

Parent Encouragement & Preparation on the back along with “FPL Extras”—optional activities to supplement the front

THE BIG IDEA: King Jesus wants quality time with you

Someone Read Review of Last Week: If Jesus is your Savior and Lord, than He has adopted you into the forever family called the church. As the Head of the Church, Jesus gives every member His Spirit and spiritual gifts so their lives bear fruit and God is glorified. Everyone is given gifts to build up every member in their first place love relationship with Jesus. Gifted members also help the the church accomplish its purpose of making disciples around the world. This is something you can look forward to in the future if you have not yet surrendered your life to Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Read Matthew 6:6 together: (After reading the verse together, someone say:) Jesus tells His followers in Matthew 6:6 that prayer is something very personal between God and one of His redeemed children. Jesus says that it is so personal that we should seek privacy so that we can fully open up our hearts to God in quality time. **Read Mark 1:35 together.** Jesus’ place of privacy was often outside, very early in the morning where he would spend lengthy, intimate time with God the Father. Remember, Jesus didn’t have his own home, so He wouldn’t have had his own room in the same way we think of our bedrooms today. What is important is that we have a place and a time of privacy where we can have quality time to pray and listen to God without interruption.

9th Heart Compartment: Instruct your family to discuss each person’s place for spending quality time with the Lord. Talk about places and times that haven’t worked so well in the past. Invite everyone to think of a place and time they will set aside to begin spending with God and to share that : with the family. Take your heart and draw or write that place and time in your 9th heart compartment. Commit to encourage each other to prioritize time spent with God.

(After placing your hearts in the King Jesus chair as a symbol of your surrender, move the chair to face a family member’s place of quality time with God. Talk about how you will move the King Jesus chair multiple times this week so everyone has a turn for the King Jesus chair to face each person’s place for quality time with God.)

Staring Contest: Give everyone a chance to have a staring contest with everyone else in your family. Decide on contest rules so that a winner can be determined and a prize awarded. **Someone Lead Discussion:** When competing, did people tend to talk or stare in silence? What did it feel like to just stare at someone for that long? Do you feel closer to the person after having spent time staring at each other? Would you consider it quality time? Why or why not?

A Plan for Quality Time with God: It’s one thing to have a place, a time, and a desire to spend time with God. Without a plan for how that time is spent, it could become something less than quality time. Prayer and the Bible are necessary ingredients for spending quality time with God—like a two-way conversation between two people. Journaling and worship are also important aspects of deepening one’s first place love relationship with Christ. Have everyone develop a plan for quality time with God and write it down on the back of their heart. Encourage and help each other make the most of time spent with the Lord. **Tips for Quality Time:** 1) pray out loud — this has many benefits including clear thinking, avoiding sleepiness, and practice in praying out loud for the benefit of others in your family and church family 2) spend as much time as possible directing worship toward God (in prayer and/or singing) with your focus on the majesty of God in Christ 3) preach the gospel to yourself daily to root yourself in God’s grace, rather than your own efforts 4) read the Word and write down what God is showing You from the Word 5) finalize your quality time with a commitment to continue abiding in Christ through the remainder of the day, in unbroken prayer and surrender to His Spirit.

Prayer: Take turns huddling around each person to pray for that person’s quality relationship with God. Pray spontaneously or use this prayer: “Father, as a family we lift up _____ and his/her relationship with You. We know that _____’s relationship with You will affect everything he/she does. We pray that as quality time with you increases, that _____’s first love for and worship of Jesus will become more passionate and that it will be his/her delight to surrender to You as Lord in every part of life.”



Congratulations! You have completed your Week 12 First Place Love Envelope Activity! Have a child take the sticker provided in the envelope and place it on the Quest for the Crown placemat over Week 12. In conclusion of the challenge: take a creative selfie of your family holding up your envelope activity and placemat marked with the sticker. **REMEMBER to redeem your prize if you have completed 3, 6, 10 weeks at the @home central table at the church.** Post selfie and creative comment on the **FBCW Young Families** facebook page followed by this hashtag: **#FPLEnvelopeWk12**



Parent Encouragement: Families who have regular, biblical faith practices at home can leave a strong legacy of loving Jesus with all their heart and lives. This summer, we will practice just one faith practice mentioned in Deuteronomy 6: God-talks while sitting at home. Our prayer is that your summer @home activities will turn into a permanent part of family life. *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house...”* (Deuteronomy 6:5-7a).

Parent Preparation: Read through the entire activity sheet before your meal time to see if there are any preparations you need to make. Adapt this to your family’s personality, ages of your children, and anything you’d like to add. Read through **“FPL EXTRAS”** on the back for preparations required for any optional activities you might choose. Gather your family around the table in keeping with Deuteronomy 6:7. Be sure to have the FPL placemat, FPL Envelope, everyone’s own Bible, and these other preparations ready.

FPL EXTRAS

Extra Music: Review the Seeds Family Worship Songs from weeks 1 - 10 and see how many you can sing from memory.

Extra On-Mission: Consider the Family Serve mission trip on September 25, 26 this year.

For every family who completes all 13 FPL envelopes before midnight, August 31st, will receive a \$118 mega-prize that can be used toward the Family Serve Mission Experience.

Model for your family a Jesus-centered decision-making process for considering a mission trip opportunity.

- 1) Discuss the opportunity with your family,
- 2) identify obstacles to attending the trip and potential sacrifices that will need to be made,
- 3) pray together affirming your commitment to King Jesus and His Kingdom, and
- 4) pray about God’s will concerning this particular opportunity.

Even your prayers in this way will set the first-place-love tone of your family, even if this trip is not in the cards. It will also get you accustomed to listening to and affirming how God speaks to different family members. Also use this opportunity to be praying for those families who will attend.

A 36 - HOUR FAMILY MISSION EXPERIENCE



SEPTEMBER 25/26 (noon Fri - Saturday midnight)

Together on Mission

The purpose of Family Serve is to encourage families to put His Kingdom first together in a variety of local ministries. Options:

- Backyard Bible Clubs/VBS
- Light Construction/Repairs
- Servant Ministry
- Social Ministry (Food Pantry and Clothes Closets)
- Block Party
- Evangelism Ministries
- Health and Wellness Ministries (for unwed mothers, for example)

Cost: The registration cost (\$40/person; \$160 max/family) includes program fee, background check fee, three meals, church lodging, t-shirt and funds for local ministries involved in Family Serve. Please note, lodging at a hotel instead of the church is an option at an additional cost.

\$100+ FIRST PLACE LOVE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR COMPLETING 13 SUMMER ACTIVITY ENVELOPES



Jeff Slaughter will lead worship for Family Serve. He is a songwriter/worship leader who has written songs for LifeWay VBS for 16 years. Adults and kids will be inspired through worshipping with him!