

DISCIPLE-MAKING AT HOME: STARTING WITH HOW – PART 10

JULY 2, 2020



Time flies as we have been on this “Disciple-making at Home” journey for over 3 months! We have covered the whys and whats of family devotion as a biblical way to practice disciple-making at home. Specifically, family devotion can include Bible reading, discussion and meditation, singing, and praying. In this 13th and last article, I will wrap up the series by talking about the last element in your family devotion - praying.

We communicate to God through reading His Word as well as two-way conversation through prayer. Therefore, your regular family devotions should begin with prayer and end with either a prayer or song. At the start, you could pray that God might open your family’s mind and heart to understand and accept His Word, and how it matters to all of you. After the reading, you could end with a prayer for application that has just grown out of your family’s discussion about the passage and lives. If there is time, the whole family could sing a hymn together as response.



Here are a few pointers about praying:

- Keep prayer short. It does not need to be long. Three to five minutes is sufficient.
- Ask everyone including children what to pray for and bring all those things in prayer. It helps the whole family to learn to trust God in all your needs.
- Be direct in prayer by pleading the case before God simply and briefly. For example, you could thank God for another day of His care and provision, and ask Him to bless your family on the day ahead.
- Train your children how to pray, and start by asking them to repeat after you.
- Avoid teaching in prayers.

Also, you can adopt the well-known Thanksgiving, and Supplication - in your journal of special needs of the whole and how God has answered to prayers encourage you and your family to continue



format of “ACTS” - Adoration, Confession, prayer. Moreover, you can keep a prayer family, relatives, friends and the church, through the years. The records will to rely on God through unceasing prayers.

I will pause the “Disciple-making at Home” series of articles for the summer as I am leading a new summer online course on “Living and Leading through Crisis.”

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/>).