

“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 and ages of your children. Read through **“FPL EXTRAS”** on the back to see if there are preparations required for any optional activities you choose. Now, 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 any other preparations ready.



Parent Say: “Last week, we got into our tent canopies and tried to guess each other’s shadows. We learned that creation tells us some things about God, like a shadow, but Jesus shows us everything we need to know about God—when we look at Jesus we are looking right at God. Today we are going to talk about the way God wants us to love Jesus.”

Everyone Make a Paper Heart: Gather supplies to make a paper-plate heart (you can use other materials, but something sturdy enough to use the entire summer). Color or decorate your heart to make it beautiful—it is going to be given as a gift to Jesus, so make it special. On your heart, draw lines that divide your heart up into 10 pieces (the lines can be like slices of a pie, or any other line arrangement that divides your heart into several sections). In three of the sections, draw/write/glue the name of the thing you love and treasure the most from the week 1 game—only one in each section. That should leave 7 empty heart sections that we will use later in the summer.

Matching Game: Draw a line between the Old Testament king and the matching condition of his heart

Scripture	Heart Condition
Isaiah 38:3 King Hezekiah	let his family turn his heart away from loving God the most
2 Chronicles 25:2 King Amaziah	returned to God more than any other King
1 Kings 11:4 King Solomon	would not set his heart to seek the Lord
2 Kings 23:25 King Josiah	he did right things, but not with a whole heart
2 Chronicles 12:14 King Rehoboam	did right things with a whole heart

Someone Read: Deuteronomy 6:5 in the translation in the youngest child’s Bible so everyone can understand. **Someone Ask:** Which kings were obeying Deuteronomy 6:5? How do you think God feels about each of these heart conditions? Which king’s heart does God want you to have? Why?

Parent Say: “God looks at our hearts, and his plan is for Jesus is to be our “first love” (Revelation 2:4). What do you think “first love” means? Does Deuteronomy 6:5 describe “first love” for Jesus? We can make Jesus our first love by giving Him our whole hearts. Why can’t we give Jesus just some of our hearts?”

Act it Out: (take pictures! and/or video) Matthew 2:11 is the story of wise men who saw the Bethlehem star and found Jesus. Turn in your Bibles and read it. What are the three things the wise men did when they saw Jesus? Act out that scene with your family. Instead of the 3 gifts mentioned in verse 11, use the hearts you made as the gifts you will present to Jesus (be sure everyone has a turn presenting Jesus their heart). **Now ask:** Why do you think the wise men did each of those three things? Which king from the matching game were they most acting like?

Someone Pray: King Solomon (1 Kings 8:61) once told the people: **“Let your heart ... be wholly devoted to the Lord our God.”** God, we want our hearts to be wholly devoted to the Lord Jesus! You are our first love! Help us to love You more and more”.



Congratulations! You have completed your the Week 4 First Place Love Envelope Activity! Have a child take the sticker provided in the envelope and place it on the treasure map side of the placemat over the Week 4 position. Now, take a selfie of your family with your placemat and paper hearts. Post the picture and comment on the [FBCW Young Families Facebook](#) page followed by this hashtag: #FPLEnvelopeWk4 **And remember, whenever your family completes its third envelope, come to the @home central area to redeem a family prize on Sunday morning. Prizes will also be awarded when you finish 6 and when you finish 10. Someone will ask to see a picture of your placemat.**



FPL EXTRAS

Extra Activity: Setup a small Christmas Tree in your home with any Christmas decorations you might have that are directly tied to Jesus. After the activity, place your hearts under the Christmas tree as gifts to Him.

Extra Teaching: Share with your children anything from the Week 4 material you covered in your adult Sunday School Lesson about Jesus' Birth and Ministry that you desire to share with them.

Extra Teaching Through Scripture Music: Seeds Family Worship has a song called "Teach Them" from Deuteronomy 6:4-7 (you can find this on YouTube). Play the song for your family, and discuss how these verses relate to the Week 4 family worship activity.

Remind your children that you are becoming a home that talks about the Lord when you "sit in your house" by using the placemat and envelope activities. Discuss God's plan for Jesus to be loved and treasured at all times, not just while in the church building. Look for other instructions in these verses about the other times families are commanded to talk about loving the Lord while not at church. Reread Deuteronomy 6:4-7 and discuss why you think the Lord wants Christian homes talking about Him. Why isn't talking about Him at church enough? How is Deuteronomy 6:4-7 similar to the "first place love" FBC emphasis this summer?

See if someone can say the verse from memory. Tell them, "whenever someone can say the verse from memory, he or she can pick a favorite family activity or meal to share together this month."