

Family Worship Guide – Week 15

READ

- 1 Samuel 26
- This is not the first time we have seen Saul pursuing David, and it is also not the first time David has passed on the opportunity to eliminate his pursuer. David's men desired to strike down Saul once and for all. However, David would not go against the Lord, saying, "Who can put out his hand against the Lord's anointed and be held guiltless?"
- Psalm 27
- This prayer of David allows us to hear David's heart during times of great crisis. He was fearless when armies came against him because he was confident in the Lord. The "one thing" he asked of the Lord was to "dwell in the house of the Lord." David steadfastly maintained this attitude as he waited upon the Lord.

The Bottom Line: David's actions demonstrate the focus of his heart. Above all, David desired the glory of God. This provided David incredible peace and absolute confidence in the plans of the Lord.

Questions:

Why did David respect the life of Saul?

How did David resist the influence of those who wished he would kill Saul?

How do we resist the influence of others around us?

How does King David's heart seen in Ps. 27 reflect the heart of King Jesus, David's greater Son?

PRAY

- Read: *Window on the World*, pg. 106-107 *Lobi* (Cote d'Ivoire)
- Use Prayer Card

SING

- Use lyric sheet and link to "I Give You My Heart"
- We chose "I Give You My Heart" as our song this week as a response to the many revelations we see about God in Psalm 27. We see that He is our light and salvation, He gives us victory over our enemies, He is our shelter in times of despair and He is able to set our feet on a sure path. God desires that our response to these revelations be surrender to His will and leading in our lives. Not affections divided between God and other things that so easily take His place. It is a difficult truth to sing with honesty, but as we meditate on the various truths found in Psalm 27, let's be reminded of the confidence we find in God that our hearts and lives are safest and most glorifying in His hands.

MEMORIZE

- Psalm 27:4 One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.

SUGGESTIONS

These suggestions were created by the age-group ministry leaders as a way to help parents better communicate the biblical truths discussed in the Family Worship Guide. These activities and questions can replace or serve as a supplement to the questions under the “Read” section on Page 1. Remember that these suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God-centered discussions with their children. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help their children discover the truths of God’s word and worship Him together.

Preschool (Birth-Kindergarten)

- Before you begin: gather some plates, cups, a special snack and drinks for you and your children.
- Tell your preschooler you are going to serve a special drink and snack, but they will need to follow your instructions to help set the table. Have them help you set the table with plates, napkins, cups, etc. Once the table is set, tell them you are going to serve them their snack, but they may not eat until everyone is served and the blessing has been spoken. Tell them that this is the rule for serving snacks today.
- Once all is done and the snacks have been enjoyed, explain to your child how great it was that they followed your instructions. Say, “I was really proud of the way you followed my directions and waited on everyone else to be served before you enjoyed your snacks. Just like Mommy and Daddy wanted you to follow our directions for snack time today, God wants us to follow His directions and plans, too!”
- Just like David, who followed God’s directions, we should wait and follow God’s directions. Did everything work out right for us today when we followed directions and got to eat our yummy snacks together? Yes, it did. God’s plan is always best and He is in control!

Children (Grades 1-5)

- Before starting, grab a map, a recipe or cookbook, and a Bible.
- Ask your children: If you are going to drive to a new place what should you have? A map. Show them the map and tell how you would plan a trip with the map. If you are making a new food, what should you have? A recipe. Show them the recipe and talk about the steps it tells you to take. What would happen if you did not have these things? You would not do them correctly and you would most likely mess up. Do we need a guide in our lives? Yes, we need the Bible to guide us to follow God’s plan for our lives.
- We look at David’s decision to spare Saul’s life and see clearly that he was following God’s desires and not his own (1 Samuel 26:8-11). He had a chance to kill Saul easily and yet he did not. This shows the focus of David’s heart. Did he want his way or God’s way? He chose God’s way over his own. This is something we have to do on a daily basis. In order to make the right decisions, we must have a plan before we are in a position to make a choice. David made a decision to follow and obey God. This allowed him to make the right choice when faced with this difficult decision. Likewise, we must seek to follow His plans.
- Have your children think of things that happen in their life where they have to make right or wrong choices and discuss the possible results of those choices. Examples: schoolwork (cheating, not doing best), friends (gossip), parents (lying), television shows, music, and video games (bad language and images).

Students (Grades 6-12)

- Take another look at 1 Samuel 26:8-11 and Psalms 27:14. What do these two Scriptures have in common? *David realized that waiting and trusting in the Lord demonstrated the Lord’s strength more than taking things into his own hands, thus, magnifying his own power.*
- Read the following verses in 1 Samuel 26 and list the four reasons David did not kill Saul (vs. 9, 10, 23, and 24). Discuss as a family and then review these conclusions:
 - Saul was the Lord’s anointed (vs. 9). To do him harm would have brought about guilt, even if he were a bad king.
 - David acknowledged that it would not be him, but God, who would bring about Saul’s death (vs. 10)
 - David trusted the Lord to repay both righteous deeds as well as evil deeds (vs. 23)
 - David knew the Lord was the true deliverer, not himself. (vs. 24)
- Identify some areas in your lives where you have trouble waiting/trusting on the Lord. *How about when others have wronged us, or when we’re unsure of a decision.* Believing the plans of the Lord are trustworthy is easy to say, but difficult to practice. Discuss some ways you as a family can demonstrate trust like we see in the life of David.

Prayer

Thanksgiving

When we pray a prayer of thanksgiving, we are expressing our gratitude to God. Prayers of thanksgiving can be lifted up in response to who God is, what He has done for us through Christ and for the blessings He continually bestows upon us.

Biblical Basis for Thanksgiving:

Psalm 69:30, Psalm 100:4, Philippians 4:6, Revelation 7:12

Take some time for each of those gathered with you to express their thanks to the Lord.

Nations: Cote d'Ivoire

- Cote d'Ivoire is one of the 20 poorest countries in the world. Pray for God to provide in a mighty way for the people of Cote d'Ivoire.
- Pray that the Gospel is heard and seen by the more than 218 thousand Lobis.
- Pray for the translation of the whole Bible into a language that the Lobis can read and understand.
- Ask God to build up His church among the Lobis in Cote d'Ivoire to be a beacon of the gospel for His name's sake.

Source: *Operation World* by Johnstone and Mandryk

Week 15

I Give You My Heart

By Reuben Morgan

This is my desire

To honor You

Lord, with all my heart

I worship You

All I have within me

I give You praise

All that I adore

Is in You

Lord, I give You my heart

I give You my soul

I live for you alone

Every breath that I take

Every moment I'm awake

Lord, have Your way in me

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and Music by Reuben Morgan

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Scripture Memory

Week 15

Psalm 27:4 One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.

