

## **SESSION 8: SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP – BIBLE STUDY PLANNING**

### **Welcome and Review Last Week's Homework: 15 minutes**

Are you in UNITY on punishment?

### **Session #8 Teaching: Spiritual Leadership: 15 minutes**

**Dads, it's time to be THE spiritual leader of YOUR home!** Your time of family Bible study is a mixture of humility, vulnerability and self-deprecating humor, with a dash of storytelling. Don't think of yourself as Moses coming down the mountain with stone tablets to give some religion to his unruly children. You are not a lecturer or a judge wielding a Study Bible as your gavel. Think of yourself as a trusted spiritual guide on a journey with your family. The Bible is your GPS, showing you the route to take and the hazards to avoid along the way. **Remember, you don't have to have all the answers!**

#### **WHY DO WE NEED IT?**

- Create a **fun and non-preachy way** to teach children the Bible.
- Create a weekly vehicle to **pass on most important beliefs**, values and hard-earned lessons, often in humorous and vulnerable ways.
- Create an **intimate window** into the highs and lows of your children's lives.
- Create a **shared experience of trust** that will serve as the foundation for developing a uniquely close friendship with your kids as they become adults.
- Create a systematic way to pray for your family and track the results, **building God's influence in your home and the faith of your family.**

### **Small Group Discussion: 15 minutes**

- Review the info on the next page and commit to the plan.
- Discuss what you think about starting your OWN weekly family Bible study. Will YOU do it?
- Discuss your concerns and obstacles around doing this. What will help make this a reality?

### **Small Group Wrap-Up: 5 minutes**

What did you cover in your small group time?

What were the biggest take-aways and action items?

### **Discuss This Week's Homework: 5 minutes**

- Make a commitment to each other to do a season (at least 8 weeks) of these personal family Bible studies. Discuss HOW to make these a reality for your home!
- Consider starting this week!
- Focus on the LIFE Journaling Method and it will give you more insights on how YOU are equipped to use the Bible as the guide for your family.

# **YOUR VERY OWN WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY**

Here is a **90-minute formula** and format for a winning, weekly Bible study with YOUR family that will influence generations to come:

## **(DAD & MOM) PREPARE (30 minutes)**

Pray and think about an area of interest from something that came up this week. Make the topic relevant to you and your children. Did YOU have a learning moment? Was there an event that the family experienced this week that is worth talking and teaching around? Review Scripture verses by using Free Bible Study Guide website and jot down 3-5 questions that will engage your children and order some PIZZA!

## **EAT & CHAT (20 minutes)**

Order pizza, or do something different to make this time the most special time of the week! Talk about sports, school, movies, whatever and considered this period an "ice breaker."

## **SHARE (10 minutes)**

Share about what you came up with during your preparation time. How do YOU personally relate to the topic? This is the time for YOU to be vulnerable to set the stage for both the Scripture review and the questions you will engage your family with.

## **LEARN (10 minutes)**

Now, it is time to take your topic and allow everyone to discover biblical principles on those practical themes. You don't need to OVER-TEACH at this time, just make it light and fun for everyone.

## **DICUSS (10 minutes)**

Now, it's time to discuss what you learned from the Bible and ask the questions of your family that you came up with during your prep time. You may get a lot of, "I don't know" answers, but you need to keep asking slightly different (open ended) questions that will make everyone think for themselves. This is not easy, as most men don't know how to go past the first phase of questioning, but it's a great time to grow and learn how to engage people in ALL relationships, as you make them think about the subject matter in a personal way.

## **SHARE (10 minutes)**

End the study time with a more personal time of questions to end on a positive note:

- What was the "high" of your week?
- What was the "low" of your week?
- How can I pray for you?

# SESSION 8: Weekly Devotional: Day 1

## Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17

Are YOU equipped with God's Word to teach your children God's Truth?

**L=Listen:** In your journal, write the date and the Scripture you're studying. After you've read the passage a few times, listen to the Holy Spirit and focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal. Writing helps you remember the verses...

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**I = Investigate:** the context around today's Scripture reading. To whom was this written? Why? How does this passage fit with what comes before and after it? What is the Holy Spirit communicating through this text? Feel free to use Bible study tools for commentary: [Bible Study Tools](#), or [Easy English Bible](#)

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**F=Focus:** to the text to make it applicable for your own life. What is God saying to you personally through this passage? How can you apply what you've read?

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**E = Engage:** God. This can either be a short prayer or an action that you can take that day after reading the text. Is there a command to follow in the text? How are you different because of what you've learned?

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# SESSION 8: Weekly Devotional: Day 2

## Read Joshua 1

*Like Joshua, be strong and courageous as you step up your leadership at home.*

**L=Listen:** In your journal, write the date and the Scripture you're studying. After you've read the passage a few times, listen to the Holy Spirit and focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal. Writing helps you remember the verses...

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# SESSION 8: Weekly Devotional: Day 3

## Read Psalm 119:1-8

Be blessed as you take on this new adventure for Christ and your family.

**L=Listen:** In your journal, write the date and the Scripture you're studying. After you've read the passage a few times, listen to the Holy Spirit and focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal. Writing helps you remember the verses...

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# SESSION 8: Weekly Devotional: Day 4

## Read Proverbs 3

Don't trust in your own understanding, make sure to trust God in your new parenting adventure!

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