

## Family Guide for week of December 17<sup>th</sup>

*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.*



### Suggestions on getting started:

- 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 – John 1:35-51  
Day 2 – John 2:1-12  
Day 3 – John 2:13-25  
Day 4 – John 3:1-15  
Day 5 – John 3:16-21

*\*Read Psalm 8 in preparation for church on Sunday, December 24*

## **Prayer** (*Talking to God*)

Pray about one thing you read in Scripture together.  
Pray for a few church members on pg. 22 of our church directory.  
Pray for any specific needs of you and your family.

## **Sing together**

“Joy to the World” – use the bulletin from Sunday or check here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgAZVgfUxcg>

## **Memory verses for the month**

*1 Chronicles 16:34 “Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!”*

*Proverbs 1:7 “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.”*

## **Catechism question for the week<sup>1</sup>**

Question 23

*Why must the Redeemer be truly God?*

Answer

*That because of his divine nature his obedience and suffering would be perfect and effective.*

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