket fort with your kids.  
Read John 8:12 together.  
Then turn off the light in your cubby.  
Have a chat about how light helps us see the right way to go.  
Then relate it how Jesus is the light of the world who helps us see the right way to go with our life.



## Kids & Youth

Get your kids or youth to each draw a different form of light (e.g. sun, lighthouse, desk lamp, torch, traffic light, fairy lights).  
Each light that is useful in one way or another. Work through how each light is helpful in the darkness.

Now brainstorm ways that Jesus is helpful as the light of the world (e.g. shines light in our dark hearts, drives our darkness and fear, lights the path for our life, purifies us from sin & darkness)

Here are some extra Bible verses you can use as prompts:

- John 1:4-5
- 1 John 1:5
- 1 John 1:7
- Psalm 119:105
- James 1:17
- Genesis 1:3-4

## Pray

Turn all the lights off, except for a single candle or lantern in the middle of the room.

Get each family member/growth group member to say a prayer of thanks for Jesus – the light of the world.



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 & Kids

Play the video 'This Little Light Of Mine' by Listener Kids  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKkblZtqhyQ>



What does it mean to shine your light for Jesus?

*You can shine for Jesus by living like Jesus wants you to AND telling others about him.*

Why is it important to tell people about the cross?

*The cross shows everything Jesus says and did was true. And that we can believe in him.*

How might you shine your light this week/month/year?

*Brainstorm ways you can shine for Jesus.*

## Youth

Read or review John 8:12-30 together as a family.

Who do you relate to the most in this passage? Why? How does that make you feel?

What do we learn about God/Jesus from this passage?

What do you think is the 'lesson' of this passage?

What does this passage hold up as a positive example for us to do? What does this passage hold up as negative examples of what not to do?

What does it look like for us to follow (or not follow) the examples set in this passage as children of God who live in the freedom of God's grace?

# 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.

## Early Years & Kids

Watch 'My Lighthouse' by Rend Co. Kids. Remind your heart that Jesus is the light that will carry safe to shore.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JeJvKkBV6rY>



## Youth

Watch this lyric video of 'Terrify The Dark' by Skillet.

Listen to the words and remind your heart that the light of Jesus tears apart the darkness in the world and in us.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lWsSkL8SMjo>



