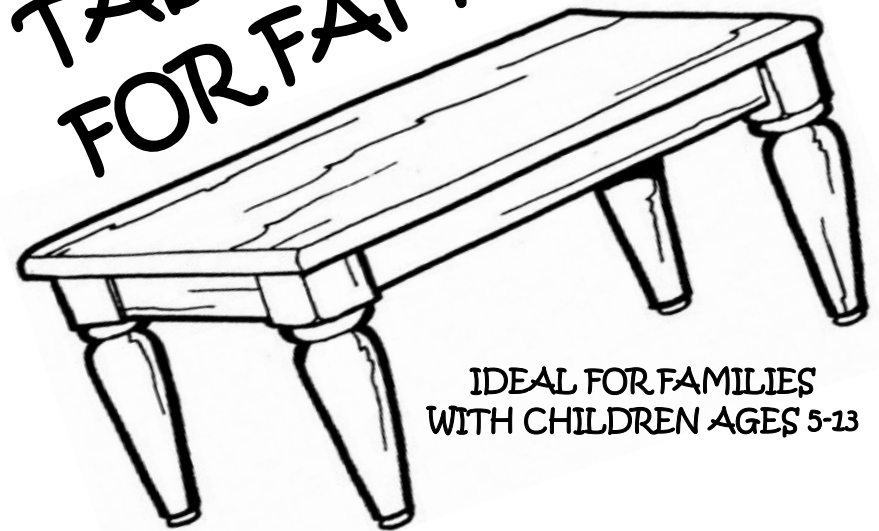


OUR FAMILY PLAN

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	

FAN OR FOLLOWER?

TABLE TALKS FOR FAMILIES



IDEAL FOR FAMILIES
WITH CHILDREN AGES 5-13

Then Jesus said to the crowd, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must put aside your selfish ambition, shoulder your cross daily, and follow me." ~ Luke 9:23

THEME: ARE YOU A FAN OR A FOLLOWER?

MONDAY

READ: Luke 9:23-26

Have you ever been to a baseball game or football game or some other sporting event? If you have, you know that there are usually A LOT of people there screaming and clapping and cheering. They are all really into the game for as long as it lasts. But then, when the game is over, they go home and keep on living life.

And that is okay. However, sometimes we do the same with God and church. We go to church and sing and pray and learn about God, but then go home and keep on living life the same way. Jesus doesn't want that though. He wants us to be always working to live life His way and to never be satisfied with living the same old way.

1. What event have you been at that has had the most people cheering, clapping, etc? (A game, a concert, a parade?)
2. Jesus doesn't want us to treat Him like a game or parade. He wants much more. What does He say about this in verse 23?
3. What do you think it means to "deny yourself"? How will that help you follow Jesus?
4. What can help you better follow Jesus?

PRAYER

- ◆ Thank Jesus for dying on the cross for your sins
- ◆ Ask God to help live for Him all the time

SATURDAY

READ: Matthew 16:24-27

In August of 2005, 15 year old twins Alex and Brett were tired of the low expectations placed on teenagers. They started a website known as "the rebelution." In the last six years, this website has had nearly 20 million views! In it, they encourage kids and teens to follow Christ, do hard things, and aim high. At age 17, they wrote a book entitled, *Do Hard Things*. The book became a best-seller and over 2000 teens have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior because of the twins work. Today, Alex and Brett have also written a second book and continue to encourage kids and teens to do great things for Jesus.

1. Do you think Jesus can use you to do big things?
2. How are the Bible verses for today similar to the ones from Monday?
3. How is what Jesus is saying here often a HARD thing to do?
4. Who is in your life that can encourage you to do these things?

PRAYER

- ◆ Thank Jesus for being willing to do hard things for you
- ◆ Ask God to help you do hard things for Him

FRIDAY

READ: Matthew 28:18-20

18-year-old valedictorian, Brittany McComb, of Foothill High School in Henderson, NV, knew it was only through God's love and grace that she was able to graduate High School at the top of her class. So, in her graduation speech, she made two references of the Lord, nine mentions of God, and one mention of Jesus. Before she was half-way through her speech, however, the school cut her microphone because she was talking about Jesus. They refused to allow her to finish her speech! BUT, the news of what the school did quickly spread giving Brittany even more opportunities to tell people about Jesus!

1. What do you think about Brittany's story?
2. How was Brittany trying to obey what Jesus said in our Bible verses for today?
3. Why is it so important that people hear about Jesus?
4. Write a list of people who need to know about Jesus. Commit to praying for them and looking for chances to talk to them:

PRAYER

- ◆ Thank God for the people who told you about Jesus
- ◆ Ask God to help you tell other people about Jesus so that He can change their lives

TUESDAY

READ: Isaiah 1:16,17

When Zach Hunter was 12 years old, he learned that 27 million people were still in slavery around the world, half of them children. Praying about what Jesus wanted him to do, Zach started *Loose Change to Loosen Chains*, and raised more than \$8,500 in his school and youth group to rescue victims of slavery and oppression. A couple years later, he became the youth spokesman for a campaign to end modern-day slavery.

Zach writes, "In Isaiah 1:17, God says to learn to do right, seek justice, rescue your oppressed, defend orphans, and plead for the widow," Zach explains. "It's a biblical mandate to go out there and help those who are in need."

1. Sometimes kids think that they are too young to follow Jesus and do big things for Him, but how does Zach prove that wrong?
2. Sometimes kids also think that they can do what they want NOW and when they are older THEN they can live for Jesus. Why is this NOT a good idea?
3. Have you ever prayed and asked Jesus what big thing He wants to do through you?

PRAYER

- ◆ Thank Jesus for wanting to do big things through you
- ◆ Ask God to show you what He wants to do through you to help people meet Jesus

WEDNESDAY

READ: Jeremiah 31:3

As a teenage girl, Hannah had NO IDEA what the purpose of life was. She just went from person to person and thing to thing trying to fill the hole in her heart. Then she met Jesus and He changed her life! She began to understand how much she was loved and cared for by God Himself. So much so that she wanted other teenagers to know about this too!

She started a special website that has been visited by thousands of teens and preteens. She also wrote a book while in high school all about God's love and how to share God's love. Today, she is still going around the country telling teens and others about Jesus and His love.

1. How much do you think that God's loves you?
2. How much does our Bible verse say that God loves you?
3. How are you showing love back to God?
4. Who you can you tell about God's love?

PRAYER

- ◆ Thank God for His great and awesome love for you
- ◆ Ask God to help you love Him back and to show His love to others

THURSDAY

READ: Matthew 28:1-10

One day a teacher asked her fourth grade class this question: "Who is the greatest human being alive in the world today?" The responses came quickly. One boy said, "I think its Tiger Woods. He's the best golfer ever." Another quickly raised his hand and replied, "It's Brett Favre because he's coming back for the Pack." Many answers were like those.

Then Donnie spoke up. "I think it's Jesus Christ because He loves everybody and is always ready to help them." The teacher told him that his answer was "OK," but that she was looking for the greatest *living* person, and of course Jesus lived and died almost two thousand years ago. Donnie was quick to correct his teacher, "Oh no, Mrs. Thompson, that's not true at all. Jesus Christ is alive and He lives in me right now!"

1. Do you think you could be brave like Donnie and tell your teacher and classmates that Jesus is alive and lives in you?
2. Who told people Jesus was alive in our verses for today?
3. Who can you tell that Jesus is alive?
4. What else can you do to help people know that Jesus lives?

PRAYER

- ◆ Thank Jesus for raising from the dead and winning the victory over sin and death
- ◆ Ask God to help you tell others about Jesus