

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 at the Temple
Read about it: Luke 2:40–52



The Main Point

Jesus and His family worshipped God at the temple.



What Did We Learn?

- ▶ Mary and Joseph traveled to Jerusalem for Passover each year.
- ▶ When Jesus was 12, Mary and Joseph accidentally left Jerusalem without Jesus.
- ▶ When they noticed He was missing, they returned, and found Jesus in the temple.
- ▶ Jesus came to earth to do His Father's plan.

TODAY'S 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.



LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY

Open your Bible to Matthew 3:13–17; Mark 1:1–11; Luke 3:21–22; John 1:19–34 and read together as a family about when Jesus was baptized. Or read the children’s version of the passage below.

John the Baptist began telling the people around him, “Repent and be baptized, for God’s kingdom is almost here.” Some people asked John, “Who are you?”

John said, “I am not the Messiah.” John said that he was the person Isaiah the prophet was talking about when he said, “There is someone shouting in the wilderness. He says, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord; make His paths straight!’”

John was supposed to get people ready for Jesus, God’s promised Messiah.

People started to repent; they turned away from their sins and turned to God for forgiveness. Then John baptized them in the Jordan River.

John preached: “Someone more powerful than I will come after me. I baptize you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

When John saw Jesus, he said, “Here is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

Jesus told John that He wanted to be baptized. But John didn’t think he should baptize Jesus. John baptized people who confessed their sins; Jesus never sinned!

Jesus said, “Allow Me to be baptized. God says this is right.” So John agreed, and he baptized Jesus.

Suddenly, the heavens opened for Jesus, and He saw the Holy Spirit coming down like a dove. And a voice came from heaven. “This is My Son,” the voice said. “I love Him, and I am very pleased with Him!”

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- ▶ How do you think John felt before baptizing Jesus? After?
- ▶ How do your kids know you love them?
- ▶ How do they know God loves them?

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Plan for your kids to attend worship with you. Point out the place where people are baptized. Talk about baptism’s purpose.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus never sinned, but He obeyed God and was baptized like sinners are baptized. Baptism reminds us of Jesus’ death and resurrection. It reminds us that when we trust in Jesus, we turn from sin and start a new life—a life lived for Jesus.

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
Matthew 3:13–17	Mark 1:1–11	Luke 3:21–22	John 1:19–28	John 1:29–34

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