

Encounter Life Church

Family Worship Night Preparation Guide

At Encounter Life our desire is to encourage family discipleship. We believe that parents are called to be the primary disciple makers and we as the corporate body join together to help each other in the process. As leaders at Encounter Life we consistently want to be preparing and equipping the body to lead their individual families. Family worship night consists of 4 parts: dinner, activity, devotion, and prayer. Here is a brief description of how each is designed to work.

Dinner: We are all so busy but our prayer is that we can each take one night a week and eat together. There is something significant about taking time out to eat together as a family. If your children are old enough, perhaps you could use this time to let them help you prepare the meal as well. It will be a great time for you to teach them and spend time with them!

Activity: For this portion, it's totally up to you. What do you like to do as a family? You may want to create a rotation where one family member each week gets to pick the activity. It can be as structured or as free as you'd like. Our heart is for you to spend time together interacting and having fun. You may choose to play video games, board games or watch a TV show you all enjoy. In the summer you might want to go outside and do an activity. Again, every family is different and is going to enjoy different activities. Try to be creative and enjoy time together.

Devotion: We've prepared a devotion with questions for each age group in the family. Take time to read the Scripture, devotion and questions. Mom and Dad, you can read the devotion or let the kids do it if they can read. Then work through the questions depending on the age ranges in your household. If you're single or married, but have no kids then you won't need to go through the kid's questions. If your kids aren't teenagers yet, then you can skip the youth section. Please know that it is OK to not know every answer or to get some help from time to time if you don't understand something. Even in this you'll be teaching your family to ask questions and showing them your willingness to continue learning as well. It is not our intention to put a significant amount of pressure on you to "perform" during the devotion, but that your family would be able to learn the truth about who God is and grow in their relationship with God and with each other.

Prayer: For this time, pray for your family's needs. If you know your son or daughter has a spelling test and they're nervous about it, pray for them. If a family member is sick, pray for them. From time to time, we'll include a prayer guide with the devotion to direct families to pray for specific needs, people groups, places, etc.

We're praying that God does amazing things in our families as we begin this journey together. God desires to transform our families more and more into his image. We're so excited to see how transformation flows out of our homes and into our community as we seek to glorify God more in all that we say and do!

Blessings,
Billy