

Leading a Family Devotion: CHILDREN



- 1- Don't be scared. They are just kids, a "failed" attempt is better than a non-attempt.
- 2- Your child is NOT going to be a perfect little angel, paying attention and listening to every word you say. They will hear what is going on.
- 3- Begin with prayer, let children pray.
- 4- Take a minute to talk about what you are going to do.
- 5- Be it only 5 minutes, 10 minutes or 20 minutes, doesn't matter. What matters is you talking about Jesus with your kids.
- 6- Remove distractions, toys, tv, etc...
- 7- Take some time alone or with your spouse to read over the devotion and pray before you begin - PREPARE!
- 8- The more children that are able to participate, the better it will go AND the more they will benefit!

"God Has a Plan"

Younger Kids: Tell your younger/smaller children to say, "God Has A Plan."

Song for Younger Kids: "God has a plan, God has a plan, He sent His Son for US, God has a Plan" (To the tune of Farmer in the Dell)

Older Kids: Ask your kids: what plan might we come up with if our best friend was missing?

READ: Today is Christmas Eve. Over 2000 years ago, Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph in a manger. This was all part of God's plan to help us know God. God's plan started with Adam and Eve. They knew God, but then they sinned. Sin causes us NOT to know God. But God knew all this, and sent Jesus, God's son, to earth so that he could make a way for us to know God again. Christmas is part of God's plan.

Read: Luke 2:1-21 (do this creatively: candle lights around tree, flashlights, take turns...)

Sing: Conclude with Christmas carols like "Away in a manger" & "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"



Leading a Family Devotion: TEENS

- 1- Don't be scared. They are just teens, a "failed" attempt is better than a non-attempt.
- 2- Your teen is NOT too cool to be led spiritually by their parents. In fact, this is your calling as a parent.
- 3- Begin with prayer.
- 4- Be transparent. Be humble.
- 5- Be it only 5 minutes, 15 minutes or 50 minutes - it doesn't matter. What matters is you talking about Jesus with your kids.
- 6- Remove distractions - phone, iPad, etc...
- 7- Take some time alone or with your spouse to read over the devotion and pray before you begin - PREPARE!
- 8- Embrace the awkward. Better to have an awkward moment with your teen that leads them to the Lord, than no moment at all.

"More about Jesus this Christmas"

Ask Teen: How is your spiritual life? How is your prayer life? Are you reading the Bible? Are you spending time in personal worship? What is one thing God is teaching or has taught you recently?

READ: Today is Christmas Eve. So how can we (the family) make Christmas Eve more about Jesus and what Jesus has done? What tangible things can we do?

Ask Teen: What parts of Christmas do you enjoy and what parts are difficult? (Allow them space to be honest)

Read: Luke 2:1-21 - have teen read it aloud if they will. Ask, what sticks out to you in this passage?

Pray with Teen: Specifically, ask them what you can pray for...

