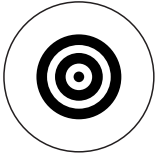


# 6

# KEYS TO (ACTUALLY) MAKE FAMILY DEVOTIONS A DAILY HABIT



## 1. KEEP IT SIMPLE

If family devotions have a lot of extra elements, they will be too difficult to plan and too long to practice every day.

Stick to the four basic elements:



Read the Bible



Ask Questions



Pray



Sing

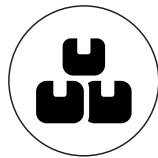


## 2. PRIORITIZE IT

Make the commitment that you WILL have family devotions, even if it interrupts other things.

Here are 5 reasons to read the Bible to your kids every day:

1. Because the Bible reveals God to us. If you want your child to believe the truth about God, read his Word to them.
2. Because kids learn through habits. When family devotions are a daily rhythm in your household, your children will know that God is the center of your household.
3. Because the Bible is long. It will take a lifetime to master this Book, so let's get them started early.
4. Because it will train them to listen. How will your kids learn to listen to the Bible if you never teach them?
5. Because childhood habits can follow us through our whole lives. Let's give our kids a daily habit of Bible reading that they will take with them when they leave our home.

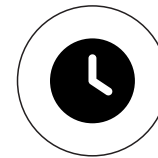


## 3. HABIT STACKING

Attach family devotions to a daily habit that your family already has. This makes it harder to forget and easier to do.

Make a list of routines or activities that your family does every day.

Circle ONE that you could attach family devotions to each day (e.g., doing devotions before or after).



## 4. PLAN A ROUTINE

What time of day will you have family devotions? (Don't make this an uphill battle — remember #2)

Where will you have family devotions?

Who will plan family devotions and print listening guides for each kid?

Who will lead family worship? (Read the Bible reading, pray, and pick the song)

Any other details to figure out?



## 5. TRACK YOUR HABITS

Print out the habit tracker on the next page, hang it on your fridge or wall, and keep track of when you have family devotions.

Your kids will love to help you color in the circle for each day.

We don't track habits to get legalistic, but to reward success. Don't break your streak!



## 6. GET A GUIDE

You don't need to plan your family devotions from scratch every day.

Family devotionals from God Centered Family give you everything you need to teach your kids the Bible in ten minutes each day. Learn more at [GodCenteredFamily.org](http://GodCenteredFamily.org)

### Already a Subscriber? Make the most of the materials:

- Make sure each kid has a printed **listening guide worksheet** for the book of the Bible you are reading. These aren't optional add-ons — they are teaching your kids to be active listeners of the Bible.
- Not sure which devotional to use next? See the **Scope and Sequence** page on our website for a suggested reading order.
- Print out the **people group focus sheet** for each book of the Bible and hang it around your house. Help your kids grow their love for all nations.

# Family Devotions Habit Tracker

## SPENDING A YEAR IN THE WORD

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<input type="checkbox"/> JAN 1	<input type="checkbox"/> FEB 1	<input type="checkbox"/> MAR 1	<input type="checkbox"/> APR 1	<input type="checkbox"/> MAY 1	<input type="checkbox"/> JUN 1	<input type="checkbox"/> JUL 1	<input type="checkbox"/> AUG 1	<input type="checkbox"/> SEP 1	<input type="checkbox"/> OCT 1	<input type="checkbox"/> NOV 1	<input type="checkbox"/> DEC 1
<input type="checkbox"/> JAN 2	<input type="checkbox"/> FEB 2	<input type="checkbox"/> MAR 2	<input type="checkbox"/> APR 2	<input type="checkbox"/> MAY 2	<input type="checkbox"/> JUN 2	<input type="checkbox"/> JUL 2	<input type="checkbox"/> AUG 2	<input type="checkbox"/> SEP 2	<input type="checkbox"/> OCT 2	<input type="checkbox"/> NOV 2	<input type="checkbox"/> DEC 2
<input type="checkbox"/> JAN 3	<input type="checkbox"/> FEB 3	<input type="checkbox"/> MAR 3	<input type="checkbox"/> APR 3	<input type="checkbox"/> MAY 3	<input type="checkbox"/> JUN 3	<input type="checkbox"/> JUL 3	<input type="checkbox"/> AUG 3	<input type="checkbox"/> SEP 3	<input type="checkbox"/> OCT 3	<input type="checkbox"/> NOV 3	<input type="checkbox"/> DEC 3
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