

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 9

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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 biblehub.com (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 - liz@steadfastfamily.com

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 NINE

Hymn - <u>Amazing Grace</u> Bible Song - <u>I Am a C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N</u>

Week One

DAVID (ABIGAIL)

Note: The drama of Saul and David is very long, so I picked and chose just some of the stories, (for example, only one of the instances of David sparing Saul's life) feel free to choose differently or summarize.

Day One - 1 Samuel 22:1-23 Day Two - 1 Samuel 24:1-22 Day Three - 1 Samuel 25:1-17 Day Four - 1 Samuel 25:18-31 Day Five - 1 Samuel 25:32-44

Week Two

DAVID

Day One - 1 Samuel 31:1-13; 2 Samuel 2:1-6 Day Two - 2 Samuel 5:1-10 Day Three - 2 Samuel 7:1-17

Day Four - 2 Samuel 7:18-29

Day Five - 2 Samuel 9:1-13

Week Three

DAVID / SOLOMON

Note: Since my children are young, I decided to skip the David and Bathsheba and Amnon and Tamar stories for now

Day One - 2 Samuel 23:1-7; 1 Kings 2:1-12

Day Two -1 Kings 3:1-15

Day Three - 1 Kings 3:16-28 (be prepared for the word "prostitute")

Day Four - 1 Kings 4:29-34; 5:1-8

Day Five - 1 Kings 6:1-38 (you may want to summarize or skip all the descriptions of the temple depending on the ages and attention spans of your children, you may also want to contrast with 1 Kings 7:1)

Week Four

SOLOMON

Day One - 1 Kings 9:1-9

Day Two -1 Kings 10:1-13; 22-25

Day Three - 1 Kings 11:1-13

Day Four - 1 Kings 12:1-24 (This is the point where the Kingdom divides into two, Judah and Israel, you might want to talk about how things are just going to go downhill from here, which is illustrated by the next story)

Day Five - 1 Kings 12:25-33

AMAZING GRACE

John Newton

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come; 'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures; He will my shield and portion be, As long as life endures.

Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, And mortal life shall cease, I shall possess, within the veil, A life of joy and peace.

The world shall soon dissolve like snow, The sun refuse to shine; But God, who called me here below, Shall be forever mine.

When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.

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

I am a C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N

I am a C I am a C-H I am a C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N and I have C-H-R-I-S-T in my H-E-A-R-T and I will L-I-V-E E-T-E-R-N-A-L-L-Y

Repeat