

# FAMILY ACTIVITIES

## *Prayer Ideas*

- Provide grandparents or other senior adults with a list of specific requests that they can pray for your children.
- Always end the evening with prayer as a family.
- Keep a family prayer request list. Note when God answers prayer.
- Ask another adult to pray with you daily for your children.
- Kneel by your child's bed as he is sleeping and pray specifically for needs in his life.
- When your children experience a problem, always pray with them about the issue. Provide guidance from the Bible.

## *Modeling Ideas*

- Let children see you having a regular devotion time with God, and then teach them how to have their own time with God.
- Always model a positive attitude toward church and fellow Christians.

## *Teaching Ideas*

- Have family devotions. Start small. Pick one night a week where you will read from a devotional book or a passage of scripture. Make it fun! Ask your children's minister for ideas about making this an exciting time for kids. As this becomes a habit, consider adding more nights.
- Read from a Bible storybook each night to young children.
- Pick a book that both influencer and child can read (either together or separately) and discuss it.

## *Personal Experiences and Other Ideas*

- Use travel time constructively! Talk with your kids about how they saw God in their day. Practice scripture memory. Listen to audio dramas or Christian music.
- In the *Parents' Guide to the Spiritual growth of Children*, the authors encourage you to identify your family type and then use that type to guide your spiritual time together. For example, if you are a sports family, pray about the activities together. Talk about Christian athletes. Relate the game to the Christian life. If you are a media driven family, engage in media TOGETHER. Discuss the values presented in television or movies. Find websites and apps that encourage spiritual growth.
- Participate in service projects as a family.
- Sponsor a child in another country as a family.
- Invest your money in books, CD's, and DVD's which help you pass on your faith to your children.
- Share your own faith stories with your children. Recall times when God was real in your life or times when He taught you specific lessons.
- Celebrate spiritual birthdays. If you normally have a cake and candles for a natural birthday, have a cake and candles to celebrate the days each family member accepted Christ as their Savior.
- Use holidays as a time to make faith a part of everyday life. Christmas time naturally lends itself toward service projects. Easter should be celebrated with the same enthusiasm as Christmas!