

DISCIPLE-MAKING AT HOME: STARTING WITH HOW – PART 8

JUNE 18, 2020



I wish all the fathers a happy Father's Day this Sunday! This special day is to recognize your contributions and sacrifices to support your families and loved ones. Also, I want to appreciate your efforts to set example by leading family devotion at home according to **Deuteronomy 6:4-9**, and **Ephesians 6:4**.

In this article, I will elaborate on how to conduct Bible reading for the whole family. As suggested last week, you need to decide on a Bible reading scheme: read a paragraph or chapter each day, or follow a Bible reading plan, devotional guide, family devotion program. Regardless of your chosen approach, the Bible reading activity could consist of all or some of the following steps:

- Read the Bible passage slowly. You could read it twice for reinforcement or emphasis.
- Allocate time for everyone to think about each word and phrase, and try to understand the meaning.
- Discuss meaning of the passage, and encourage everyone to share his or her impression. The emphasis is to exchange ideas, not lecturing.
- Ask these 3 questions to facilitate discussion:
 - a. What does this passage tell me about God?
 - b. What does this story tell me about man?
 - c. If this is the truth, what change(s) would I have to make in my life in response?
- Read the passage or verses again for clarification, if necessary.
- Meditate on God's Word – the passage, a verse, or part of a verse (**Psalms 1:2**). Memorize it for further reflection.
- Pray back to God everyone's decided action(s) and encourage each other to follow through.
- Journal personal thoughts and experiences.



To facilitate discussion in family devotion, you could

- encourage the whole family to everyone in turn.
- keep it clear and concise by "What is said?" "What does it
- address special needs or of mind for the family member(s) at the moment.



participate actively and naturally by asking asking simple questions, e.g. "What happened?" "mean to me?" seemingly-unrelated questions which could be top

Please come back next week and read my article on praying in this Disciple-making at Home series.

To grow spiritually, check out the Pastor's Corner (<https://emc.ecac.ca/pastors-corner/>) and JMC's Devotions (<https://emc.ecac.ca/jmc-devotionals/>).