Teaching Children to Follow Jesus



Build a biblical foundation for salvation, prayer, and spiritual growth in children through intentional family discipleship.





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Introduction

Welcome to this 7-day Bible study plan focused on teaching children to follow Jesus. As parents, guardians, and spiritual mentors, we have the God-given responsibility and privilege to guide the next generation in faith. Children are not only the future of the church but also present recipients of God's love and truth. Building a biblical foundation for salvation, prayer, and spiritual growth early in life cultivates a lifelong relationship with Christ.

Through Scripture, we see numerous examples of how families and communities intentionally nurtured faith in children. The Psalmist declares, "I will teach your statutes to my children" (Psalm 78:5), and Jesus Himself welcomed and blessed children, emphasizing their value in the kingdom of heaven (Mark 10:14). Teaching kids about salvation—their need for a Savior and trusting Jesus personally—grounds their faith. Equally important is developing practices like prayer, reading Scripture, and loving others, which foster spiritual growth day by day.

Each day in this study focuses on vital themes and practical ways to impart these truths to children. You will find key Scriptures to meditate on, supportive verses that expand the ideas, and thoughtful devotionals to encourage intentionality in your teaching. Reflection questions provoke deep thought about how to model and communicate God's love effectively, while journaling prompts help process your own faith journey as you lead little ones.







Whether you are a parent, grandparent, teacher, or ministry leader, this study invites you to partner with God in shaping young hearts for Christ. Let's embrace the call to be faithful mentors, guiding children to experience salvation, cultivate prayer, and grow spiritually in Jesus' name. May this time enrich your family's walk with God and empower you to lovingly shepherd those entrusted to your care.







Day 1: Tunderstanding Salvation for Children









Day 1: 🍞 Understanding Salvation for Children

Your Verse

John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Supporting Scriptures

- Romans 10:9 "If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."
- Acts 16:31 "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."







Day 1: 7 Understanding Salvation for Children

Devotional: Helping Children Understand God's Gift of Salvation

Introducing the concept of salvation to children is a foundational step in helping them follow Jesus. Salvation means being rescued from sin and receiving eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ. It is essential to present this truth clearly and lovingly, emphasizing that God's love and forgiveness are free gifts, not earned by good behavior.

Children can grasp the core message of John 3:16—that God's love is so great He gave His only Son so we can live forever with Him. Use simple, relatable language and stories to explain how Jesus died and rose again to make a way for us to be close to God.

Encourage questions and be patient, creating an open atmosphere where kids feel safe exploring faith. Romans 10:9 reminds us that what matters is believing and confessing Jesus as Lord. This is a personal and heart-level decision accessible even to young children.

Pray with your children regularly, asking God to help them understand and receive His salvation. Trust that God is at work in their hearts.







Day 1: 7 Understanding Salvation for Children

Reflect and Apply

1.	How can you explain salvation in ways that a child can easily understand?
	What are some common questions children might ask about Jesus and salvation?
	How can you model authentic faith and dependence on Jesus before your children?







Day 1: 🍞 Understanding Salvation for Children

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about your own salvation story and what it means to you.
	List practical ideas for teaching your child about God's love and forgiveness.
3.	Reflect on any fears or challenges you have about sharing the gospel with children.







Day 1: 7 Understanding Salvation for Children

Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your unfailing love and the gift of salvation through Jesus. Help me to clearly and lovingly teach this truth to the children in my care. Give me wisdom and patience as I guide their hearts toward You. May they come to know and trust Jesus personally and grow in faith each day. Surround them with Your Spirit, comforting and leading them in Your ways. *Thank You for entrusting me with this sacred responsibility.*

In Jesus' name, Amen. 🙏 💙 🔲 🖴

















Day 2: A Teaching Children to Pray

Your Verse

Luke 18:15 – "People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. But Jesus called the children to him and said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

Supporting Scriptures

- Matthew 6:9–13 "This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven...'"
- Philippians 4:6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."







Day 2: A Teaching Children to Pray

Devotional: Encouraging a Prayerful Heart in Children

Prayer is the lifeline of our relationship with God, and teaching children to pray invites them into ongoing conversation with their Heavenly Father. Jesus welcomes children and values their faith, as shown in Luke 18:15–16. Instill in children the joy and confidence that God listens and cares about every word they share.

Begin with simple models like the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13), helping children learn to praise God, confess sins, thank Him, and ask for needs. Encourage them to pray spontaneously as well — during play, before meals, or whenever they feel thankful or in need.

Prayer can also be a way to teach dependence on God rather than worry, as Philippians 4:6 reminds us. Make praying together a routine and affectionate experience, showing that prayer is not about perfection but a heart connecting with God.

Remember that praying with children builds their faith and gives them a tool to rely on God throughout life's joys and challenges.







Day 2: 🙏 Teaching Children to Pray

Reflect and Apply

1.	How do you currently model prayer in your family environment?
	What simple ways can you incorporate prayer teaching into daily routines with children?
	How can you encourage children to express their feelings honestly to God in prayer?







Day 2: 🙏 Teaching Children to Pray

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write down how prayer has impacted your own faith journey.
2.	List five practical moments during the day to practice prayer with children.
3.	Reflect on any struggles you've faced in praying as a family and how to overcome them.







Day 2: A Teaching Children to Pray

Prayer for Today

Dear Lord, thank You for inviting children into Your presence and teaching us to pray. Help me to nurture a prayerful heart in the children You have placed in my life. Give me creativity and patience as I guide them to speak and listen to You. May prayer become a natural and joyful part of their daily experience, strengthening their faith and peace. Keep us connected to You in every moment. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*



















Your Verse

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 - "These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

Supporting Scriptures

- Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."
- Proverbs 22:6 "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."







Devotional: Making God's Word a Living Part of Family Life

Teaching children to love and live by God's Word forms a solid foundation for spiritual growth. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 encourages us to integrate Scripture into daily family conversations, making God's truth familiar and relevant.

Children learn best by repetition and example. Reading Bible stories, memorizing verses, and discussing biblical principles in everyday situations help root God's Word deep in their hearts. Psalm 119:105 reminds us that Scripture guides us like a light, preventing us from stumbling in life's challenges.

Begin with age-appropriate portions of the Bible and link the lessons to your child's experiences. Encourage questions and celebrate their discoveries. Proverbs 22:6 highlights the lifelong impact of early spiritual training.

By weaving God's Word into family rhythms—meals, car rides, bedtime—you create an environment where faith grows naturally and resiliently.







Reflect and Apply

	How can you incorporate Bible teaching more consistently into your family routine?
	What Bible stories or verses have most impacted you and might resonate with your children?
3.	How can you create a warm atmosphere where children feel invited to
	explore Scripture freely?







Journaling Prompts

	Write down a plan for Bible reading and discussion during the week with your children.
2.	Reflect on how God's Word has influenced your decisions and character.
3.	Identify challenges you face in teaching Scripture and brainstorm solutions.







Prayer for Today

Lord God, thank You for the gift of Your Word, a lamp that lights our way. Help me to impress Your commandments on my children's hearts by making Scripture a living part of our family life. Give me wisdom and creativity to teach Your truth in ways they can understand and cherish. May Your Word transform our hearts and guide our steps daily. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*

















Your Verse

Ephesians 5:1-2 - "Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

Supporting Scriptures

- Colossians 3:12–14 "Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience... And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."
- 1 John 4:19 "We love because he first loved us."







Devotional: Reflecting God's Love in Daily Family Life

Children learn more from what we do than what we say, making our example of love crucial in teaching them to follow Jesus. Ephesians 5:1–2 calls us to imitate Christ's sacrificial love. Show patience, kindness, and forgiveness within your family, demonstrating God's grace in action.

Colossians 3:12–14 encourages clothing ourselves with virtues that create healthy, loving relationships. When children witness compassion and humility modeled authentically, they form a biblical understanding of what love looks like practically.

Our motivation for love is rooted in God's love for us (1 John 4:19). A family culture centered on Christlike love creates a safe and nurturing environment for children to grow spiritually and emotionally.

Daily small acts—listening attentively, apologizing when wrong, serving one another—speak volumes to children and guide their hearts toward God.







Reflect and Apply

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Journaling Prompts

	Recall a recent challenge where showing love was difficult and how you handled it.
2.	List ways you can foster a more loving environment in your family.
	Reflect on how God's love has changed your perspective on family relationships.







Prayer for Today

Gracious Father, thank You for loving me first and calling me to love others in the same way. Help me to model Christlike love to my children through my words and actions. Fill my heart with compassion, kindness, humility, and patience. Teach me to forgive and serve generously, creating a home where Your love is evident. May my family reflect Your goodness and grace daily. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*

















Your Verse

Proverbs 22:15 – "Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far from him."

Supporting Scriptures

- Hebrews 12:11 "No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it."
- Ephesians 6:4 "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."







Devotional: Guiding Children with Love and Wise Discipline

Discipline is an expression of love that provides children with guidance and helps shape their character in alignment with God's truth. Proverbs 22:15 highlights that discipline protects children from harmful folly, while Hebrews 12:11 reminds us that although discipline is challenging, it yields a harvest of righteousness and peace.

Effective discipline combines firmness with gentleness, avoiding actions that provoke resentment (Ephesians 6:4). The goal is to teach obedience, self-control, and respect while nurturing a loving relationship.

Set clear boundaries based on biblical principles and communicate them in age-appropriate ways. Consistency and grace are vital, as is explaining the reasons behind rules so children understand God's purpose and love behind discipline.

By doing so, you help your children develop a secure and healthy foundation for following Jesus in all areas of life.







Reflect and Apply

1.	How do you currently approach discipline in your family?
	Are there ways to balance correction with encouragement more effectively?
3.	How can biblical truths inform your family's rules and consequences?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a time when discipline led to positive growth in your life or your child's.
	Brainstorm age-appropriate boundaries you want to establish in your home.
3.	Reflect on your feelings about discipline and how God might be shaping your heart.







Prayer for Today

Lord God, thank You for the gift of discipline that nurtures growth and righteousness. Help me to teach and guide my children wisely, with a heart full of love and patience. Give me clarity to establish healthy boundaries that reflect Your truth. May discipline in our home reflect Your grace and produce peace and character in the lives of my children. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*

















Day 6: 🏂 Celebrating Spiritual Milestones Together

Your Verse

Psalm 127:3 - "Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him."

Supporting Scriptures

- Luke 2:52 "And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man."
- Galatians 6:9 "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."







Day 6: 🏂 Celebrating Spiritual Milestones Together

Devotional: Honoring Growth and Faith Journeys as a Family

Recognizing and celebrating spiritual milestones encourages children and reinforces God's faithfulness in their growth. Psalm 127:3 reminds us that children are God's precious gift. As they grow in wisdom and favor like Jesus did (Luke 2:52), it is important to affirm their faith steps — whether learning a new Bible verse, praying independently, or making a personal commitment to Christ.

Celebrations express gratitude and motivate continued growth. They also involve the whole family in witnessing God's work and promises. Galatians 6:9 encourages perseverance in doing good, with confidence that fruit will come in due time.

Incorporate simple rituals like prayer, sharing testimonies, or giving small rewards to mark progress. These moments build confidence in children and deepen family bonds rooted in Christ.







Day 6: 🕭 Celebrating Spiritual Milestones Together

Reflect and Apply

How do you currently celebrate spiritual growth in your family?
What milestones can you identify and encourage in your children's faith ourney?
How can celebrations deepen the family's commitment to walking with esus?







Day 6: 🕭 Celebrating Spiritual Milestones Together

Journaling Prompts

1.	List recent spiritual steps your children have taken and ways to recognize them.
	Reflect on how celebrating growth has impacted your faith and motivation.
3.	Plan a meaningful way to celebrate upcoming spiritual milestones in your home.







Day 6: 🏂 Celebrating Spiritual Milestones Together

Prayer for Today

Father, thank You for the precious gift of children and the joy of watching them grow in You. Help me to recognize and celebrate their spiritual milestones, big and small, encouraging them along their faith journey. Strengthen our family's unity and commitment to follow Jesus together. May our celebrations bring glory to You and inspire perseverance. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*









Day 7: Partnering with the Church and Community









Day 7: "Partnering with the Church and Community

Your Verse

Hebrews 10:24-25 - "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another."

Supporting Scriptures

- Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."
- 1 Timothy 4:12 "Set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity."







Day 7: "Partnering with the Church and Community

Devotional: Building a Supportive Spiritual Community for Families

Teaching children to follow Jesus is not done in isolation but thrives within a supportive community of believers. Hebrews 10:24–25 reminds us of the importance of encouraging one another through fellowship and accountability.

Engaging with your local church offers children exposure to Christian teaching, worship, and friendships that reinforce faith values. Matthew 18:20 assures us that Jesus is present whenever believers gather. This communal environment provides a safe space for children to ask questions and grow.

Parents and mentors are also called to set godly examples (1 Timothy 4:12), partnering with the wider body of Christ in raising spiritually mature children. Collaborating with other families and church leaders strengthens the foundation you build at home and provides encouragement along the journey.

By connecting our homes and churches, we create a unified front to nurture the spiritual development of the next generation.







Day 7: 🎔 Partnering with the Church and Community

Reflect and Apply

1.	How connected is your family to a local church or spiritual community?
	What benefits have you noticed from communal faith involvement for your children?
3.	How can you be an example and encourage others in the body of Christ?







Day 7: 🎔 Partnering with the Church and Community

Journaling Prompts

	Write down your church involvement and opportunities for deeper connection.
	Reflect on how you can support other families teaching children about Jesus.
3.	Plan ways to encourage fellowship and accountability in your family's faith life.







Day 7: 🎔 Partnering with the Church and Community

Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, thank You for the gift of community where we can learn and grow together. Help me to actively partner with the church and believers in raising my children to follow You. Guide me to set a godly example and to encourage others in this great calling. May our families be strengthened by fellowship, love, and shared faith. *In Your name, Amen.*









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