



Why have a Family Devotion Time?

“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.” - Proverbs 22:6

Attending church whenever the doors are open is great. We are always happy to have you. But, building a spiritual life that is active and thriving happens outside of the church walls.

The goal is to raise children who remain fully devoted followers of Christ as adults. Our desire is to raise children who use prayer, God’s Word, and the solid core of family, friends and church community to guide their decision-making, their life goals, and their relationships. This begins with you, the parent, disciplining your child.

A family devotion time creates unity in the family. This time will allow you to build a healthy parent/child relationship rooted deeply in God’s Word. Your faith in God’s promises as an individual and as a family will be built up. This time will ignite a continued desire to seek God and promote a healthy understanding of who God says you are.

For More Information...

- **Barnabas Foundation**
http://barnabasfoundation.com/_media/uploads/files/Family_Devotions_Where_Do_I_Start.pdf?phpMyAdmin=7acc4fbf8338t22f8efd9
- **Bible.org**
<https://bible.org/article/how-have-family-devotions>
- **Christian Mom Thoughts**
<http://christianmomthoughts.com/25-family-devotional-time-ideas/>
- **For the Family**
<http://forthefamily.org/start-family-devotions/>
- **GotQuestions.org**
<http://www.gotquestions.org/family-devotions.html>
- **Intoxicated on Life**
<http://www.intoxicatedonlife.com/2014/04/28/7-tips-starting-family-devotion-time/>
- **Managing Your Blessings**
<http://www.managingyourblessings.com/2013/01/09/the-importance-of-family-devotion-time/>

Family Devotion Time

What’s Inside

- Why is it Important to Have a Family Devotion Time?
- How to Start a Family Devotion Time
- What to Include
- Family Devotion Resources

Contact Us

First Baptist Church of Justin
408 W. 8th Street
Justin, TX 76247

Phone: 940 - 648 - 2773
Fax: 940 - 648 - 2625



How to Start a Family Devotion Time

1. **Establish a personal devotional discipline**

Starting a family devotion time will seem like you are swimming upstream if you have not first had a personal devotion time.

2. **Make a plan and stick to it**

This will look different from family to family. Whatever time works best for you, set a consistent time each day to gather together and read God's Word.

3. **Include everyone, even the little ones**

It may seem easier to just have this time with the ones old enough to sit and listen. It is important to include your little ones. It won't be long before they are listening quietly just like the older ones.

4. **Begin small**

It may be better to start with a shorter amount of time if you have younger children. This will allow you to begin creating a routine. As everyone begins to understand how to sit still and quiet during this time, gradually add time.

5. **Turn off all electronics**

This may be a given, but it needs to be started anyway! Yes, you can get the Bible on your electronic devices, but that may be distracting. Open up an actual Bible!

6. **Aim for transformation, not just information**

Knowing Bible stories, remembering facts and retaining information is great. Ask God to speak to yourself and to your children.

What to Include

Your family devotion time can look however you want to include it. But, it is important to include the following...

1. **Prayer**

There is no right or wrong way to approach this. This time may include a time of worship, praise confession, and/or personal requests.

2. **Reading from God's Word**

There are a variety of ways to approach this

Read a chapter or a portion each day

Bible reading plans

Devotional guides

Family Bible study programs

Younger children

3. **Discussion and Teaching**

- Keep it clear and concise. Ask basic questions to lead to a better understanding of the passage.

- Maintain a good balance between leadership and participation. Lead the discussion in a loving way towards truth.

- Be sensitive to the needs of the family. Some "off subject" questions may be a good indicator of issues children are facing.



Family Devotion Time Resources

- **Focus on the Family Mealttime Devotionals**
This book includes 150 mealttime devotionals. You can find 52 online for free!

- **Jesus Calling: 365 Devotions for Kids**
Based on Sarah Young's original Jesus Calling, this version has been adapted in a language and fashion that kids and tweens can relate to in their everyday lives.

- **The One Year Book for Family Devotions**
Each devotion contains a Scripture reading, a brief story in a contemporary family setting, a 'How about You?' section that applies to the readers life, a related Bible memory verse and a 2-5 word 'key' summing up the day's message.

- **Parenting with Scripture: A Topical Guide for Teachable Moments**
This book contains 101 topics which include Scripture passages, discussion questions, action items and parenting tips.

- **SBTC Family @Home App**
This app created by the Southern Baptist of Texas Convention provides weekly devotionals for the family and for marriage. Also included are helpful videos and articles on parenting.

- **YouVersion Bible App**
This app provides a multitude of devotionals for kids, youth, adults and for the entire family!

- **YouVersion Bible App for Kids**
This app tells the common Bible stories in a fun way. Games and review questions