

10 Minute

Devotions
for Families
on Prayer



How to Use This

If you're like most busy families, finding time to sit down together can be difficult. The purpose of this devotional is to give you, as a parent, a tool to meaningfully and intentionally connect with your kids, as you all grow together spiritually. Each of these devotionals includes a brief description you can read to your kids as well as a Scripture reading and questions you can discuss as a family. You can complete each devotional in less than ten minutes, but we hope you won't feel rushed. Some easy ways to make this into a win is to simply do this devotional together before or after a meal or right before bed. Look for a time that you are already normally all together as a family and just add this brief devotional time to the routine you have in place. That will make it much more likely that this becomes a habit you keep!

01.

A Prayer of Thanks

Introduction

When someone does something nice for us, we say thank you. When we receive a gift at Christmas or on our birthdays, the polite thing to do is send a thank you note. How can we possibly begin to thank God for all the things He does for us? When we pray, we need to always begin with thanks, letting God know how grateful we are for His blessings.

Question Time

Has someone thanked you for something this week?

When was the last time you said thank you for something?

What is one thing you can thank God for right now?

At the end of his life, David said a prayer of thanks in front of his people for all God had done for him. David's life had as many downs as ups, but he never forgot all of God's blessings.

Scripture

1 Chronicles 29:10-20

Let's follow David's example. Let's thank God when we pray.

Next Steps

Every time you say a prayer this week, thank God for something. You can thank Him for Jesus, for our church, for our home, for family, for friends, for any number of things. The more we thank God, the more our faith will grow as we remember all His blessings.

02.

Pray for Courage

Introduction

It is easy to talk about Jesus at church. It's easy for us to talk about faith with people we feel safe with and who share our belief. But how easy is it to talk about Jesus at school, or on the playground, or on the playing field? Jesus gave us the command to go and tell the world about Him. If we pray for courage, God will give it to us. He will make us bold so we can tell others about Jesus.

Question Time

Do you ever talk about your faith at school?

Have you ever told someone who doesn't go to church about Jesus? What was that like?

Is there something that keeps you from inviting a friend like that to church?

When the disciples began preaching about Jesus, they knew that talking about Jesus could get them into trouble. Even after being thrown in jail, they prayed for the courage to keep sharing the good news of Jesus.

Scripture

Acts 4:23-31

God is bigger than any foe. He can help us overcome any obstacle. His love is endless, and He wants to reach everyone. Through prayer, God can give us the boldness we need to share our faith.

Next Steps

Is there someone you know who doesn't go to church? Start praying for them. Ask God for the opportunity to tell them about your faith, and ask Him for the courage to speak up. Ask God to prepare their hearts so they will receive the message of Jesus with gladness!

03.

Pray with Certainty

Introduction

Spoiler alert: God knows what you need before you ever pray for it. He knows what you want before you pray for that too. God still wants us to pray for these things. He wants us to be honest and direct with Him. There's no hiding the truth from God, so don't hold anything back.

Question Time

Kids: When you want something from someone, do you always ask for it directly, or do you prefer to hint around?

Parents: Do YOU always ask directly for things that you want?

It's okay to be honest. Who has something on their minds that they really want right now?

Hannah had a very big ask. She wanted a son more than anything, and she did not hold back telling God how she felt. God heard Hannah's prayer, and He blessed her.

Scripture

1 Samuel 1:1-20

God wants us to pray with the honesty of Hannah. He wants us to pour out our hearts holding nothing back. If there's something on your mind, take it to God. Tell Him everything, and don't hold back. Pray honestly and openly, expecting God to answer.

Next Steps

If there's something you want or need, tell God when you pray. Give it to Him straight, and don't hold back. If you want everyone else to pray for that, then speak up and let's pray about it. Let's be honest with God and share what's on our hearts.

04.

Pray for Answers

Introduction

A conversation takes two people. One speaks, the other responds. One asks a question. The other answers. If prayer is a conversation between us and God, then God must answer us when we pray, right? While we cannot hear the audible voice of God, He DOES answer our prayers. Sometimes He says yes. Sometimes he says no. Sometimes he says... wait. Whatever the answer, God will reveal His will for our lives through the prayers that we pray.

Question Time

How do you feel when you get a yes answer from someone?

How does it feel to get a no answer?

Is there a question you would want to ask God right now?

Jesus spent a great deal of time in prayer, right up until the night He was betrayed. In that final prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, we see how God answered Jesus and prepared Him to do God's will.

Scripture

Matthew 26:36-46

Jesus was honest. He was hoping there was another way to save humankind other than the cross. Yet through His prayer, He accepted God's answer and did what He came to do. God will show us His will too. He will answer our prayers and in doing so, prepare us to serve Him!

Next Steps

The next time you pray, pause your words for a moment. Be still, and listen. Let God guide your thoughts. Let God speak to you through your prayer and the time you spend reading the Bible. If we listen, He will answer, and He will show us His will.