

Here is a simple guide to help your family pray together.



Pray for **FAMILY MEMBERS.**



Pray for your **NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS.**



Pray for **OUR CHURCH.**



Pray for **OUR MISSIONARIES.**



Pray for **PEOPLE WE KNOW WHO DON'T KNOW JESUS.**



Pray for **OUR GOVERNMENT AND LEADERS.**



Pray for **OTHER CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD**—especially those who are treated badly because they are followers of Jesus.

For questions, contact:

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Church and Family Partnering Together



Today's Big Idea

Jesus Was Born
Read about it: Matthew 2:1-12; Luke 2:1-20



The Main Point

Jesus was born to be God's promised Savior.



What Did We Learn?

- ▶ Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem for a census.
- ▶ Jesus was born to be God's promised Savior.
- ▶ Angels appeared to nearby shepherds to tell them the news.
- ▶ Even wise men from the east traveled to worship Jesus as King.

TODAY'S CHRIST CONNECTION

The birth of Jesus was good news! Jesus was not an ordinary baby. He is God's Son, sent to earth from heaven. Jesus came into the world to save people from sin and to be their King forever.



LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY

Open your Bible to Luke 2:40-52 and read together as a family about Jesus at the temple. Or read the children's version of the passage below.

Every year, Jesus' parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover feast. When Jesus was 12 years old, Jesus and His family went to Jerusalem together. When it was time to go home, Mary and Joseph began traveling to Nazareth with a large group of people. They did not notice that Jesus was not with them. He had stayed behind in Jerusalem.

Mary, Joseph, and the other travelers had been walking for a whole day when they began to look for Jesus, but they could not find Him.

So Mary and Joseph went back to Jerusalem to look for Jesus. Finally, they found Him in the temple complex, sitting among the teachers. Jesus was listening to the teachers and asking them questions. Everyone who heard Jesus could hardly believe how much Jesus understood.

When Jesus' parents saw Him, they were surprised. Mary said, "Son, why have You done this? We've been looking everywhere for You."

Jesus asked them, "Didn't you know that I had to be in My Father's house?"

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- ▶ Why do you think Jesus stayed behind?
- ▶ Whom was Jesus talking about when He said He had to be in His Father's house?
- ▶ How can we know God is our Father too?

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Create a plan for what your kids should do if they get separated from you in a crowded place.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Even as a child, Jesus wanted to do His Father's plan. As Jesus grew up, He became strong and wise. God blessed Jesus as He got ready to follow His Father's plan: to die on the cross and rescue people from sin. s

BIBLE READING THROUGH THE WEEK

Take time this week to read the Bible together as a family. Breakfast, dinner, or bedtime—you choose when and where.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Luke 2:40	Luke 2:41–42	Luke 2:43–45	Luke 2:46–48	Luke 2:49–52

As you read, ask these questions:

- ▶ What is God teaching us?
- ▶ What does this show us about who God is?
- ▶ What do we need to ask God's help for to change?
- ▶ How would you share this with a friend?

UNIT MEMORY VERSE

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

—1 Timothy 1:15