



DAY 5 The most difficult part of family devotions is sticking with it—starting again after you miss a day or two...or ten. But starting again is **AWESOME...** no matter how many days or weeks you miss. God puts us in families for the longterm—the goal of devotions is not “perfect attendance” but showing up together as a family in the presence of God!

Devotions should not feel like a chore or a drag, but should be engaging and fun, so it's best to keep the whole thing to 10 minutes. 10 minutes a day, 5 days a week is enough to experience and pass on the most valuable treasure the world has ever known!

This week, we'll be reading about the “I AM Statements of Jesus.”

The key is keeping it simple, with these four basic steps:

Step 1: Read

[John 6:1-13](#) and [32-35](#)

Step 2: Discuss

- A. What is your favorite type of bread you have ever had? Describe it in detail?
- B. How many people were following Jesus that day, and why? What problem was there?
- C. What did Jesus ask the disciples? Was there anything they could have done on their own?
- D. What did Jesus do to provide food for everyone? And whose small gifts did Jesus use for this miracle?
- E. Later people found Jesus and were asking him questions. He talked about the time God gave his people Manna (a type of bread) when they were in the desert.
- F. When Jesus said, “I am the Bread of Life” what was he trying to teach his disciples about who he was? And about why he came?

Step 3: Sing

This worship song talks about being satisfied by Jesus, and how there is nothing better than him. He is the best bread ever! Listen to *Graves Into Gardens*, and sing along as a family: <https://youtu.be/kUahzLZsbnE>

Step 4: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Bonus:

Here are a few other bonus things you could try to do:

- Heat up some delicious bread and eat it together
- Draw a picture that is based on this Bible passage

Let me know about your experience.

Dave O'Connell



DAY 6: The Light of the World The most difficult part of family devotions is sticking with it— starting again after you miss a day or two...or ten. But starting again is AWESOME... no matter how many days or weeks you miss. God puts us in families for the longterm—the goal of devotions is not “perfect attendance” but showing up together as a family in the presence of God!

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This week, we are reading about the “I AM Statements of Jesus.”

The key is keeping it simple, with these four basic steps:

Step 1: Read [John 9:1-11](#)

Step 2: Discuss

- A. Why is light helpful and important for us? Try to come up with a list of reasons.
- B. When Jesus was walking, they came to a man who was born blind. What question did people ask him?
- C. Before Jesus showed his power and care for this man, what did he call himself? And what do you think he meant by it?
- D. This man was living in physical darkness. Close your eyes for 1 minute as you talk about this passage. That is what life was like every day for this man. What did Jesus do for him?
- E. The Bible tells us that all of us are born spiritually blind, and that we are in darkness because of our sin. Who is it that can help us see God? Who is it that can bring us out of the darkness of sin and into the light?
- F. Have someone read 1 Pet 2:8-10. *“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.”* What connection does it have with Jesus being “the light of the world?”

Step 3: Sing

This worship song talks about Jesus being the Light of the World. Take time with your family to celebrate Him and to sing to him with this great song: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSOjaBf_rpU

Step 4: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Bonus:

- Go into the darkest place in your house, then turn on one little light. See what kind of difference it makes.
- Draw a picture that is based on this Bible passage.

Let me know about your experience.

Dave O’Connell



DAY 7: The Good Shepherd The most difficult part of family devotions is sticking with it— starting again after you miss a day or two...or ten. But starting again is AWESOME... no matter how many days or weeks you miss. God puts us in families for the longterm—the goal of devotions is not “perfect attendance” but showing up together as a family in the presence of God!

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The key is keeping it simple, with these four basic steps:

Step 1: Read

[Read John 10:11-15](#)

Step 2: Discuss

- A. What type of work do you want to do when you grow up? Why?
- B. In this famous “I Am” statement of Jesus, he tells us that he is the Good Shepherd. Make a list of some of the things a shepherd does for his sheep.
- C. Have someone read [Psalm 23](#). What does it say about the Lord? Who are we in this psalm?
- D. In the Gospel of John, Jesus is telling people that he is the Lord with this statement, but he highlights the most important thing he is willing to do as our shepherd. What is he willing to do and how did he do it for us?
- E. What do we call the day that Jesus sacrificed his life for us? And what day came three days later? (And did you know that it is only a few weeks away?)

Step 3: Sing

This worship song talks about Jesus being our good shepherd! Take time with your family to celebrate Him and to sing to him with this great song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YckXtIs-DO0>

Step 4: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Bonus:

Here are a few other bonus things you could try to do:

- *Make one of your parents act like a sheep.* Then you try to be a good shepherd. :)
- *Draw a picture* that reminds you of Good Friday or Easter!

Let me know about your experience.

Dave O'Connell



DAY 8: The Way, The Truth, The Life The most difficult part of family devotions is sticking with it—starting again after you miss a day or two...or ten. But starting again is AWESOME... no matter how many days or weeks you miss. God puts us in families for the longterm—the goal of devotions is not “perfect attendance” but showing up together as a family in the presence of God!

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This week, we are reading about the “I AM Statements of Jesus.”

The key is keeping it simple, with these four basic steps:

Step 1: Read [John 14:1-6](#)

Step 2: Discuss

- A. If you needed to get directions to a special store... let's say a new store with nothing but HUGE colorful bean bag chairs. How would you find the directions to get there?
- B. Jesus had just told his disciples that he would only be with them a little longer (it was almost time for the cross). He told them that he was going to be going back to be with his Father in heaven. But he didn't want his disciples to be sad or worried. What was the encouragement that he gave them to help them?
- C. What is the nicest house, room, or place you have ever stayed? How much nicer do you think the rooms will be in God's house that Jesus has prepared for us?
- D. Thomas still felt worried and a bit lost. He needed to know where God's house was. He needed to know how to get there. What the directions were. What did Jesus say was the only way to get there? Why do you think that is? (If you aren't sure, ask the adult going through this with you).
- E. What do each of these three words Jesus describes himself as mean? And how are they wonderful news for you and for me?

Step 3: Sing

Here is a beautiful song that talks about Jesus being the Way, the Truth, and the Life! What a joy to get to worship Him with singing! Take time with your family to celebrate with this song.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MOzsJlk8p6I>

Step 4: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Bonus: Here are a few other bonus things you could try to do:

- *Paint a picture* for each of the three words used in this great I Am Statement.
- Since Jesus is preparing rooms for us, take time to *clean up a room* and make it look really nice for your family. Maybe add some flowers from your yard if you have any.



DAY 9: The Vine The most difficult part of family devotions is sticking with it— starting again after you miss a day or two...or ten. But starting again is AWESOME... no matter how many days or weeks you miss. God puts us in families for the longterm—the goal of devotions is not “perfect attendance” but showing up together as a family in the presence of God!

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This week, we are reading about the “I AM Statements of Jesus.”

The key is keeping it simple, with these four basic steps:

Step 1: Read [John 15:1-5](#)

Step 2: Discuss

- A. What is your favorite tree in your yard or in your neighborhood? Do you have one?
- B. What would happen to one of the branches if it broke off from the tree? Would it continue to grow new leaves through the seasons?
- C. What does Jesus call himself in this I Am statement? And what are we? What does this mean for us? How important is it for us to be connected to Jesus?
- D. When we have faith in Jesus, the Bible tell us that we are “united to Him.” We are safe and secure and have life because of our connection with him. But Jesus still calls us in this passage to remain in him. And few verses later it talks about remaining in his love. What do you think this means?
- E. Jesus says that if we remain in him, we will produce much fruit (that's a promise). What do you think he means by the word fruit here? Is fruit a good thing?

Step 3: Sing together

This song is a prayer. It celebrates God because He is our life and because He is worthy of our praise. It asks God to help us to build our life on His love. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F115U2ifYzo>

Step 4: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Bonus: Here are a few other bonus things you could try to do:

- *Find the best fruit in your house* and have a tasty bite (I hope it is something juicy like a grape). When you eat it, remember that when we are connected to Jesus and remaining in His love, we bear fruit too!
- *Draw a picture* of a long, windy grape vine, with branches and grapes. Then write a couple of the words from our passage around the drawing. Put it up on your mirror for the weekend to help you remember that you are connected to Jesus and loved by Him!