

Jesus on trial

Week 9 - Truth and Freedom

family

discuss

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.

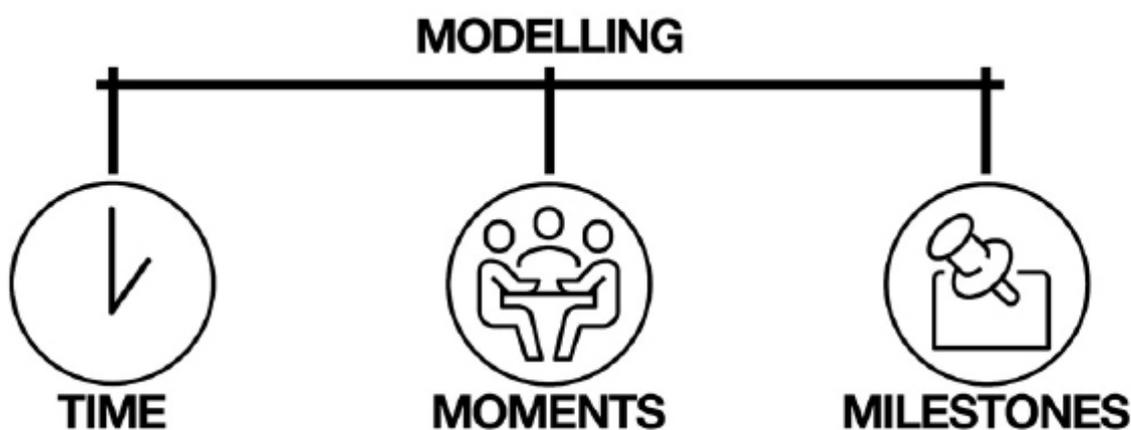
Family Discipleship is the vitally important, yet mostly ordinary spiritual leadership of your family.

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.

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.

Truth and Freedom

Date of Sermon

19th June 2022

Bible Reading

John 8:31-59

Big idea

The truth sets us free

Application

Hold on to the teaching of Jesus

Kids Big idea

The truth about Jesus sets us free

Kids Application

Keep believing the truth about 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 7:1-24 Together

(A shorter reading for young kids is John 8:31-36)

31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, 'If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.'

33 They answered him, 'We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?'

34 Jesus replied, 'Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. 35 Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it for ever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. 37 I know you are Abraham's descendants. Yet you are looking for a way to kill me, because you have no room for my word. 38 I am telling you what I have seen in the Father's presence, and you are doing what you have heard from your father.'

39 'Abraham is our father,' they answered.

'If you were Abraham's children,' said Jesus, 'then you would do what Abraham did. 40 As it is, you are looking for a way to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things. 41 You are doing the works of your own father.'

'We are not illegitimate children,' they protested. 'The only Father we have is God himself.'

42 Jesus said to them, 'If God were your Father, you would love me, for I have come here from God. I have not come on my own; God sent me. 43 Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. 44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. 45 Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! 46 Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? 47 Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God.'

48 The Jews answered him, 'Aren't we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?'

49 'I am not possessed by a demon,' said Jesus, 'but I honour my Father and you dishonour me. 50 I am not seeking glory for myself; but there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge. 51 Very truly I tell you, whoever obeys my word will never see death.'

52 At this they exclaimed, 'Now we know that you are demon-possessed! Abraham died and so did the prophets, yet you say that whoever obeys your word will never taste death. 53 Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?'

54 Jesus replied, 'If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. 55 Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and obey his word. 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.'

57 'You are not yet fifty years old,' they said to him, 'and you have seen Abraham!'

58 'Very truly I tell you,' Jesus answered, 'before Abraham was born, I am!' 59 At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

OR Watch & Listen

[YOUTUBE - LUMO-GOSPEL OF JOHN CHAPTER 8:31-59](#)

Early Years & Kids

A shorter reading for early years is John 8:31-36

What do you like about this story?

What is confusing about this story?

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

What does this story teach us about Jesus?

Jesus sets us free from sin and death.

Pray

Dear Father,
Thank you that Jesus has set us free from sin and death.
Help us not to listen to the lies of the devil that want to make us slaves again.
Help us hold onto your truth and live freely as your children.
In Jesus name,
Amen.

Youth

Read John 8:31-59 together as a family.

Who are the characters in this passage?

What are their characteristics?

(Jewish/gentile, male/female, old/young, rich/poor, welcomed/shunned, etc)

Where does this passage take place?

(Nation/city/village/fields/road, etc)

When does this passage take place?

(When in biblical history? Old Testament/New Testament? Pre cross/post cross? Year/time of year near a significant event?)

What happens in the previous passage? The next passage?)

What is the duration of time over the passage?

(An hour? A day? A week? Months? Etc)

What happens in this passage?

('Who goes where and does what to who?')

What is said in this passage?

(Are there key words or phrases? Is someone teaching? Are they 'human' words or are they speaking on behalf of God? Is there anything you don't understand?)

KNOW

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

Early Years & Kids

Read John 8:31-36

Share a time when you did something you knew you shouldn't do?

What does it mean to be a slave to sin (v.34)?

When we sin we are tricked into thinking we know best, and God doesn't. But this is a trick of the devil (v.44) and in the end we become slaves to our own desires and sin.

How does Jesus set us free indeed (v. 36)?

Jesus died to pay the price for sin. We are free from judgment. Jesus rose again to give us new life. We are free to live for Jesus instead of ourselves.

How long does that freedom last (v. 35)?

Forever! As children of God.

Youth

Read John 8:31-56 together as a family, or you could choose the shorter reading of John 8:31-36.

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

Jesus, my Saviour, I have been listening to too many lies for far too long. I have been tricked by the enemy. I need to be free from these lies. Jesus, I know that You are true and that the truth will set me free. Jesus, help me to rejoice in the truth. I need to believe the truth. I pray that it really would set me free. Help me with my unbelief, Jesus. You know my heart, and know that I need help believing. Thank You, Jesus, that You offer truth to Your children. Thank You for Your patience with me.

ENGAGE

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

Early Years

Watch this video 'The TRUTH will set you FREE!!!--John 8:31-32' by Big Faith Kids.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HmHtbhx7HJs>



Kids

Make a paper chain, and 'chain up' one of your kids.

Talk about how we can live as slaves to sin.

Read out John 8:36 and then bust that kid out of the chains.

Finish by thanking God in prayer that because of what Jesus has done we can break free from sin and death as easily as we break free from these paper chains.



Youth

Watch this video 'what the word GOSPEL actually means' by Dan Stevers.

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

Have a discussion about what it really means to be free from sin & death.



Pray

Thank God for the freedom Jesus has won for us.

Pray for those around still slaves to sin & death.

Pray that they might know true freedom in Jesus too.



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

Read Galatians 5:1

How does Jesus set us free?

How do we each stay free and not be slaves again?

Kids & Youth

Watch the video 'Freedom in Christ' by FBC Midlothian
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6kl2ZJWSBok>



Read Galatians 5:1

Discuss each of the things Jesus gives us freedom from
(bondage, sin, addiction, fear)

Discuss each of the things Jesus gives us freedom to live like
(victory, truth, love, service, forgiveness)

Get each member of your family/growth group to write one freedom they struggle to let go of or grasp a hold of. Discuss each person's answer.

How can we keep embracing the good news of freedom in Christ?

Keep soaking yourself in the truth of the freedom we have in Jesus. Keep coming back to God's word and God's people to remind yourself of these things.

Pray

Thank you Jesus that you have set us free.

Thank you that you set us free from sin, addiction, fear.

Thank you that you set us free to live lives shaped by victory, truth, love, service and forgiveness.

Help us stay connected to your truth and keep living lives of freedom.

In Jesus name,

Amen

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 'Colin Buchanan - Super Saviour (US Super Savior) ORIGINAL CLASSIC CLIP' by Colin Buchanan.

Remind your heart that Jesus has saved us and set us free.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zulql_wXfwM



Youth

Watch this lyric video of 'Alive' by Hillsong Young & Free.

Listen to the words and remind your heart that the love of Jesus has set us free.

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



