

Family Guide for July 24th-30th

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.



- Decide on a time & place (breakfast, dinner, before bed, etc...)
- Start simple and short (ten minutes or less). Start with three things: 1) Read God's word, 2) Pray together and 3) Sing together. Scripture memory and catechism questions are *optional* if you have the time. Better to start small than bite off more than you can chew and give up.
- Be flexible. It doesn't need to look cookie-cutter similar for every family. Know yourself and know your kids: their personality, age, maturity, etc. [For younger kids consider starting with a good children's Bible like [*The Big Picture Story Bible*](#).]
- If you don't know the answer to a question someone has, don't act like you do! Say something like, "Great question, let me look into that." Study, ask a pastor or Christian friend and get back to them.
- Embrace the chaos. Kids are kids – don't expect it to be a perfect roundtable discussion with quiet, attentive children every time. Be patient and persistent. Patterns and habits help to set expectations over time.
- To learn more about family worship check out Donald Whitney's book (available at our church bookstall): [*Family Worship: In the Bible, In History, and In Your Home*](#).

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Bible Intake (*Listening to God*)

Day 1 – Mark 1:1-20
Day 2 – Mark 1:21-45
Day 3 – Mark 2:1-17
Day 4 – Mark 2:18-28
Day 5 – Mark 3:1-21

**Extra: Read Genesis 37 in preparation for church on Sunday, July 31*

Prayer (*Talking to God*)

Pray about one thing you read in Scripture together.
Pray for a few church members on pg. 1 of our church directory.
Pray for any specific needs of you and your family.

Sing together

"Great is Thy Faithfulness" – use the bulletin from Sunday or check out song here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RaC3-C7AU4I>

Memory verses for the month

Genesis 1:1 *"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."*

Matthew 6:24a *"No one can serve two masters"*

Catechism question for the week¹

Question 1

What is our only hope in life and death?

Answer

That we are not our own but belong to God (Romans 14:7-8)

¹ *New City Catechism* (<http://newcitycatechism.com/>)