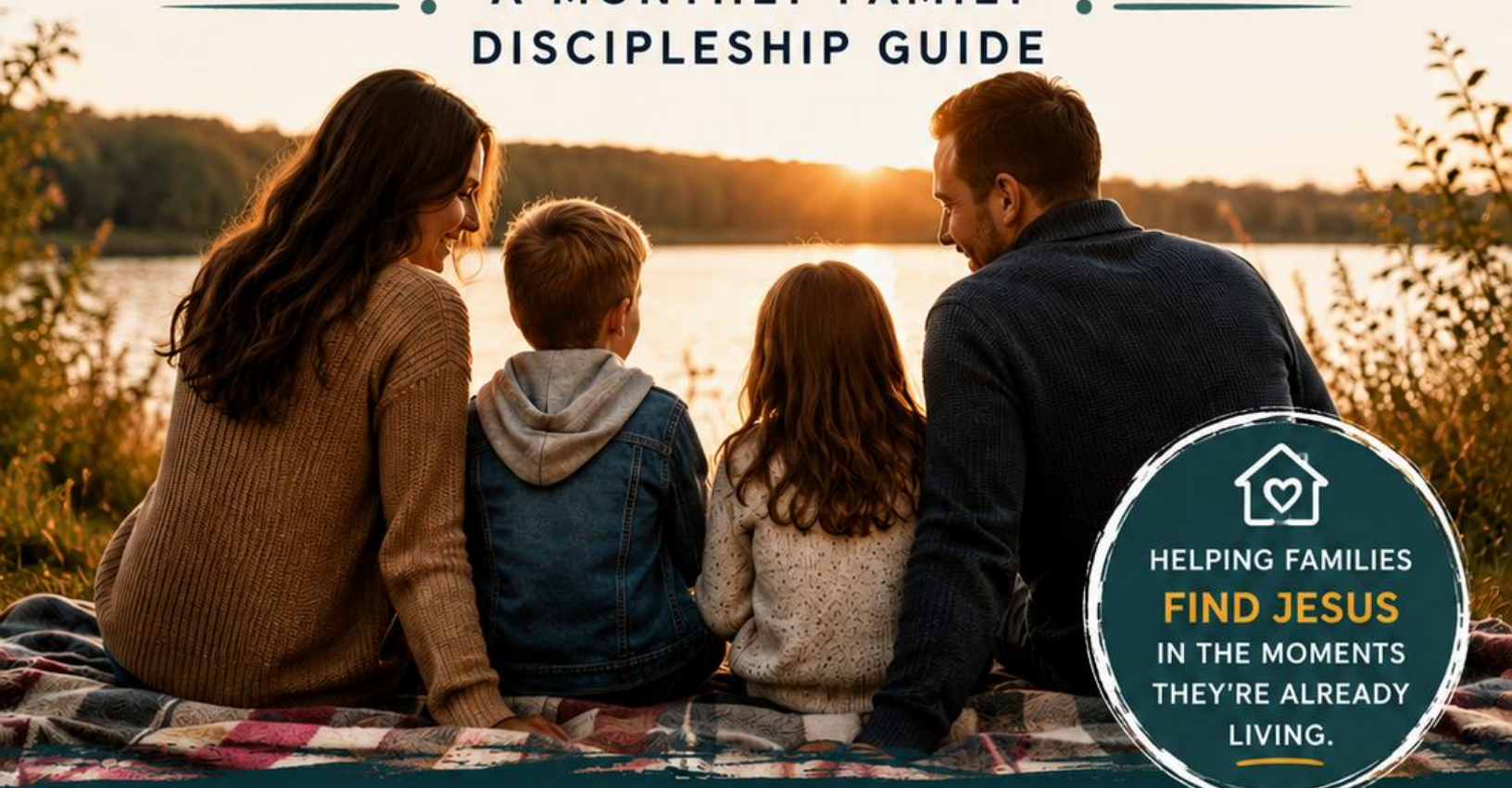
USE THIS Moment

A MONTHLY FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



HELPING FAMILIES **FIND JESUS** IN THE MOMENTS THEY'RE ALREADY LIVING.

DISCOVER | TALK | LIVE | SERVE | CELEBRATE

NOVEMBER 2026 • FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

Together in Jesus

Preschool: Buddy Up | Elementary: Side-by-Side

THIS MONTH'S BIG IDEA

God gives us friends and made us for community. Because we belong to Jesus, we can help, welcome, encourage, and serve one another.

ONE STORY, TWO AGE-APPROPRIATE TRUTHS

PRESCHOOL | BUDDY UP

Simple Truth: God Gives Me Friends

Theme Verse: "A friend loves at all times." (Proverbs 17:17a)

ELEMENTARY | SIDE-BY-SIDE

Simple Truth: I Am Made for Community

Theme Verse: Romans 15:5-6, God calls us to harmony in Christ, with one mind and one voice.

Monthly Scripture: Exodus 17:8-15; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Ephesians 2:11-22; John 17:6-26; 1 Peter 2:1-17

THIS MONTH AT CHURCH

Preschoolers are learning that God gives them friends to love and help. Elementary kids are discovering that God made them to belong, grow, and serve in the community of Jesus. Both groups explore the same five Bible accounts and the truth that we follow Jesus together.

Nov 1	We Are Better Together Aaron and Hur Helped Moses | Exodus 17:8-15
Nov 8	We Are Part of Something Big One Church, Many Helpers | 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
Nov 15	We Are Connected Unity in Jesus | Ephesians 2:11-22
Nov 22	We Are Stronger as One Jesus Prayed for People | John 17:6-26
Nov 29	We Follow Jesus Together Living in Community | 1 Peter 2:1-17

OUR HOPE FOR YOUR FAMILY

May younger children experience God's gift of friendship and older children see that they have a meaningful place in His community. Together, may you notice needs, make room for others, and reflect the love of Jesus in everyday moments.

FOR THE PARENT

Before You Begin

You do not need to be a Bible expert to disciple your child.

Use This Moment is not another task to squeeze into an already full calendar. It is a way of noticing moments God has already given you, at the dinner table, in the car, on the couch, while siblings disagree, or as your child wonders where they belong.

Some conversations will be meaningful. Others will be short, silly, interrupted, or unfinished. Keep showing up. Small conversations can have a big spiritual impact.

PARENT DEVOTIONAL | You Were Made to Belong

Read: Romans 15:5-6; John 17:20-23; 1 Corinthians 12:24-27

A child walks into a room and looks for a place to sit. A sibling wants to join the game, but the others have already chosen teams. A new family visits church, and everyone assumes someone else will introduce themselves. Moments like these rarely make it onto a family calendar, yet they reveal how deeply we long to belong.

Our Creator did not design His people for isolation. Jesus cared about belonging. In John 17, before the cross, He prayed not only for the disciples beside Him, but also for those who would later believe through their message. Jesus prayed for unity among His people, a closeness rooted in the love He shares with the Father. His prayer was not that everyone would become identical. He wanted people with different stories to be brought together in Him.

Paul described the church as a body with many parts. Every person matters. No one has to be identical to someone else to have a place. Romans 15 reminds us that even harmony is a gift God helps us practice, not a performance we achieve on our own. That truth changes the way we parent. Instead of asking only, “Did my child make a friend today?” we can also ask, “Did my child help someone feel seen today?”

But this lesson does not begin with our children. It begins with us. Do we listen when a family member interrupts our plans? Do we make space for someone whose needs are different from ours? Do our children hear us talk about people with kindness, even when they are absent? Our actions are often the loudest lessons we teach.

Jesus has welcomed us by grace. We do not have to earn His affection by being great friends. We are free to respond to His love by making room for others. The next time your child asks to join you, or someone needs to be included, you may be standing in a moment God can use to teach the meaning of community.

Consider: Am I modeling a life of Christian community, giving and receiving help, or only asking my children to be friendly?

Pray: Jesus, thank You for welcoming us. Give me eyes to notice people who feel unseen. Help my home reflect Your love so my children learn to make room for others. Amen.

PARENT COACHING + FAMILY CHALLENGE

Connection Over Perfection

THIS MONTH'S PARENT COACHING

Friendship and belonging can be joyful and complicated. Not every child quickly makes friends, enjoys big groups, or knows how to join a conversation. For younger children, name small ways friends show love. For older children, discuss how they can help someone belong at church, school, or in the neighborhood. Practice noticing, asking, listening, inviting, and helping.

TRY THIS: NOTICE, NAME, INVITE

NOTICE someone's need. NAME it with gentleness: "They might be feeling left out." INVITE one small action: "Could we ask if they want to play?" If a child prefers a quieter role, invite a wave, note, smile, or thoughtful check-in instead.

THE MONTHLY FAMILY CHALLENGE | Make Room for One More

This month, notice five chances to help another person feel valued and connected. Preschoolers can help with a simple invitation or encouraging word. Older kids can take a bigger role in planning a welcome, service, or follow-up. Try one action each week and celebrate the effort, not the outcome.

- Invite someone to sit, play, talk, or share a meal.
- Encourage a person who has had a hard week.
- Help a sibling or friend finish a job.
- Include someone who is new or often overlooked.
- Pray by name for someone who needs support.

Our family's five moments

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

When You Finish, Talk Together

What did God teach our family about friendship, community, and His love? Whose kindness encouraged us?

A NOTE FOR PARENTS

Do not require children to accept unsafe behavior or ignore boundaries. Loving others can mean being kind, seeking adult help, or giving someone space. Jesus calls us to love wisely, too.

WEEK 1 • NOVEMBER 1–7

DISCOVER | We Are Better Together

What does God's Word say?

BIG IDEA

God often helps us through other people, and He can use us to help them.

Read Together: Exodus 17:8-15 (for younger kids, retell verses 10-13).

Preschool connection: God gives us friends who help.

Elementary connection: I am made for community, and it is good both to help and to receive help.

DISCOVER TOGETHER

As Joshua led the battle, Moses stood on a hill holding up his staff. When he became tired, Aaron and Hur brought a stone for him to sit on and helped hold up his hands. God gave His people help, and they did not face the day alone. Being part of God's family means we can ask for help and also offer help.

TALK ABOUT IT

Little Kids: Who helped Moses when he got tired?

Big Kids: What does this story teach us about asking for help instead of doing everything ourselves?

Everyone: Who helps our family, and how can we thank them?

TRY IT | The Helping Hands Challenge

You'll need: A few blocks, cups, or folded towels.

Build a small tower or carry a stack across the room. First, one person tries carefully on their own. Next, work together, sharing roles. Talk about which attempt felt easier or more encouraging. No racing or balancing something unsafe is needed.

Connect it: God made us to give and receive help. Needing support is not failure.

PRAY TOGETHER

"God, thank You for the people who help us. Show us someone we can help this week. Amen."

USE THIS MOMENT

TRY IT DURING CLEANUP OR CHORES

When someone seems overwhelmed, ask: "What would make this easier if we did it together?" Then lend a hand without taking over.

WEEK 2 • NOVEMBER 8–14

TALK | We Are Part of Something Big

Let's talk about faith.

BIG IDEA

God gives different gifts to different people, and every person has value in His church.

Read Together: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (younger kids: verses 12, 18, and 27).

Preschool connection: God gives friends different ways to help.

Elementary connection: Every person has a meaningful place and purpose in the body of Christ.

START THE CONVERSATION

In a family, one person may be good at fixing things, another at making someone laugh, and another at remembering important details. In the church, God brings many different people together. Paul compares them to a body: eyes, ears, hands, and feet each have a job. No one is unnecessary.

TALK ABOUT IT

Little Kids: What could happen if our body had no feet or no ears?

Big Kids: Why is it tempting to compare our gifts with someone else's? What does Paul say about the parts that seem less important?

Everyone: What can each person in our family contribute when we work together?

AROUND THE TABLE | Everyone Belongs

Pass a small object around the table. When someone holds it, the family names one gift or strength they notice in that person, such as listening, curiosity, patience, or creativity. Everyone can pass or ask for help thinking of a strength. End by saying, "God made a place for you."

TRY THIS QUESTION THIS WEEK

ASK IN AN ORDINARY MOMENT

"Who helped you today in a way you almost missed?" Listen first. Follow their answer with, "How could we let that person know they matter?"

Do not worry about getting the "right" answer. Your child's perspective is the opening for the conversation.

PRAY TOGETHER

"God, thank You for making each person valuable. Teach us to appreciate people who are different from us. Amen."

USE THIS MOMENT

TRY IT IN THE CAR:

Take turns finishing: "Our family is stronger when someone _____."

WEEK 3 • NOVEMBER 15–21

LIVE | We Are Connected

Put your faith into practice.

BIG IDEA

Jesus brings people close to God and gives His followers a new way to live together in peace.

Read Together: Ephesians 2:11-22 (younger kids: verses 18-22).

Preschool connection: Jesus helps His friends stay close and welcome others.

Elementary connection: In Jesus, people who were separated are brought together as God's household.

FROM KNOWING TO DOING

Some people in the early church believed they did not belong with one another. Paul explained that Jesus breaks down the walls that separate people and makes believers part of one household. Because we belong to Him, we can practice welcome, repair relationships when we hurt someone, and look for ways to build peace.

FAMILY ACTIVITY | Build One House

You'll need: Paper, tape, crayons, blocks, or any simple building supplies.

Do: Give each person a small task: make a door, add a wall, draw a window, or create a welcome sign. Bring the pieces together into one shared house. Younger children can color or choose where to place a piece.

Talk: How do all these different parts make one home? According to Ephesians 2, who brings us together?

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

Practice a "peace-building pause." When a disagreement starts, stop and ask: "What happened? What did each person need? What could help us make things right?" Adults can model this by apologizing when needed.

TALK ABOUT IT

Little Kids: Who helps you feel welcome?

Big Kids: What is the difference between keeping the peace by staying quiet and actively making peace?

Everyone: Is there anyone our family could welcome or reconnect with?

PRAY TOGETHER

"Jesus, thank You for bringing us close to God. Help us welcome people, listen well, and make peace. Amen."

USE THIS MOMENT

TRY IT AFTER CONFLICT

After conflict, ask: "How can we help each person feel heard and make this right?"

WEEK 4 • NOVEMBER 22–28

SERVE | We Are Stronger as One

Take your faith outside your home.

BIG IDEA

Jesus prayed for His followers to be united, and we can show His love by serving together.

Read Together: John 17:6-26 (focus on verses 20-23 with younger children).

Preschool connection: Jesus prayed for His friends and we can pray for ours.

Elementary connection: Jesus prayed for unity, and we can serve others as one community.

WHY WE SERVE

In His prayer, Jesus asked that His people would be one so others could see His love. Unity does not mean everyone has the same abilities or always agrees. It means we choose love and work toward peace because we belong to Jesus. We do not serve to earn God's love. We serve because He has already loved us.

FAMILY SERVE PROJECT | The Together Project

The Mission: Choose one practical need you can meet as a family. Share jobs so each person can contribute, even in a small way.

Ideas: Put together a thank-you card and a small care package for a volunteer or neighbor. Help with a household task for a family in a hard season. Write encouragement notes for people who serve your community.

Choose something realistic for your family's time, budget, abilities, and relationships.

BEFORE YOU SERVE

Little Kids: Who are we helping?

Big Kids: What might they need, and how could we find out without making assumptions?

Everyone: How can each person take part so we show Jesus' love together?

AFTER YOU SERVE

Ask: What did you notice? How did serving together change the way we worked as a family? Where might God have been at work?

PRAY TOGETHER

Pray by name for the person or group you served. Ask God to give them strength and a sense that they are loved.

USE THIS MOMENT

THANKSGIVING WEEK

As your family shares a meal or makes plans, ask: "Who helped us this year? How could we thank or encourage them?" Invite everyone to contribute one idea.

WEEK 5 • NOVEMBER 29–30

CELEBRATE | We Follow Jesus Together

Remember what God has done.

BIG IDEA

God calls His people to grow in love together, and we can celebrate the people He has put in our lives.

Read Together: 1 Peter 2:1-17 (focus on verses 4-5, 9-10, and 17 with younger children).

Preschool connection: We follow Jesus with our friends.

Elementary connection: God builds His people together like living stones into a spiritual house.

LOOK BACK

Peter describes followers of Jesus as “living stones” being built into a spiritual house. We are not meant to follow Jesus in isolation. God is growing a people who belong to Him and are called to honor others.

You have spent this month noticing, encouraging, including, and serving. Sit together and talk about what God has done in the little moments.

- What is one thing you learned about God?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself?
- What was your favorite activity this month?
- Where did you see kindness, courage, or help?
- What is one friendship habit you want to keep practicing?

CELEBRATE TOGETHER | The Gratitude Table

Choose a simple celebration, a favorite dessert, a walk, a family game, or a special dinner. Invite everyone to share one person they are thankful God placed in their life. If you want, send those people a short thank-you message afterward.

ONE LAST FAMILY PRAYER

“Jesus, thank You for making us part of Your family. Thank You for people who help us, love us, and teach us. Help us keep welcoming, encouraging, and serving others. Amen.”

USE THIS MOMENT

AT BEDTIME

At bedtime, ask: “Who was a gift from God to you this month?” Thank God for that person together.

FAMILY REFLECTION

Our God Moments

Take a few minutes to remember the small places where God was working this month.

This month our family saw God...

Something we're thankful for...

Someone we're praying for...

Something God taught us...

KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING

You do not need to wait for another monthly kit. Use the questions below whenever they fit naturally into your day.

At breakfast: Who might need an encouraging word today?

In the car: Did anyone help or include you today? Did you get to help someone?

After school: What was the best part of your day? What felt hard?

At dinner: When did our family work well together this week?

At bedtime: Who can we thank God for tonight?

REMEMBER

Some days you will ask all the questions. Other days you will only have time for one. Both can become faithful moments.

A SIMPLE WAY FORWARD

Speak Life + Keep Growing

SPEAK LIFE

Before the month ends, intentionally encourage your child. Speak slowly, use a specific example, and allow space for them to respond.

> "I saw God growing you when..."
>
> "One thing I love about who God made you to be is..."
>
> "I am praying God will help you..."

Then pray a short blessing over your child. Let the words be about who they are and how God loves them, not merely what they accomplished.

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE

PRESCHOOL MEMORY VERSE | PROVERBS 17:17A

"A friend loves at all times."

ELEMENTARY MEMORY VERSE | ROMANS 15:5-6

"Now may the God who gives endurance and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, according to Christ Jesus, so that you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ with one mind and one voice."

Week 1: Read it together.

Week 2: Say it together.

Week 3: Try saying it without looking.

Week 4: Talk about what it means.

Week 5: Celebrate learning God's Word together.

PARENT TOOLBOX

This Month's Discipleship Goal: Help your child practice one small act of welcome, encouragement, or practical help each week.

Do not try to do everything. This month, help children know both truths: God gives me friends, and I am made for community. Jesus brings us together and invites us to show His love to others.

USE THIS MOMENT

REMEMBER

It is not about perfect families having perfect devotionals. It is about intentionally inviting Jesus into the moments you are already living.