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## **Train & Multiply™**

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# Family Prayers



**Pastoral Leader Training Booklet**

# 6

## **Train & Multiply™**



**T&M™**

## FAMILY PRAYERS

“Family Prayers” is a devotional time together with the whole family. It’s best to hold it at the same time every day. This could be after breakfast. The father usually leads but helps all the family to take part. All pray, read the Bible, discuss the reading, and may sing. This need not take long. (Deuteronomy 6:4-5, Ephesians 5:22-6:4)



Does your family have “family prayers”?

- ☐ Yes.
- ☐ No, but we are going to begin now.

## SUMMARY TEST

1. Who are responsible for family prayers?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How do we teach our children to pray?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why are family prayers important?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Write down three or four things we do during family prayers.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## PRACTICAL WORK

- Memorize Genesis 18:19.
- Hold family prayers every day.
- Teach the heads of families in your congregation to do the same.

- ☐ Jesus Walks on the Sea (Matthew 14:22-33)
- ☐ The Cleansing of the Temple (Matthew 21:12-16)
- ☐ The Resurrection (Matthew 28:1-10)
- ☐ The Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20)
- ☐ The Blind Man (John 9)
- ☐ The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)
- ☐ The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)
- ☐ The Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31)
- ☐ The Feeding of the Five Thousand (John 6:1-15)
- ☐ Saul's Conversion (Acts 9:1-19)

Other suggestions: go through one Gospel from the beginning to the end, taking a portion every day, then do the same with the Psalms, Proverbs, and the Acts of the Apostles.

Family prayers do not replace our private prayer times. Every child of God should pray to his Heavenly Father, personally.

Do you have a daily devotional time to read God's Word and pray?

- ☐ Yes.
- ☐ No, but I'm going to start.

Family prayers do not take the place of the church meeting, either.



# FOUR TIMES FOR PRAYING

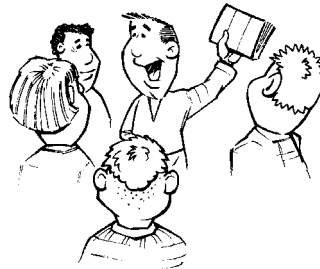
- We pray alone, in private.



- The family prays together.



- The believers pray together during group worship.



- We continually keep in touch with God. (1 Thessalonians 5:17)  
For example, we thank God before eating, or when we receive anything.

|                          |                           |                       |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Elisha and Naaman         | (2 Kings 5:1-14)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The Queen of Sheba        | (2 Chronicles 9:1-12) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | King Josiah               | (2 Chronicles 34)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ezra and the Law          | (Nehemiah 8:1-12)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The Lord is My Shepherd   | (Psalm 23)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Psalms of Praise          | (Psalm 150)           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The Blazing Furnace       | (Daniel 3)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Daniel and the Lions      | (Daniel 6)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The Birth of Jesus        | (Luke 2:1-20)         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The Visit of the Wise Men | (Matthew 2:1-12)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The Baptism of Jesus      | (Mark 1:1-11)         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The Temptation of Jesus   | (Matthew 4:1-11)      |

# BIBLE READINGS FOR CHILDREN

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Creation                    | (Genesis 1)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adam and Eve                    | (Genesis 3)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noah                            | (Genesis 6:5-22)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abraham and Isaac               | (Genesis 22:1-18)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jacob's Dream                   | (Genesis 28:10-22) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moses' Call                     | (Exodus 3:1-15)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crossing the Red Sea            | (Exodus 14)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Ten Commandments            | (Exodus 20:1-21)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joshua Takes Jericho            | (Joshua 6)         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> David and Goliath               | (1 Samuel 17)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elijah and the Prophets of Baal | (1 Kings 18:20-40) |

Dad, what should I say when I pray?



- Thank God for His blessings.
- Praise Him, using Psalms and hymns of praise.
- Trust in His forgiveness, even for sins you have committed today. This brings freedom; you will feel loved and accepted and free to ask His help to change. Ask the Lord to keep filling you with the Power of the Holy Spirit.
- Pray for your friends. Pray for your country and those who govern us. (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
- Pray for the Holy Spirit's empowering to live for Jesus.
- Pray for the church and its pastors.

Which of the above do you need to emphasize more, at family prayers? Please note your plans:

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# OUR CHILDREN AND FAMILY PRAYERS

The children take part in the prayers. This strengthens their faith, so that they may follow the Lord Jesus Christ all the days of their lives. If we neglect prayer, our children will imitate our bad example. Ephesians 6:4 says: *“Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.”*

Who is responsible for raising children as Christians?

- ☐ Their school.
- ☐ The church or godparents.
- ☐ Their parents.

The parents lead the family prayers, but all the children take part, too. We teach our children to pray by our own example, and also by encouraging them to pray for things that concern them (their friends, things at school, etc.) Children should not feel that family prayers are a burden, but rather a happy time together.

Have you taught your children to pray? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you pray with them? \_\_\_\_\_

# HOW TO HAVE FAMILY PRAYERS

Here we describe one way of having family prayers.

- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you all to understand the Bible.
- Read the Bible passage you have chosen. Each one can read a verse, including the children.
- Discuss the portion read. You could ask, “Which verse did you like most?” or “What does God teach us here?” All the family can join in. You don’t have to give a “sermon.”
- Everyone prays.
- Sing praises.

Children don’t understand all of the Bible. The following accounts are suitable to read to children. Mark the following boxes when they have been read.