

A BLESSED FAMILY

This study guide will help us turn what God is saying to us into action steps. The questions and scriptures are here to help us take our "Next Steps." Have a great discussion!

PRAYER & ICEBREAKER

What is your favorite thing to do together with your family? Share with your group.

READ

Summer is the time of year when many people get to relax at the beach, bbq in the backyard, go on trips, and most importantly, spend more quality time with family. How incredible would it be if we got to share that same quality time with our family *year round*? The truth is, intentionality and being consistently present with our family is extremely necessary in order for a family to function the way God designed it to.

DISCUSSION

How do you feel after you've spent some good quality time with your family or good friends? Share with your group.

READ

In the following passage, Moses is speaking to God's people, the Israelites. Before they enter the Promised Land, he shares with them some things that will help to make sure that they, their children, and their grandchildren will be blessed and prosper. Read the following scripture:

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." (Deuteronomy 6:4-5)

Loving God is what Jesus said is the greatest commandment in the entire Bible. It's the most important thing you can do in your life. If you want your family to be blessed, it starts with you having a loving relationship with God. People learn more from models than from manuals. In other words, your family will learn to love God the way they see you love God.

DISCUSSION

In what ways are you teaching your family to "love God with all their heart" just as this scripture encourages us? Share with your group. (i.e. *doing family devotions, praying consistently, serving at church, etc.*)

READ

In Deuteronomy 6, Moses continued on in his instructions to the people of Israel. Read the continued scripture below:

“These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the door frames of your houses and on your gates.” (Deuteronomy 6:6-9)

This passage tells us that we need to interact with our family (kids, spouse, parents, grandparents, etc.) several times a day. In order to effectively lead our family to become followers of Christ who love Him, it's important that we spend quality time with them. Practically speaking, you should talk to your kids when you're having a meal together, when you're driving them to school, to sports activities, and even when they go to bed. In the moments that you spend *quality* time with your family, you are then able to lead and train them to love God, and live according to His will and commandments. *That* is the recipe for a family that is blessed by God.

DISCUSSION

If you could wish ONE thing for your family and the future generations to come, what would it be and why? Share with your group.

NEXT STEPS...

This week, commit to doing the following things:

- Identify ways that you can begin modeling what loving God with all your heart for your family
- Think of at least ONE way that you can spend quality time with your family on a weekly basis
- Pray for your family, that they would love God with all their heart