

PLAN FOR DAILY FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

This schedule of daily study is offered to you as a practical aid in your family study. As a parent, you are responsible for helping your child to know God and to understand his Word. You are commanded by God to bring your children up "in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." The purpose of our family Bible study service is to help you obey this command. This study plan is just one of several things offered presently to help you as a parent in the difficult task of training your children for God.

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Here is a basic schedule which we suggest for your family study:

Monday—Tell the story to your children. Read the Bible yourself and get the story well in mind. Do not read to the children yet, especially if they are very young, for they cannot understand much of the reading. Reading long passages which they cannot grasp will bore them and cause them to dislike all Bible study. Make the story interesting!

Tuesday—Tell the story and fill in the lesson sheets. You will probably need to refer to the Bible for some of the answers. Ask the questions in in a family group & let the children volunteer answers. If all are stumped, then go to the Bible for the answer.

Wed.——Tell the story & let the children help in telling. By now your children should be familiar with the story, so they can supply names and outstanding actions in the story. Pause before important names and let one of the children fill them in. This technique helps hold their interest.

Thurs.——Read the story from the Bible and talk about its meaning. By now the children will be much more able to follow & understanding the reading. Read from a modern speech version (like Revised Standard Version). When you read, have the children suggest the primary meanings of the story. In other words, what lesson does the story teach? Older children may raise these questions earlier in the week, but on this day the whole family should write down & discuss the truths taught by the story.

Friday—Tell the story and read related Bible scriptures. On each lesson sheet, several related Bible passages will be listed "For Adult Study". These scriptures teach the same truth as that of the story. Discuss these and help the children understand by making concrete applications of the truths.

Sat.——Let the children tell the story. The children should be familiar with the story by this time. Let them tell the story, offering help when needed. On this day review the lesson sheet for the service the next day, the Lord's day.

Each child, and preferably, each parent should recite the memory verses during every study from Tuesday thru Saturday. All through the week stress the meaning of the verses. Be sure that the girls take part in this part of the study at home.

You may wonder about the repetition. This repetition is necessary for the younger children. Without it, they cannot begin to grasp the stories. It will not bother them. Think how often we repeat nursery rhymes and other stories—to their delight. You will be surprised to see what repetition will do for the memory & understanding of an adult. It enables us to discover truths that we could not possibly see in one or two study sessions.

This is not intended to be a rigid schedule for every family. Every family situation is a bit different. But this should give you some idea of what we are aiming at. You will want to alter the plan to fit your needs. Ages of your children will affect the whole approach in your home. The most important feature of the plan, however, is this—it is daily. You will have to make a conscientious effort to find time for it. But you will find time if you value the souls of your family.