ONE WEEK OF FAMILY **DEVOTIONS**

GOSPEL FAMILY MINISTRIES

INTRO TO FAMILY WORSHIP

Family Worship takes place when the members of a household come together to teach and enjoy the Word of God, to pray with and for one another, and to offer praises to the Lord. Scripture calls families to this sort of worship and gives examples of family worship in passages including Genesis 18:19; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Joshua 24:15; Psalm 78:1-8; 2 Timothy 1:5, 3:15; and Ephesians 6:4. Our prayer is that these devotions will be woven into the natural rhythms of your week as you intentionally lead your family to Jesus Christ. We believe family worship will bless your home with grace and joy.

And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Joshua 24:15

FAMILY WORSHIP DAY 1

CENTRAL TRUTH:

Jesus has shown us how to pray

FAMILY TIME IN THE WORD OF GOD: Matthew 6:9-13

FAMILY TEACHING: This passage comes in the middle of the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus is teaching his disciples how to give, fast, and pray. We are not to pray in order to be seen by others or for the approval of others. Jesus has given us a beautiful example of how to pray. Following this example, our prayers are to exalt God (v.9), seek His will and guidance (v. 10), seek His provision (v. 11), call out for forgiveness (v. 12), and ask for deliverance (v. 13). These are the sort of prayers our family needs to pray together.

FAMILY DISCUSSION: What prayer requests do you have today? What do you need provision or forgiveness for today? Is there a temptation you need deliverance from today? What direction from the Lord do we all need to pray for together?

FAMILY PRAYER: Close today's devotion with a time of prayer.

GOSPEL FAMILY MINISTRIES exists to strengthen Family Ministry in the Local Church and to cultivate Family Worship in the Christian Home. We hope to provide a biblical vision, a biblical passion, and biblical resources for Family Worship, for we believe the Lord can use Family Worship to transform the home for his glory. You can sign up for free, weekly family devotions at www.gospelfamily.org.

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FAMILY WORSHIP DAY 2

FAMILY WORSHIP DAY 7

CENTRAL TRUTH:

The Lord is our Shepherd

FAMILY TIME IN THE WORD OF GOD: Psalm 23:1-6

FAMILY TEACHING: With the Lord as our Shepherd (v. 1), we lack nothing. We are never left wanting. The closer we draw to the Lord, the more satisfied we become. He leads and feeds (v. 2), guides and provides (v. 3). He restores my soul, refreshing me even in seasons of dryness. In verse 4, David moves from talking about the Lord to talking to the Lord. We are reminded that the Lord is with us in our darkest hours, so we do not need to be afraid. He prepares all that we need (v. 5). A life with the Lord is a life filled with His goodness and mercy (v. 6). The Psalm ends with some of the most joyful and hopeful words we can imagine. David writes that he will dwell with the Lord forever (v. 6). This is an unending joy.

FAMILY DISCUSSION: How has the Lord provided for our family? Do you trust that the Lord is with you even in your darkest hour? What do you think about when you read that the Lord is our Shepherd?

FAMILY PRAYER: Close today's devotion with a time of prayer.

CENTRAL TRUTH:

Jesus transforms hearts and homes

FAMILY TIME IN THE WORD OF GOD: Luke 19:1-10

FAMILY TEACHING: Zacchaeus was a wealthy tax collector, most likely despised by those around him. He wanted to see Jesus but was too short so he climbed a sycamore tree. Long before he sought Jesus, Jesus was seeking him. Jesus found him and came into the home of a sinner. It was then, that Jesus transformed Zacchaeus's heart and home. As Zacchaeus repented of his sin, Jesus said, "Today salvation has come to this house." This is the very reason Jesus came: "To Seek and Save the Lost" (v. 10).

FAMILY DISCUSSION: Why do we need Jesus in our heart and home? What do we need to repent of today? Why did Jesus need to come? Do you believe Jesus can transform us?

FAMILY PRAYER: Close today's devotion with a time of prayer.

FAMILY WORSHIP DAY 6

FAMILY WORSHIP DAY 3

CENTRAL TRUTH:

We are to teach God's Word in our home

FAMILY TIME IN THE WORD OF GOD: Deuteronomy 6:4-9

FAMILY TEACHING: This passage calls us to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, and might. Jesus called this the greatest commandment (Matthew 22:36–37). A Great Commandment Family loves God above all other things. Verse 7 calls those who love God to teach God's Word to their children. To teach His word "diligently" is to chisel God's Word into the hearts of those in our home so that they too will love God with all their heart, soul, and might. This is a beautiful picture of family worship as God's Word is taught in the home, in the morning, in the evening, and as we "walk by the way." We are to bring the Gospel into our home and intentionally teach the Word during the natural rhythms of our days.

FAMILY DISCUSSION: Why should parents teach the Bible to their children? What time of the day is the best time for our family to teach the Word of God to one another? How can we continue to grow to be a Great Commandment Family?

FAMILY PRAYER: Close today's devotion with a time of prayer.

CENTRAL TRUTH:

God loves us and Jesus died for us

FAMILY TIME IN THE WORD OF GOD: John 3:16

FAMILY TEACHING: This famous verse comes in a conversation between Jesus and a man named Nicodemus. Jesus speaks on God's love, His sacrifice, and eternal life. God showed us His love by sending His only Son, even while we were still in our sin. And Jesus was sent in order to save us from our sin by dying on the cross in our place. Our sin deserves death, but Jesus took that death upon Himself. Now, all who believe in Jesus will be forgiven of their sin and will enjoy eternal life.

FAMILY DISCUSSION: Do you believe Jesus has forgiven you of your sins? Why or why not? What should our response be to God's love?

FAMILY PRAYER: Close today's devotion with a time of prayer.

FAMILY WORSHIP DAY 4

FAMILY WORSHIP DAY 5

CENTRAL TRUTH:

Jesus deserves our Worship

FAMILY TIME IN THE WORD OF GOD: Matthew 14:22-32

FAMILY TEACHING: When Jesus heard that John the Baptist died, Jesus withdrew by Himself (v. 13). But the crowds found Him. He performed a miracle and fed 5,000 with only five loaves and two fish. After the crowds left, Jesus again went up on the mountain by himself to pray (v. 23). Meanwhile, the disciples were in their boat, caught in a storm. Jesus came to them, walking on water and told them, "Do not be afraid." He even allowed Peter to also walk on the water and saved Peter when Peter doubted and began to sink. The disciples worshiped Jesus because He is worthy of worship. They worshiped Him because Jesus is the Son of God. He deserved their worship and He deserves our worship.

FAMILY DISCUSSION: Are you ever tempted to worship something other than God? What are some ways that we can worship the Lord? Why should our family worship Jesus? Why should our family worship Jesus together in family worship? What is your favorite part of family worship?

FAMILY PRAYER: Close today's devotion with a time of prayer.

CENTRAL TRUTH:

We are to serve one another

FAMILY TIME IN THE WORD OF GOD: Galatians 5:13-15

FAMILY TEACHING: There are more than 50 "One Another" verses in the Bible. In today's devotion, Paul calls the church to "serve one another." Christians are set free from sin (v. 1) and, therefore, we are to avoid the temptations of the flesh (v. 13). Our lives are to be led by the Spirit of Jesus (v. 18). In this free, Spirit-led life, we are to serve one another through love. The love that Jesus has poured into us is to abound and overflow to those around us as we serve them the way Jesus served us.

FAMILY DISCUSSION: What are some ways we can serve one another?

FAMILY PRAYER: Close today's devotion with a time of prayer.