FOUNDATION

because steadfast families are built on the rock

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock."

-Matthew 7:24-25

Family Bible reading and worship plan
Month 5

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I cannot count how many times have I gotten in a family Bible time slump because I need to "get everything ready" but kept pushing it off. My good intentions were repeatedly thrown off by the simple speed bump of creating a plan. Odds are, you've found yourself in a similar situation, so that's why I am sharing these Bible time plans with you. All the planning is already done, so all you have to do is get started!

If you follow along with us doing these monthly plans, we will go through the major stories of the Bible together. This plan is perfect for families with younger kids, or those who do not have much experience with the Bible. Parents and older children may want additional personal Bible study time to dig deeper into the text.

This plan moves SLOW and is kept SIMPLE. The goal is building a habit of getting in the word together, letting God's word seep into our lives, not trying to race through a lengthly plan or to-do list. This helps avoid overwhelm and makes it easy to jump back in the saddle when life inevitably gets you off track. It's also only planned for five days of the week. This way if you miss a day, you can easily catch up. If you need something for an additional day, try reading a Psalm, Proverb, or story from the life of Jesus.

When having your Bible time together as a family, resist the temptation to over-explain. Answer questions, yes! Give some info, sure! But don't turn it into a long (and boring!) lecture. Let your children dwell on the Word and use their own minds to dig in.

For adults and older children who want to dig deeper into the text, I highly recommend the free resource <u>biblehub.com</u> (find an in-depth tutorial <u>HERE</u>).

Here are how the plans are set up...

Each month has the following components:

- 1. *A children's Bible song.* While even the toddler enjoys singing along to hymns, classic children's Bible songs are also too fun to pass up.
- 2. A hymn. They've been around forever for a reason. They are easy to sing along with and pack a potent punch of truth. Singing hymns is one the easiest ways I've found to introduce some difficult theological topics.

Each week has the following components:

- 1. Bible story to be read from a picture Bible for the younger members of the family. Read the same story every day that week I promise they won't get sick of it! (You can also read the same story out of multiple children's Bibles if you have them) If you'd like, you can also use <u>Play Through the Bible</u>. The stories covered in this plan can be found in most children's Bibles, but <u>THIS ONE</u> is our favorite. The Beginners Bible also has a large selection of stories.
- 2. Bible passage to be read. A suggested daily breakdown is given, but feel free to adjust to your family. This way, if a day is skipped, you can easily reconfigure! Certain parts of stories have been edited out for appropriateness. I have added notes in these instances and it is up to a parent's discretion when to introduce these aspects to their children.

Your daily routine might look something like this:

- 1. Pray and/or say the Lord's Prayer
- 2. Read the story from the picture Bible (dismissing wiggly littlest ones if need be at this point)
- 3. Briefly review the previous reading
- 4. Read the passage
- 5. Ask your child what they remember from the passage or what stood out to them
- 6. Sing (by now the little ones will definitely be getting wiggly, or will have wandered off, so they can get up and dance!)

You can read more about crafting your own Bible time with kids <u>HERE</u>. If you have any questions, prayer requests, or I can be of any assistance to you, please don't hesitate to email me - <u>liz@steadfastfamily.com</u>

If you are a mom of littles I also want to invite you to join our encouraging facebook community HERE.

Now let's get started!

MONTH FIVE

Hymn - It Is Well With My Soul Bible Song - The B-I-B-L-E

NOTE: As we move on in the story of Moses, we get into the sections filled with lots of laws and instructions. Although these sections are important to read, my children are quite young, so I will briefly summarize and we will come back to them in the future.)

Week One

MOSES CONTINUED

Day One - Exodus 15:22-27; 16:1-15

Day Two - Exodus 16:16-32

Day Three - Exodus 17:1-16

Day Four - Exodus 20:1-20 (Note: you might want to summarize what happens in the chapter before, and mention that the following chapters expound on the laws and instructions that God gave the people)

Day Five - Exodus 32:1-14

Week Two

MOSES CONTINUED

Day One - Exodus 32:15-35 (Note: in this section Moses and the Levites - who you might want to explain are the descendants of Levi - kill 3,000 Israelites. It's pretty harsh, but is a good example of how seriously God takes sin - and how grateful we should be to have Christ!)

Day Two - Exodus 33:12-23: 34:29-35

Day Three - Exodus 40:34-38 (There are a lot of instructions for building the tabernacle, at this point don't feel like you need to read all of them to your children. Briefly summarize and hit on the main point, this was the place that God's presence rested and how God led the people. You might also briefly discuss the offerings/sacrifices (Leviticus). This is something that can be covered more in depth at a later time, but is helpful for understanding the significance of Christ's sacrifice for us.)

Day Four - Numbers 13:1-21

Day Five - Number 13:26-33

Week Three

MOSES CONTINUED

Day One - Numbers 14:1-12

Day Two - Numbers 14:13-25

Day Three - Numbers 14:26-45

Day Four - Numbers 20:1-13

Day Five - Numbers 21:1-9

Week Four

MOSES CONTINUED

Day One - Numbers 27:12-23; 33:50-56

Day Two - Deuteronomy 6:1-25 (Note: the first few chapters of Deuteronomy are a recap of what has happened -followed by review of the laws - you may want to do a brief recap as well)

Day Three - Deuteronomy 9:1-6; 31:1-8

Day Four - Deuteronomy 28:1-10; 15-20

Day Five - Deuteronomy 34:1-12

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

by Horatio Gates Spafford

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."

Refrain:

It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control: that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul.

Refrain

My sin oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! my sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more; praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Refrain

O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend; even so, it is well with my soul.

Refrain

A great site for more information on hymns is hymnary.org

THE B-I-B-L-E

The B-I-B-L-E
Yes, that's the book for me
I stand alone on the Word of God
The B-I-B-L-E
The Bible!