

SESSION 3 | FAMILY CONVERSATIONS

These family conversations are designed to help you create moments to talk about God and faith in your family. We want to encourage you to carve out a moment each week to read and discuss each family conversation. This could be over the dinner table, before bedtime, or whenever works best for your family. In each family conversation, you will find four parts.

Scripture: Read the passage out loud, or encourage a family member to read.	Devotion: Read this to your family.	Conversation: Pick and choose what questions are best for your family to discuss.	Prayer: Pray for your family or encourage a family member to pray.
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Just as a heads-up, things probably won't go as planned with your family conversations. Your family may interrupt, someone probably won't pay attention, and there may not be any grand spiritual moments. What matters most is that you are seeking God as a family. Faith in your family is more often caught than taught. Your family will most likely forget these devotions, but they will remember the intentionality and time together. That will set the stage for you to model faith and continue building a spiritual legacy in your family.

SCRIPTURE:

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:8

DEVOTION:

When people decide to accept Jesus as the Savior and Lord of their lives, God gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit. This is the promise Jesus makes to His followers in Acts 1:8 and it's for us today too! The Holy Spirit is God's presence within us, helping us to live out our faith. Think of the Holy Spirit as a close friend who is always there to guide, comfort, and empower you. When we invite the Holy Spirit into our lives, we receive the strength and courage we need to live for Jesus and share His love with others.

While the Holy Spirit can speak audibly to you, more often He provides a certain gut instinct that has more to do with your heart. Have you ever found yourself thinking about a friend or family member all day, only to discover later that they were sick or facing difficulties? That could have been the Holy Spirit prompting you to pray. Or perhaps you've been on the playground and felt a gentle nudge to reach out to a kid

playing alone? That's likely the Holy Spirit guiding you. Have you ever been deeply moved by a song or a sermon? That too might be the Holy Spirit speaking to your heart.

The Holy Spirit transforms our lives. He convicts us when we sin. He moves us to forgive others. He encourages us when we are sad. He strengthens us to do the right thing and live like Jesus. When we let Him work within us, He helps us connect others to Jesus.

Imagine a flashlight without batteries. No matter how much you push the button, it won't light up. But, when you put in the batteries, the flashlight shines brightly. The Holy Spirit is like the batteries in a flashlight. Without Him, we might feel powerless or unsure. With Him, we can shine brightly to those around us. We can have confidence because God is living in us.

Acts 1:8 encourages us to be witnesses sharing our faith and pointing people to Jesus. We cannot do that without the Holy Spirit. With Him, we can be shining lights in darkness. With Him, we can connect others to Jesus and help them grow to live in step with the Spirit.

CONVERSATION:

Do you have a story when you experienced a lot of darkness (power outage, cave, camping, etc...)? What was it like when you turned on a light in the darkness?

How does the illustration of the flashlight and batteries help you understand the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives?

Can you think of a time you felt a nudge to do something kind or helpful? Could that have been the Holy Spirit?

Can you think of a situation right now where you need extra strength or courage? How might the Holy Spirit help in such situations?

What can we do this week to stay more in tune with the Holy Spirit and let Him guide us?

PRAYER:

As a family, thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Ask for help to rely on His power in your lives. Pray for the Holy Spirit to be present and ask for help recognizing the moments He nudges your family to live like Jesus. Finally, pray for the courage and the words to share the love of Jesus with others.