

## 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 11

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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 ELEVEN

# Hymn - For the Beauty of the Earth Bible Song - Deep and Wide

#### Week One

ISAIAH

(Note: The book of Isaiah is long, but I wanted to cover some of it since Isaiah has so much to say about Jesus! We will cover Isaiah's call and some select passages throughout the book. If your children do not know what a prophet is, you may want to explain that they are God's messengers.)

Day One - Isaiah 6

Day Two - Isaiah 9:1-7; 11:1-10

Day Three - Isaiah 40:1-15

Day Four - Isaiah 40:15-31

Day Five - Isaiah 53

#### **Week Two**

**HEZEKIAH** 

(Note: There is a lot written about Hezekiah, spread out over three different books - 2 Kings, 2 Chronicles, and Isaiah. Some of it is repeated, and it can get a little hard to follow. I tried to pick out the main parts of his story. If you'd like to dig deeper, a Bible timeline like the one on biblehub.com/timeline can be helpful!)

Day One - 2 Chronicles 29:1-19 (There is a long section of names that you can summarize)

Day Two - 2 Chronicles 30:1-12: 31:20-21

Day Three - 2 Chronicles 33:20-21; 32:1-19

Day Four - 2 Chronicles 32:20-33

Day Five - 2 Kings 20:1-21

#### **Week Three**

#### JOSIAH/JEREMIAH

(Note: A great point of interest for kids is that Josiah was a kid when he became king! And not only that, but he choose to follow God even though his father was an evil king! This week we also introduce the prophet Jeremiah, who prophesied during Josiah's lifetime.)

Day One - 2 Kings 22:1-13

Day Two - 2 Kings 23:1-15 ("shrine prostitutes" mentioned)

Day Three - 2 Kings 23:16-30

Day Four - Jeremiah 1:1-19

Day Five - Jeremiah 2:1-13

#### **Week Four**

DANIEL

Day One - Daniel 1:1-21

Day Two - Daniel 2:1-13

Day Three - Daniel 2:14-30

Day Four - Daniel 2:31-49

Day Five - Daniel 3:1-18

## FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

Folliot S. Pierpoint

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies; Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light; Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight, for the mystic harmony, linking sense to sound and sight; Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild; Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise. For thy church, that evermore lifteth holy hands above, offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love; Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For thyself, best Gift Divine, to the world so freely given, for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth, and joy in heaven: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

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

### **DEEP AND WIDE**

Deep and wide

Deep and wide

There's a fountain flowing deep and wide

Deep and wide

Deep and wide

There's a fountain flowing deep and wide

Hmmm and wide

Hmmm and wide

There's a fountain flowing hmmm and wide

Hmmm and wide

Hmmm and wide

There's a fountain flowing hmmm and wide

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