

## SESSION 1 - 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:

*"Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'" So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."*

Genesis 1:26-27

### DEVOTION:

Has anyone ever told you that you look or act like someone in your family? Maybe you have your grandpa's nose or your mom's eyes. Maybe you have a few phrases/sayings that are unique to your family. The Bible teaches us that we (every human being) are created in God's image and likeness. This means that everyone we encounter has value, worth, and is important to God.

We were created not only to resemble God, but act and think like Him, as well. God gave each of us the ability to show His amazing characteristics. For example, some people show His kindness by being generous, others show His love by helping out, or you might show His faithfulness by being reliable. This is God's way of reflecting Himself in people all over the world.

God also created us to be a part of His family! Globally, this is called the Church. It is made up of people of all different ages, stages, and races across the world. It's a very big, diverse family! We get to experience a small portion of God's family each week when we attend our local church. But, the Church isn't a building. We don't just go to church, because we are the Church as God's family. Since we are created by God and we are the Church, our lives should reflect Him. Just like how you might look like someone in your family, people should see God when they see you. It's this reflection that reminds people that they are important to God and that His family always has room for more.

#### **CONVERSATION:**

- Has anyone ever told you that you look or act like someone in your family? If so, what did they say? How do you think being created in God's image is similar to having family resemblances?
- Can you think of an example from your own life when you showed the character of God to someone (kindness, love, forgiveness, faithfulness, etc.)?
- If people are supposed to see God when they see us, what are some specific actions or attitudes that might help others see God through us (individually or as a family)?
- How would you describe the Church to someone who doesn't know what it is? What is so important about the Church including all different types of people from across the world?

#### **PRAYER:**

Together as a family, thank God for creating us in His image and that the Church is made up of all different types of people. Ask God to help you live out His character so that other people can see His reflection through your family.