

SESSION 4 - 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.

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 are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”

1 Peter 2:9

DEVOTION:

What is your most special possession? It could be a stuffed animal, pair of shoes, Pokemon card, car, purse, clothes, video game, autograph, house, and the list goes on. What is it about this item that makes it valuable to you? First Peter 2:9 tells us that we are God’s special possession. It goes a step further—we (you and our family) are special because we are a part of God’s family. How are we special? The answer is found in the four specific words that are used to describe members of God’s family.

- Chosen: Think about the fact that God, Creator of the sun, moon, stars, oceans, forests, fish, and animals, has chosen you and our family. By choosing us, He says that you are valuable to Him, and shows how much He loves us!

- Royal: God is the King of the universe. When we place our faith in Him, we become a part of His Kingdom and family. This means that we are princes and princesses and get to spend eternity with Him.
- Priesthood: As members of God's family, we are uniquely qualified to pray for and teach others about God. He wants us to build up His family and help more people become a part of it.
- Holy: This means that God's family is special, different, and set apart. Together, we follow the teachings of the Bible, and our lives reflect God's goodness to others.

God's family is different! As members of it, we are called to live lives that are different from those around us. This passage illustrates this idea with darkness and light. Through Jesus, God has pulled us out of darkness and into His wonderful light. As a part of God's family, we are called to reflect this wonderful light to others. The way we show this light is by revealing God's goodness. This may look different in families, but here are some practical examples:

- You stand up for a friend.
- You encourage and build others up when they are down.
- You are patient when others move slower.
- You open the doors in stores and restaurants for strangers.
- You give up your seat for seniors, pregnant moms, people with disabilities, etc.
- You pick up messes without being asked.
- You go the extra mile when helping others.
- You tell the truth.

CONVERSATION:

- What is your most special possession? What is it about this item that makes it valuable to you?
- Whether you are having a good or bad day, how does knowing that you are God's special possession encourage you?
- 1 Peter 2:9 says that we are chosen, royal, priestly, and holy. Which one of these stands out to you? Why?
- How has God positioned our family to reflect His goodness to others? What are some practical ways you and/or our family can show God's goodness to others?

PRAYER:

Together as a family, thank God that you are His special possession. Ask God to remind your family that they are valuable to God, especially when they are struggling. Finally, ask God to help your family be a distinct light of His goodness in a dark world.