

parent equip

SESSION 3

BRENTWOOD
families

Family Small Group Resources

HELP! I don't know where to start!

What can I use to lead my family as a small group?

- Take notes during the sermon. Throughout the week, re-read the passage together and discuss questions related to the points from the sermon.
- Keep the take-home sheet and/or the email from your child's group and use those questions/activities/talking points throughout the week. If you don't get these, ask your child's small group leader or the minister in their area to provide you with these.
- Read through the Gospel of John, one small section at a time, and for each section, ask these storying questions:
 - What did I like about this passage?
 - What did I not like about it, or what confused me?
 - What did I learn about God in this passage?
 - What did I learn about humans/myself in this passage?
 - Who needs to hear a truth from this passage?
- For younger children, read from a Bible storybook (suggestions listed below).
- Read a Psalm or a verse from Proverbs each day and discuss.
- Find a family devotional to help you get started (just be careful not to rely solely on a devotional instead of the Bible).

- Choose a verse and have your children copy the verse or find a coloring book of verses for them to decorate.
- If your family spends a lot of time in the car, consider playing Scripture for everyone to listen to, then follow the Scripture with a discussion while you drive.

My kids are young and don't sit still well. How can I keep them engaged?

- Try having a short Bible talk sitting on the floor. Do some simple stretches first to help them get out their wiggles, or incorporate movement into the Bible talk, such as having them catch a ball every time you ask them a question.
- Help them keep their hands busy by giving them play doh, Legos, or other quiet manipulatives to play with while they listen.
- Give them a coloring sheet that relates to the story.
- If they're old enough, task them with drawing a picture of what's happening while you tell the story.

My kids are older and resistant. How can I get them to show interest?

- Find a way to engage with Scripture that matches their learning style—use a journaling Bible to let them express themselves, incorporate a physically active component, use logic puzzles/brain games/trivia, or ask them to read the passage in advance and prepare the questions for the family. Find what sparks your child's interest.
- Give them time to wrestle with the Scripture and/or questions on their own before discussing as a family.