

DAY 1 As a church, we want to continue to reframe any kind of doomsday or fear-driven mindset that comes with this quasi-quarantine and instead ask, "What kind of unique opportunities does this provide for us as individuals or families?"

One unique opportunity we now have is more time together and with God. Over the next several weeks our plan is send out material for family devotions.

Devotions should not feel like a chore or a drag, but should be engaging and fun, so it's best to keep the whole thing to 10 minutes. 10 minutes a day, 5 days a week is enough to experience and pass on the most valuable treasure the world has ever known!

The key is keeping it simple, with these four basic steps:

Step 1: Read

And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent." — Exodus 14:13-14

Step 2: Discuss

(You might point out that Israel had been slaves in Egypt for 400 years and now God is telling Moses it's time for the people to be free. Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, had finally agreed that all 2.5 million of them could go. As they're walking away through the wilderness, Pharaoh changes his mind and sends his army to bring Israel back to be slaves once again. Read the passage again and ask: A. What do you think the people were feeling as the army was coming after them? B. Based on this passage, God has a job and the people have a job. What are they? C. Why do you think God wants His people to be still or silent? D. Let's try being silent in the presence of God for 30 seconds and afterwards talk about what it was like.

Step 3: Sing

Sing a song that everyone knows. Sing a favorite song from church or Sunday School. Or, listen and sing these together, "Fear is a Liar" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Yr48Berkqc

Step 4: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Bonus

Scene 1: Act out Exodus 14:13-14. For example someone can pretend to be God; someone else can pretend to be the enemy. What would it look like for God to fight and defeat the enemy? Scene 2: Everyone acts out being completely still for as long as possible

Let me know about your experience, Dave Sellers



DAY 2 The most difficult part of family devotions is sticking with it—starting again after you miss a day or two...or ten. But starting again is AWESOME... no matter how many days or weeks you miss. God puts us in families for the longterm—the goal of devotions is not "perfect attendance" but showing up together as a family in the presence of God!

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The key is keeping it simple, with these four basic steps:

Step 1: Read Daniel 3:14-26

Step 2: Discuss

A. When King Nebuchadnezzar threatened to throw Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego into the furnace what was their response?

B. Based on their response, how can we define "furnace faith"?

C. What were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego saying about God and the nature of faith? How did these three men show that they trusted God no matter the outcome of the situation?

D. How can we as individuals and a family live out our faith in Jesus today?

Step 3: Sing

Sing a song that everyone knows. Sing a favorite song from church or Sunday School. Or, listen and sing these together: "We Won't Be Shaken" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BJhOgb-unl "The King of My Heart" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-jkMng2Hfzo

Step 4: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Bonus:

Act out Daniel 3:14-26 Scene1: For example, someone pretend to be King Nebuchadnezzar; someone else pretend to be Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Scene 2: What does it look like to have faith in God?

Let me know about your experience.

Dave Sellers



DAY 3 The most difficult part of family devotions is sticking with it—starting again after you miss a day or two...or ten. But starting again is AWESOME... no matter how many days or weeks you miss. God puts us in families for the longterm—the goal of devotions is not "perfect attendance" but showing up together as a family in the presence of God!

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The key is keeping it simple, with these four basic steps:

Step 1: Read Psalm 91:1-6

Step 2: Discuss

A. What might it mean to dwell in the shelter of the Most High and abide in the shadow of the Almighty?

- B. How would you describe the picture in verse 4? What does it reveal about who God is?
- C. Though careful not to take it as promise that believers don't get sick, this Psalm has been a great comfort to many people. Where does it provide comfort for you?
- D. How can we as individuals and a family live out our faith in Jesus today?

Step 3: Sing

Sing a song that everyone knows. Sing a favorite song from church or Sunday School. Or, listen and sing these together, The God Who Stays https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KHMVSdljBcq

Step 4: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Bonus:

Act out Psalm 91

Scene 1: Living in God's house; playing in God's home

Scene 2: Someone plays God and protects the rest of the family from threats....

Let me know about your experience.

Dave Sellers



DAY 4 The most difficult part of family devotions is sticking with it—starting again after you miss a day or two...or ten. But starting again is AWESOME... no matter how many days or weeks you miss. God puts us in families for the longterm—the goal of devotions is not "perfect attendance" but showing up together as a family in the presence of God!

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The key is keeping it simple, with these four basic steps:

Step 1: Read

Mark 4:35-41

Step 2: Discuss

- A. What was the biggest storm you've ever been in? How did you feel?
- B. How do the disciples respond to this storm?
- C. Does it sometime seem like Jesus is sleeping or busy when you go through a threatening "storm"? Does it feel like that now?
- D. Why do you think the disciples, experienced on the water, wake up Jesus? What does Jesus do?
- F. Why are do you think the disciples are still fearful after Jesus calms the storm.
- G. How do you think God is calling us to respond to our "storm"?

Step 3: Sing

Sing a song that everyone knows. Sing a favorite song from church or Sunday School. Or, listen to this song: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5MChgCghLJg

Step 4: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Bonus:

Act out Mark 4:31-40

Scene 1: Everyone is in a boat together as a storm comes up.

Scene 2: Someone plays Jesus and everyone wakes him up.

Scene 3: Jesus speaks.

Scene 4: The disciples respond.

Let me know about your experience.

Dave Sellers