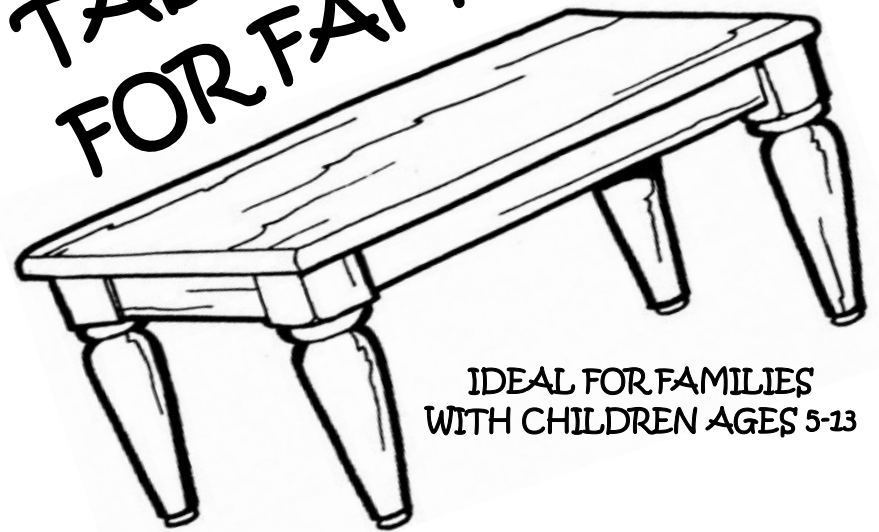


OUR FAMILY PLAN	
This week we can serve others by	
This week we can pray for these following families	
This week we can have fun as a family by	
This week we can grow closer to God by	
This week the kids can help parents by	
This week parents can help the kids by	
Other suggestions	

RENEWED IN CHRIST

TABLE TALKS FOR FAMILIES



IDEAL FOR FAMILIES
WITH CHILDREN AGES 5-13

....Strip off your old evil nature and all its wicked deeds. In its place you have clothed yourselves with a brand-new nature that is continually being renewed as you learn more and more about Christ, who created this new nature within you. ~ Colossians 3:9b,10

THEME: RENEWED

MONDAY

READ: Colossians 1:9,10

Dad and mom had bought a new board game and were planning on playing with their 6 year-old twin boys on the weekend. However, on Thursday, the boys got into the game. Not knowing how to read, or even wanting to check the directions anyway, they ended up using many of the pieces of the game the wrong way. When mom finally entered the living room, several of the game pieces were ruined and the boys were arguing with each other about what was the right way to play (even though neither of them knew!).

Sometimes life can be like this too. We don't spend time seeking to know how God wants us to live, and so we end up making a big mess of things (and then start arguing about it!)

1. Have you ever tried to play a game, a sport, or something without knowing the rules of the game? How did it go for you?
2. How did it go for the six-year old twins?
3. According to our Bible verses, when we know God and His will, how will we live our lives?
4. What are you doing to help you learn more about God and His will for your life?

PRAYER

- ◆ Thank God that He has a great plan for your life
- ◆ Ask God to help you learn more and more about Him and His will

SATURDAY

READ: Colossians 4:5,6

When I, worked for a computer company about a dozen years ago, I had a co-worker who told everyone she was a Christian. However, whenever our fellow employees talked about some of the bad things they did the night before or over the weekend, she would act disgusted, say rude things to them, and then use Bible verses to say they were all going to Hell! Now, while people who live outside of God's plan for their lives do end up going there, this woman was not helping anyone come to love Jesus. She was just helping them hate her!

1. How do you react to people who say rude things to you?
2. How was worker in the opening story NOT following verse 6?
3. If she had followed that verse, how might things have been different?
4. Do you ever speak to people rudely? If so, how can you do better?

PRAYER

- ◆ Thank Jesus for the example that He gives us to follow
- ◆ Ask God to help you speak in a way that's best for everyone who is listening

FRIDAY

READ: Colossians 4:2

When Robert Louis Stevenson was a boy he once remarked to his mother, "Momma, you can't be good without praying." "How do you know, Robert?" she asked. "Because I've tried!" he answered. This brings to mind a story about another little fellow -- one who had been sent to his room because he had been bad. A short time later he came out and said to his mother, "I've been thinking about what I did and I said a prayer." "That's fine," she said, "if you ask God to make you good, He will help you." "Oh, I didn't ask Him to help me be good," replied the boy. "I asked Him to help you put up with me!"

1. When you pray, what kind of things do you talk to God about?
2. What do you think our Bible verse means when it says "devote yourself to prayer"?
3. Who are some people that you know need some prayer right now?
4. What are some situations in the world that you can pray for?

PRAYER

- ◆ Thank God that He listens to, and answers, prayer
- ◆ Ask God to help you pray, and when you do to NOT do all the talking but to let Him speak to you as well

TUESDAY

READ: Colossians 2:6,7



In the picture above, you will quickly notice TWO things. First, a tornado has completely blown away several homes in a trailer park. Second, you will also notice that the yards where these homes once stood are still filled with grass. Why did the grass remain and the houses blow away? The answer is simple. The grass is rooted in the ground, but the homes were not.

1. Roots are important things. They enable grass and plants and trees to stay connected to the ground, and they supply nutrients. Do you think people need "roots" too?
2. What do our Bible verses have to say about roots?
3. What does the Bible say are the benefits of being rooted in Jesus?
4. Are you rooted in Jesus?

PRAYER

- ◆ Thank Jesus for loving you so much
- ◆ Ask God to help you be rooted and grounded in Him, so that you can live like Him and love like Him

WEDNESDAY

READ: Colossians 3:9,10

Besides it being Jesus' birthday, one of the things that Jenny loved best about Christmas was that she always got new clothes. She couldn't wait to get rid of some of her old clothes which were starting to fade in color, get little stains, and lose buttons. After Christmas, she could have some new outfits with crisp colors, no stains, and all their buttons!

In a way, when we accept Jesus as Lord and Savior, we end up like Jenny and her clothes. Once Jesus is in our lives, we can get rid of the "old us" that is stained by sin. In exchange, Jesus gives us something brand new. The chance to live life without all those sin stains!

1. What is one of your favorite things about Christmas?
2. What do our Bible verses say we should "take off" and what do they also say we should "put on"?
3. What does the Bible say happens when we put "the new self" on?
4. Why is it important that you get a "new self"?

PRAYER

- ◆ Thank God for His great and awesome love for you
- ◆ Ask God to help you love Him and learn more and more about Him

THURSDAY

READ: Colossians 3:16,17

I'm not one to want to hurt the feelings of any animals, but I think it is pretty safe to say that "sheep" aren't that great an animal. Is it any wonder there are no sports' teams named after "Sheep." The San Antonio Sheep? No. The Houston Ewes. Nope. It just doesn't happen. After all, sheep do not have fierce looks, or fangs, or claws, or deadly poisons, or stink sprays, or anything else. They aren't even fast or smart!

One thing a sheep does do well though is listen to the shepherd. In fact, the shepherd will speak to the sheep all day long, so the sheep will learn to follow.

1. Unfortunately, we are A LOT like sheep. We don't have anything that can really protect against the devil, but we do have Jesus our Good Shepherd. What do our Bible verses say will help us live more like Him?
2. Which of those things are you and your family doing?
3. Which ones are you NOT doing that you can start doing?
4. What can you do tomorrow for someone to show them Jesus' love?

PRAYER

- ◆ Thank Jesus for being the Good Shepherd who can protect you from all evil
- ◆ Ask God to help you listen to His voice and follow Him