

## **Faith Family Worship Guide – Week 28**

### **READ & MEMORIZE:**

2 Thessalonians 1:8-9

Philippians 3:20

John 3:16

There is a huge reason why the gospel must be woven into the fabric of our conversations. Man's eternal destiny hangs on his response to Jesus. Scripture teaches very clearly that after death there are two options – eternal life, glory, honor, and peace, or eternal wrath and anger and trouble and distress. The reality is that every single person will be irreversibly thrust into one of these two destinations: heaven or hell. Scripture confronts us with the truth that at death there is a road that is leading to eternal joy and there is a road that is leading to eternal, everlasting suffering. Which road are you on? If God is just and we are sinful, then apart from Christ we are on a road leading to an eternal hell. That's frightening to consider. That's a reality that most Christians would like to avoid. The gospel is important because eternity is forever and our response to Christ and the gospel determines where we will spend forever. This final thread raises the stakes of all the threads.

### **QUESTIONS:**

What will send people to eternal punishment in hell?

Through what means does someone have access to eternal life?

How does the truth of eternity affect the way we live today?

Bottom Line: Our eternal destiny hinges on our response to Jesus.

### **SUGGESTIONS:**

These suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God centered discussions with your entire family. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help your family discover the truths of God's word and worship him together.

Preschool:

- Before you begin open your Bible to John 3:16 and gather these items: wrapping paper, tape, and a small gift item (ex. gift for an upcoming family member's birthday or a special card or craft you make to give a neighbor or friend).
- First begin by explaining who the gift is for and then ask your child to help you wrap it.
- Thank them for helping wrap the gift. Ask if they like to receive gifts. If I were to give this gift to you or to someone else and ask you to give me money for it, would it be a gift? No, if you have to pay for it or do something to get it, it isn't a gift. When someone gives you a gift, there is no cost to you. All you have to do is accept it. That makes it a gift.
- What was the best gift you have ever received? We all have different ideas about what makes a great gift, but I want you to know about the greatest gift ever given. It is the gift of eternal life. It is a gift from God. It is given to anyone who wants to receive it.
- Let's look in our Bible and read what God says. Read John 3:16 to your child. The greatest gift of all is for you and me.
- Can you imagine how much God loved us to send His one and only Son to earth to die on a cross so that we could have eternal life? Can you imagine how much Jesus loved us to be willing to die on that cross so that we could have eternal life in heaven? God wants us to choose to follow Him and to love Him more than anything. He wants us to turn away from our sin and to trust Him. Jesus made a way for us to live with God forever in heaven. How wonderful it is that God gives us a hope and that we can look forward to heaven.
- End your time with prayer. Thank God for giving us the gift of His son, Jesus. Children
- Read 1 Thessalonians 1:8-9 with your child and ask them what they think it means to "know God" and "obey the gospel"? Discuss this with them for a few minutes.

- Make sure your child understands that knowing God doesn't just mean knowing about Him or believing He is God. Emphasize that "knowing" involves having a relationship with God, when someone turns from sin, trusts in Jesus to save them, and now walks in obedience to Him.
- Ask your child what this verse says about those who do not know God or obey the gospel. Explain that those who don't have a relationship with God will face life without God and an eternity of punishment separated from Him. Explain that it is sin that separates us from God, and we are unable to pay the penalty for our sin.

### **Introduction:**

Prep: Parents, gather one white object and one black object. You could use sugar cookies and Oreos if you would like to make it a yummy illustration. o Holding up the two objects ask, is it easy for us to see the difference between these two things? o Do you ever confuse the color white with the color black? o When we look at things that are different colors we can easily see that they are different; they are either one or the other. o We typically use white to represent right and black to represent wrong. But rather than accepting that things are black or white, we often throw the color grey into the mix. Grey fills the space between black and white. o In our culture, when we think about life, we like to think in terms of grey rather than black and white. We don't like for things to be absolutely right or absolutely wrong because we like to put in our own ideas and perspectives Think about movies in terms of our illustration. Are there things acceptable in movies today that were not acceptable 20 years ago? Rather than saying things are black and white, those who make and watch movies have decided to say things are grey and therefore nothing is absolutely wrong or unacceptable.

### **Discussion:**

Why do you think it is important to know the difference between looking at things in black and white versus in shades of grey? o If things are grey rather than black and white, what does that allow us to do? Lead your teen to understand that shades of grey allow us to determine whether something is right or wrong rather than judging it against a universal set of standards. In short, anything goes, and every person can justify virtually any decision they make, i.e. if it is true for you, then it is ok. o If we put ourselves in charge of deciding whether something is right or wrong (i.e. God-honoring or sinful), is that biblical?

### **Praise:**

Praise God for giving us:  
 Himself  
 Grace and Mercy  
 Salvation  
 Our family  
 Our church family  
 What has God done in our family this week that we can give him praise?

### **Pray:**

Use the ACTS model (Example below.)

- ADORATION – "He keeps His promises."
- CONFESSION – "Confess times when we have not obeyed"
- THANKSGIVING – "How has God been faithful to your family?"
- SUPPLICATION – "God encourages us to bring all of our needs and burdens to Him."
- Pray that we will live obediently to God's Word.
- Pray for your neighbors by name! Pray that God will bless them!