



DEVELOPING FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP LANGUAGE

We've created some language that may assist you in capturing your family discipleship moments. Below is a list of them you might consider implementing in conversations in your home as you talk about God and what it means to be godly. These short phrases can be used to answer many of life's questions and can be applied to a multitude of circumstances. Imagine getting on your child's level, looking them in the eyes and speaking these truths in a loving manner. Circle or underline the pieces of language that you would like to start using in your home and as you leverage family discipleship moments.

FIVE FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS

1. God made everything.
2. God is in charge of everything.
3. God is good.
4. God wants to talk with us.
5. Jesus came to save sinners.

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

- **Wise:** God knows what is best.
- **Generous:** God gives what is best.
- **Loving:** God does what is best.
- **Good:** God is what is best.
- **Unchanging:** God never changes.
- **Creator:** God made everything.
- **Holy:** God is completely perfect and separate from sin.
- **Just:** God is right to punish sin.
- **Faithful:** God always does what He says He will do.
- **Provider:** God meets the needs of His children.
- **Merciful:** God does not give His children the punishment they deserve.
- **Attentive:** God hears and responds to the prayers of His children.
- **Sovereign:** God has the right, wisdom and power to do all that He pleases.
- **Almighty:** Nothing is too hard for God.
- **Compassionate:** God sees, cares and acts when His children are in need.
- **Glorious:** God shows His greatness and worth.
- **Worthy:** Only God deserves all glory.
- **Refuge:** God is a place of safety and protection for His children.
- **Deliverer:** God rescues His children.

GODLY CHARACTER

- **Patience:** being slow to anger, waiting kindly and quietly
- **Joy:** delighting in things that honor God
- **Peace:** a calm confidence in God's goodness and power
- **Love:** a caring commitment to God and others over yourself
- **Goodness:** doing the right thing, at the right time, for the right reason
- **Kindness:** being generous with your possessions, your words and your actions
- **Gentleness:** expressing compassion in words and actions
- **Self-control:** freedom from obedience to our sinful thoughts and emotions

CHRISTIAN VOCABULARY & PHRASES

- **Sin:** It's more than just the bad things we think, feel, do and say; it's why we do them. Our hearts are sick with sin.
- **Sinful nature:** All people are slaves of sin; we both choose it and have no choice.
- **Repentance:** to confess your sin and turn away from it to follow Jesus
- **Glorify:** to show, honor and enjoy God as most valuable
- **Pride:** to show, honor and enjoy yourself as most valuable
- **Authority:** the right to be in charge
- **Compassion:** to see, care and act when others are in need
- **Worship:** the right response to the goodness of God
- **Daily bread:** everything we need to gladly glorify the Father
- **Forgiveness:** to release someone from their wrong
- **Disciple:** a friend and follower of Jesus
- **Confession:** telling the truth about your sin
- **God's children:** are those who love and trust Jesus.
- **God adopts:** into His family those who love and trust Jesus.
- **The kingdom of heaven:** is where Jesus is honored as the highest and best King.
- **Heaven:** is good because God is there.
- **Grace:** God freely gives His children what they don't deserve.
- **Gospel:** the good news of God's plan to rescue the world from the problem of sin through Jesus Christ
- **The Bible:** is God's true Word. It is from God and about God.
- **Jesus:** When we look at Jesus, we see what God is like (because Jesus is God).
- **Prayer:** We pray to the Father because of the Son with the help of the Holy Spirit.
- **Forgiveness:** God forgives fully, freely and forever
 - **Fully:** all my sin, all the way. All of your sin is forgiven and it is forgiven in full.
 - **Freely:** a gift, not something you can earn or deserve
 - **Forever:** God's forgiveness is lasting. He does not change His mind or take back His forgiveness.

EXAMPLES IN SCRIPTURE

Here is a list of some Scriptures you might consider using in various circumstances as you capture moments in the life of your household for the sake of the gospel.

“One Another” Verses:

There are many Scripture references that speak about how we interact with “one another.” These can be very useful in family discipleship moments:

- Outdo one another in showing honor. – Romans 12:10
- “...just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.” – John 13:34
- Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. – Romans 15:7
- For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. – Galatians 5:13
- Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. – Galatians 5:26
- Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. – Galatians 6:2
- Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. – Ephesians 4:32
- Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices... – Colossians 3:9
- Therefore encourage one another and build one another up... – 1 Thessalonians 5:11
- See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone. – 1 Thessalonians 5:15
- And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works... – Hebrews 10:24
- Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. – James 4:11
- Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. – 1 Peter 4:9
- Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. – 1 John 4:7

Diligence/Work Ethic:

- And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. – Galatians 6:9
- Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. – Colossians 3:23-24

Sadness:

- “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” – Matthew 11:28
- “He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” – Revelation 21:4
- My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to your word! – Psalm 119:28

Gladness:

- But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God; they shall be jubilant with joy! – Psalm 68:3
- “Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” – Luke 10:20

Anger:

- Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. – Psalm 37:8
- Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. – Ephesians 4:26-27

Complaining:

- Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world... – Philippians 2:14-16

Fear/Courage:

- Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. – Jeremiah 17:7
- So we can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?” – Hebrews 13:6
- When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. – Psalm 56:3

Encouragement:

- But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. – Hebrews 3:13

Forgiveness:

- “Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him...” – Luke 17:3
- If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
 – 1 John 1:9

Humility/Servanthood:

- Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.
 – Philippians 2:3
- ...whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. –1 Peter 4:11

Hardship/Suffering:

- “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.” – John 16:33
- The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him. – Nahum 1:7
- So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.
 – 2 Corinthians 4:16

Honesty/Integrity:

- ...let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. – James 5:12
- Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out.
 – Proverbs 10:9
- Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who act faithfully are his delight. – Proverbs 12:22

Kindness:

- “And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.” – Luke 6:31
- See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone.
 – 1 Thessalonians 5:15

Temptation:

- Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith... –1 Peter 5:8-9
- Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. – Ephesians 6:10-11

Identity:

- ...he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will...
 – Ephesians 1:5
- Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.
 – 2 Corinthians 5:17
- I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. – Galatians 2:20
- But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God...
 – John 1:12

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- *Parenting With Scripture* by Kara Durbin
- *Teachable Moments* by Marybeth Hicks
- *Everyday Talk* by John A. Counts