

family discipleship guide

the blind will see - seeing god's glory

04

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.

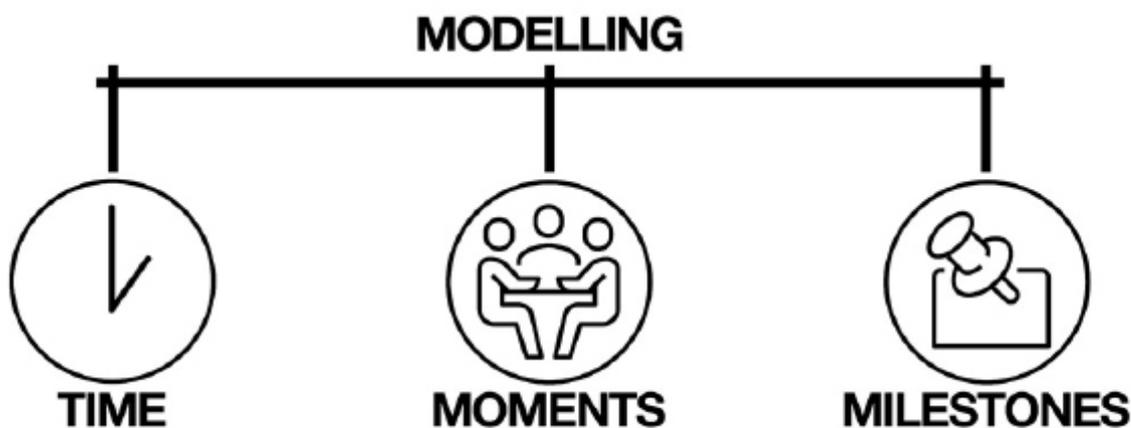
Family Discipleship is the vitally important, yet mostly ordinary spiritual leadership of your family.

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.

Seeing God's Glory

Date of Sermon

7th August 2022

Bible Reading

John 11:17-44

Big idea

Jesus' power over death reveals God's glory

Application

Believer – Believe in Jesus and see God's glory

Non-believer – Believe in Jesus and see God's glory

Kids Big idea

Jesus raising the dead shows how amazing God is

Kids Application

Believer - Believe in Jesus and know how amazing He is

Non-believer - Believe in Jesus and know how amazing He is

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 11:17-44 together

17 On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. 18 Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, 19 and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. 20 When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. 21 'Lord,' Martha said to Jesus, 'if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.' 23 Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' 24 Martha answered, 'I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.' 25 Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; 26 and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 27 'Yes, Lord,' she replied, 'I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.' 28 After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. 'The Teacher is here,' she said, 'and is asking for you.' 29 When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 31 When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. 32 When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' 33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. 34 'Where have you laid him?' he asked. 'Come and see, Lord,' they replied. 35 Jesus wept. 36 Then the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' 37 But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' 38 Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. 39 'Take away the stone,' he said. 'But, Lord,' said Martha, the sister of the dead man, 'by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days.' 40 Then Jesus said, 'Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?' 41 So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. 42 I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.' 43 When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' 44 The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Take off the grave clothes and let him go.'

OR Watch & Listen

Lumo Project video of John 11:17-44
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1gjCCy6FOmM>

For more background here is the Lumo Project video of John 11:1-16
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lztNURRR250>

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?

What does this story teach us about Jesus?
Jesus truly has power over death!

Pray

Dear Lord Jesus,
You loved your friend Lazarus and raised him from the dead. You love us too, and we live in hope in the same resurrection.
All because of your own resurrection from the dead.
In Jesus name we pray,
Amen.

Youth

Read John 11:17-44 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?

read

know

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

Early Years & Kids

Early Years & Kids
Read John 11:17-44

What did Martha wish that Jesus had done for her brother Lazarus (v. 21-22)?

She wished Jesus had been there to heal him before he died. But she still believed that God will do what Jesus asks.

What did Jesus say he could do (v.25-26)?

Jesus said he is the resurrection and the life. He said he could raise from the dead anyone who believes in him.

Did Martha believe him (v.27)?

Martha believes Jesus is the Messiah come from God, and trusting him. Whether she had a full understanding of who Jesus was, she was about to see some pretty hard proof of his power.

Do you believe him?

A question for each member of the family/growth group to wrestle

What did Jesus do that proves what he said he could do?

He raised a 4-day dead Lazarus to life again in front of their eyes! Extraordinary!

Youth

Read John 11:17-44 together as a family.

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

Dear Jesus,

Today I'm so thankful we know you as "the resurrection and the life". Your death was the death of death itself—the last enemy. And because of your resurrection, we can declare in advance of our resurrection, "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

In Jesus name,

Amen

know

engage

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

All Ages

OPTION 1 - VIDEO

Especially for kids you could watch this video 'Jesus Raised Lazarus from Death | God's Story' by Crossroads Kids' Club

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1FT04jjh3Q8>



OPTION 2 - ACTING

Act out the story of Lazarus.

You will need people to play at least the following roles:

- Jesus
- Martha
- Mary
- Lazarus

OPTION 3 – LAZARUS RACE GAME

To play Lazarus Race, first form some teams. Pick one person from each team to be Lazarus.

On "go," have each team use one roll of toilet paper to wrap Lazarus. The first team to finish wrapping up Lazarus with the entire roll wins in round one. Have each Lazarus stand still until all Lazaruses are wrapped up.

Then call out, "Lazarus, come forth!" The first Lazarus to free him- or herself of all the toilet paper is the winner in round two.

Pray

Dear Heavenly Father,

We are amazed at the power Jesus has over death. So powerful he could not stay dead himself.

We thank you that Jesus promises to raise from the dead everyone who believes in Him.

We trust in that hope ourselves, knowing that one day there will be no more sadness about death.

In Jesus name,

Amen.

engage

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 & Kids

NOTE: Death can be a tricky topic for kids, however graciously showing them that Jesus has conquered death is so important so they will have hope beyond the grave for all who believe in Jesus.

As a parent or growth group leader share about a time where you have been impacted by the death of someone. Share about the sadness. Compare it to the sadness Jesus had with the death of his friend Lazarus (John 11:35 is the shortest verse in the Bible, but full of meaning). Then speak about how the fact that Jesus has power over death brings hope for an end to the sadness.

Use your wisdom to lead your kids in their own discussion of this topic. It may be best to leave it as you sharing and modelling hope in Jesus' power over death. However if your kids are up for it get them to share their own experiences of death, their feelings, and how they see the Jesus' power over death changing things.

Finish by celebrating how amazing God is, and telling him about it in prayer.

Youth

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?

Pray

Take some time in prayer to remember believers you know who have died.

Thank God for that we know they will be raised one day.

Thank God for our own hope of a future with them in eternity.

Thank God that this is all possible because of Jesus, who we will worship together in eternity.



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

"Super Saviour" by Colin Buchanan

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



Youth

"Resurrecting" by Elevation Worship

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHGFNUIEZ8M>



sing

