

at Home With God

TBN UK

children  CAN



Series 1 - Workbook

AT HOME WITH GOD

WORKBOOK

Name: _____

Church: _____

Start date: _____

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the At Home with God course.

This twelve-part course is designed to accompany series 1 of the TV series, At Home with God. The series is designed as a tool to enable parents to bring God into the centre of their homes.

What's in the course?

The course is made up of twelve sessions which will follow the topics covered in the 12 episodes shown in 'At Home with God'.

1. God at the heart of the home
2. The power of blessing
3. Passing on our values
4. Sharing the word together
5. When you child hits a faith bump
6. Helping your child connect with God
7. Children and the supernatural
8. Praying together as a family
9. Remembering God's faithfulness
10. Worship in the home
11. Facing the storms together
12. Ministering with your children

Each session is taught using three different mediums:

1. Teaching

The teaching is provided in the TV program. Each session lasts for around 30 minutes. In this workbook, there is space for you to make your notes on the teaching as you work through the programs.

2. Points to Ponder

These discussion questions are designed to help you reflect on the teaching and how it applies in your family. You can discuss these as a group, in pairs or use the space for personal reflection if you are working through this course on your own. Depending on the group the discussions will take up to 30 minutes, so you should set aside one hour together for each session.

3. Practical

After each session's teaching, there is a page for you to try some of the principles in your own family.

Why not pair up with another family so that you can reflect together on how you are doing. We have left space for you to record comments and encouragement to each other.

How can we use the course?

This course is designed to be very flexible to fit around the unique circumstances in your family/church.

Here are some suggestions of how you may choose to use the course:

- a. Work through the course with a group of other parents doing one session a week or one session a month together.
- b. Run the course over six evenings, covering two sessions each evening.
- c. Work through the course as an individual or in pairs. For the discussions section, you can reflect privately on the questions given and for the practical parts work alongside your partner or speak to a close family member who you are able to talk through your progress as you strengthen God's place in your home.

Once this course is over this workbook should prove a valuable resource, together with the comments in the practical session to enable you to continue to develop in your parenting

Being a parent is a great privilege. My prayer is that, as you make the small adjustments that need to be made within your family to see God more central in your home, you will start to see a change in your children's walk as well as your own walk with God. Do not be discouraged if miracles don't happen overnight but keep praying and persevering and I know that God will bless your family.

I pray that you will enjoy the course and be enriched by it.

God bless you,

Helen Goldenberg

Children Can, 2019.



SESSION 1: GOD AT THE HEART OF THE HOME

NOTES

If God was the very center of your home in *everything* you do, would your family look any different?

Write down your aspirations for your family here ...

Look at the following scriptures to see how God wants you to share Him within your home.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Deuteronomy 11:18-19

Ephesians 6:4

Proverbs 22:6

Read about some great parents in the Bible

Hannah mother of Samuel (1 Samuel 1:12-28) Hannah seeks Gods will for her child.

Joseph - Jesus' father on earth (Matthew 1:18-24 & Matthew 2:13) – things didn't always make sense, but he kept his faith in God and didn't act on his feelings but more on his trust in God.

Eunice Mother of Timothy (2 Timothy 1:5) - the effect she had on her son's faith

What is our responsibility?

Proverbs 22:6



POINTS TO PONDER

1. Discuss what changes you can make to your routine to share God with your children in everyday life?
2. Have you been dependent on the children's ministry of your church to be the driving force for your child's spiritual growth?
3. What can you share of your faith that will encourage your child?
4. What kind of moments in your child's life can be turned into teachable moments for God to be present?
5. Is there anything we do to hinder our own children's faith? (Mark 10:13-16)
6. If you expect to see God encounter your children in the week, what do you do to prepare for this?



PRACTICAL: HOME FOCUS

The issue for most of us as parents is finding time to talk about the Lord in our family. Sometimes just small intentional changes make a world of difference. Don't be discouraged each step, is a closer to step to bringing God into the heart of your home.

1. How can we intentionally allow God to be in our daily routine? Think of ONE practical change to make.

2. List three ways you have succeeded in the past in bringing God into the conversation at home.

1

2

3

3. Have you ever discussed with your child about their faith or even offered to lead them to know Jesus. Now is a great time to do it. What a privilege of being the person who leads their own child to walk closer to God inside and outside the home.
4. Share your testimony of how you came to Christ with your children.

Write down any family testimonies here:

SESSION 2: THE POWER OF BLESSING OUR CHILDREN



NOTES

What does a blessed family look like?

What does Berakhah mean?

How much of this would you love in your family?

Read these scriptures to see how blessing is used in the bible.

Numbers 6:24-26

Jeremiah 29:11

2 Corinthians 9:8

Psalms 127:3-5

Why is the Father's blessing important?

What can I do if a father isn't present?

How often do you speak words of blessing or life over your children?

Write down some words here that would bless your child or family.



POINTS TO PONDER

1. What effect do your words of blessing have on your child?
2. Is there anything you can do as a family to change the way you speak to one another?
3. When you reflect on your past, are there negative words that have been spoken over you which you need to face up to and allow God to undo, so you can push past that and speak healing and blessing into your children's lives?
4. What are you going to do differently?



PRACTICAL: HOME FOCUS

Sometimes bringing blessings into our vocabulary needs a mind set change in our general conversation. It is easier to jump on the negative things our children do then it is to praise and bless when they are doing something right unless we make a conscious decision to speak blessing. Here are some practical ideas how to change this.

1. Make up a board of intentional blessing that you can tick off and know that you are succeeding in the blessing of your children? (One of the challenges the parents on the show faced was to bless their children 100 times in 3 months.)
2. Create a time daily/weekly where you gather as a family where you pray over your children and bless them.
3. Work on a culture of blessing with your children too so that they speak words of blessing to their siblings as well as you the parent.

Below is the Jewish blessing that many Jewish families use on a Friday evening. This brings the whole family together and develops a closeness to each other and God. It is taken from the priestly blessing found in Numbers 6:24-26 and the blessing changes depending on whether you are speaking it over a boy or a girl.

For boys, the introductory line is:

May you be like Ephraim and Manasseh.

יְשִׁמְךָ אֱלֹהִים כְּאַפְרַיִם וְכַמְנַשֶּׁה

For girls, the introductory line is:

May you be like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah.

יְשִׁמְךָ אֱלֹהִים כְּשָׂרָה רַבֵּקָה רָחֵל וְלֵאָה

For both boys and girls, the rest of the blessing is:

May God bless you and guard you.

בִּרְכֶּךָ יְהוָה וַיִּשְׁמְרֶךָ

May God show you favour and be gracious to you.

יֵאָר יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּחֲנֶנֶךָ

May God show you kindness and grant you peace.

יֵשָׂא יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּשֶּׁם לְךָ שְׁלוֹמִים

(Numbers 6:24-26)

SESSION 3: PASSING ON OUR VALUES TO OUR CHILDREN**NOTES**

Why are family values important?

How do we know our children have adopted our family values?

What is a 1G family?

What is a 2 G family?

What is a 3G family?

Bible examples of 1, 2 & 3G families.

1G family - (Live only for yourself, have moral failure, spend zero time with the family)

Saul

2G family (Pass on their values but children don't carry those values as their own due to your own control)

Samuel - 1 Samuel 8:3-5

3G Family (Pass on their values and carry those values as their own)

Timothy - 2 Timothy 1:5



POINTS TO PONDER

1. What family values did you inherit from your family that you are seeking to pass on to your children?
2. What values do you want to pass to your children that are different from the values you were raised with?
3. How can we get our children to attach values to experiences?
4. Give some examples of teachable moments you may find in your household that may help our children to adopt our values?



PRACTICAL: HOME FOCUS

When we have a family, it is easy to pass on our family values to our children without really thinking or talking about it: we want them to be polite, love people, etc. But how often do we intentionally sit down as a family, pray and talk about what makes our family unique? Here are a few things you can do as a family to start the conversations.

1. Have a family meeting about what your values are and write them down together. What do your children think are the important values for you as a family?
2. Seek out teachable moments in your family day to day life that will help instill these values.
3. Build a family shield together – like in medieval times family households would have a shield with a family motto on. Decide what are the most important 4 or 5 values that describe your family then get creative and design your own family shield.
4. Make up a family statement that you say together as a family regularly. This is something that will stick with them for life if it is repeated often enough

Here is an excerpt from our family motto which we say after our devotionals daily – our core value is to live lives that honour God:

We honour God by working hard and doing our best

We don't complain we have so much to be thankful for

We honour God by being polite and kind to others ...

SESSION 4: SHARING THE WORD TOGETHER



NOTES

How important is the Word of God to you personally?

Have you noticed the word of God have an impact on your children? If so how?

Do you read the Word of God visibly in front of your children? If so, have you seen how that has encouraged their own reading of the Bible?

Great Bible memory verses for the whole family

1. John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave his only son that whoever believes in Him shall not die but have eternal life

2. Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸ Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations,^[a] baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

3. John 14:16

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, (helper)^[a] who will never leave you.

4. John 15:4

⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

5. Romans 3:23

²³ For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.

6. Romans 6:23

²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

7. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

¹⁷ Never stop praying.

8. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

9. 1 John 1:9

⁹ But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

10. Romans 10:13

¹³ For “Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.

Further Tips

Teach the same verses over and over again until the children really know them. Let’s allow our children’s brains to be saturated in the Word of God. Jumping from one verse to another each week will not help them to build up this store of knowledge. After that let’s encourage our children to learn chunks of Scripture as well as other key verses., start with Psalm 23.

**POINTS TO PONDER**

When would be the best part of the day or week to have devotions as a family?

How can you share the Word of God differently to maintain the attention of:

Your youngest child

Your oldest child

Your children in 5 years' time



PRACTICAL: HOME FOCUS

As our family grows, we need to stop and refocus our attention on the way we parent, discipline and share God within our home. In our own family we have a wide range of age groups and what was working for our 6-year-old was not working for our 15-year-old. Be creative and flexible in your home as you share the Word of God together as a family. Find moments to answer deep questions as well as those not so deep with your children as all this gives them a greater understanding of the Word of God for themselves. Encourage their own personal times with the Word of God too. If you are not sure how to delve into God's word in a way your children understand you can incorporate the Bible reading rap that will help them look deeper into the Word. It goes as follows:

Who? What?, Why?, Apply it to today!

Work through the passage below.

Luke 5:27-32

"After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector named Levi sitting in the tax office. Jesus said to him, 'Follow me!' Levi got up, left everything, and followed Jesus.

Then Levi gave a big dinner for Jesus. The dinner was at Levi's house. At the table there were many tax collectors and other people, too. But the Pharisees and the men who taught the law for the Pharisees began to complain to the followers of Jesus. They said, 'Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and 'sinners'?'

Jesus answered them, 'Healthy people don't need a doctor. It is the sick who need a doctor. I have not come to invite good people. I have come to invite sinners to change their hearts and lives!'

Get your children to think of questions they could ask:

- a. WHAT was so special about tax collectors?
- b. WHO were the healthy people Jesus speaks of at the end (were they really healthy)?
1. WHY had Jesus come?
- d. HOW DOES IT APPLY TO MY LIFE TODAY?

When you answer a question, see if you can think of another question in response to your answer

Who were the healthy people? – *The Pharisees.*

In what way was Jesus saying they were healthy? – *They were not sinners.*

Is this true? – *No, we know that all people sin.*

What was the difference between the tax collectors and the sinners that Jesus called one sick and the other healthy? – *One knew their sin, the other thought they were perfect.*

So what did Jesus mean? – *He had come to those who knew they did wrong so that they could change their lives.*

What about those who think they are healthy but need to change? – *They need to recognise their need of Christ, that they are sinners, first.*

What can I apply to my life today? – *I need to recognise my need of Jesus before He will meet that need (I need to ask Him). My friends need to realise they are sinners before they realise that they need to be saved. Those who are toughest in the school may well be the ones who are most ready to be saved.*

What part of the Bible can you focus on with your children over the next 3 months?

**SESSION 5: WHEN YOUR CHILD HITS A FAITH BUMP****NOTES**

What can cause a child to hit a faith bump?

What could we do to help our children whilst they are struggling with their faith?

How could you be church as a family and not just go to church?

Should we always see faith bumps as a negative thing?

Many people in the bible struggled with their faith. Read the following examples and discuss what we can learn from their journey of struggle.

1. John the Baptist (Matthew 11:2-3)

²When John the Baptist was in prison, he heard what Jesus was doing. He sent his followers. ³They asked, “Are You the One Who was to come, or should we look for another?”

2. Peter (Mark 14: 66-68)

⁶⁶Peter was outside in the yard. One of the servant-girls of the head religious leader came. ⁶⁷She saw Peter getting warm. She looked at him and said, “You were with Jesus of Nazareth.” ⁶⁸Peter lied, saying, “I do not know Jesus and do not understand what you are talking about.” As he went out, a rooster crowed.

3. Father with the sick child (Mark 9:24)

²⁴Immediately the father of the child cried out^a and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!”

4. Sarah (Genesis 18:10-15)

¹⁰Then one of them said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.”

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. ¹¹Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. ¹²So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, “After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?”



POINTS TO PONDER

1. How can we create teachable moments and build faith memories?
2. How can we create an environment within our home where our children can ask any question?
3. What can we intentionally do to help with this faith bumps before they arrive?
4. It reads in Proverbs 22:6 '*Train up a child* in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.'¹ How can we draw out our children's unique destiny?



PRACTICAL: HOME FOCUS

Every person whether old or young will hit a faith bump sometime in their lives. Our task as parents is to help our children navigate through these seasons. Sometimes these seasons are healthy – they can trigger a journey to deepen their own faith rather than just rely on yours. This is a great time to answer questions and help them with the concerns they have about their faith. Remember when your children are going through difficult times it is only for a season it is not a life sentence and God will be gently calling them back to Him. So what can you do?

1. Pray for your children and meet to pray with other parents, who are also wanting to see their children thrive in the things of God. It's amazing how God answers prayer and turns around situations. Write down some situations you are praying for as parents and as a family.
2. Make a memory box or keep a dairy of the wonderful times you have seen God move in your family so you can look back at it when faith is needing a boost. Write down some of the first faith memory moments that come to mind here.
3. If your children are old enough ask another adult who you trust to help mentor your child in his/her faith who will also be there if they do hit a faith bump.

SESSION 6: HELPING YOUR CHILD CONNECT WITH GOD



NOTES

What does it mean to have faith in God?

What does 'connecting with God' mean?

What might it look like if our children live aware of God's presence?

How can we help our children to connect with God?

As our children connect with God, what ways might God connect with them?

How can we be 'Eli's' to our 'Samuels'?



POINTS TO PONDER

Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-27 and discuss how you all are different in character and personality and see if you can pinpoint how each individual connects with God. It could be sport, art, social interaction, love, care, generosity, alone time, the Bible , worship times.

How does your child connect with God at this stage of their faith journey?

How can we create an atmosphere at home where a God connection is normal?

How can we find God connection moments in the everyday?

Read Matthew 18:20 and discuss the power of a family connecting with God together.



PRACTICAL: HOME FOCUS

Connecting with God is a personal thing. Every person, and child, connects to God in their own individual way. God being a creative God is aware of how we best connect with Him as He created us all to be different and unique. That's how amazing our God is and He is willing to meet us where we are at. As each child grows, they will develop their own unique way of connecting with Father God, let us as parents help them on that journey. Here are some ways you can do that.

1. Be still with your family.

In the craziness of our lives sometimes the only way God can break in is through the stillness. Why not lay down on the grass with your children and look up at the clouds in the sky and think about Nahum 1:3 where it describes the clouds as the dust of God's feet. Think about the way God is moving in your families life. You may be able to see pictures in the clouds too and discuss Gods creativity.

2. Bring Art into your connection

Why not have an hour where as a family you create a piece of art which shows 'God loves the world.'

3. Bring God into their Schedule

In everyday life, we have a schedule for bed, mealtimes, getting to work/school, arrange a time as a family where each child and adult has God times in their schedule where they pray, read the Bible or worship God for themselves, even if it is for five minutes.

4. Look at the news

Watch or read the news together and find God's heart in the midst of it all. Pray as God leads you for the different news items.

5. Bring the Bible to life

When reading out God's word, dramatize the stories so they can relate a little to what was going on in the Bible at that point.

6. Pray through the fruit of the Spirit

Pray through the fruit of the Spirit, one each week; ask God to cultivate that characteristic in you and your children through specific events in your life that week (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control)

7. Soaking times

On the weeks or days where it is all too much why not get your kids to lie down on the floor as you play worship music, close their eyes and just listen. If God shows them something provide a paper and pen so they can write or draw it down.

You can find many more ideas for helping your children to connect with God in our book, [*Give Me 5*, by Olly Goldenberg](#).

SESSION 7: CHILDREN AND THE SUPERNATURAL



NOTES

Why is *context as important as content* when we raise our children?

How can you make space for your family to work with God?

How can you spot the opportunities God is giving your family?

What does it look like to ‘provoke’ one another to good deeds?

As parents God has given us directions in His word on how to direct our children's walk. Read the following and discuss.

1. Proverbs 22:6

⁶Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

2. Hebrews 10:24

²⁴And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,

3. (NKJ)Psalm 8:2

Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants
You have ordained strength(Praise),
Because of Your enemies,
That You may silence the enemy and the avenger.

4. Matthew 19:14

But Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children."

**POINTS TO PONDER**

Are you ready as a parent to get uncomfortable and allow God to move more supernaturally in your family? Discuss this with your group or partner and write down your thoughts here.

How can you give your children a spiritual adventure?

What can you do as a parent to help build your children's faith?



PRACTICAL: HOME FOCUS

Stepping out with God and doing the unusual like praying for a friend or telling them about Jesus can quickly take us out of our comfort zone. But for the kingdom of God to expand and for our children to find God can use them, we need to step out beyond our own fears to see our children grow in God. Here are a few ideas of how you can put this into practice.

1. Go on a treasure hunt as a family. Pray together and ask God to show you someone you may meet on your travels. God may show you the colour of a top someone is wearing, hairstyles, colour, even names or location. Prepare a letter or a nice little gift package for that person and go and find them. Very few people will say no to a child offering a gift and some great conversations may happen. Even if you just give the letter that God has told you to write to the person and leave at least you have been obedient and the excitement of finding that person will build your child's faith.
2. [Download the Dare cards](#) that we have on our website and use them. There are some easy and simple ones for you to follow and do as a whole family.
3. Watch out for God moments in your family and write them down so that you can look back in the future and remind yourselves of the wonderful things God has done.

SESSION 8: PRAYING TOGETHER AS A FAMILY



NOTES

In what way is prayer a lifestyle?

How can we help our young children to begin to engage with God in prayer?

What can we do to intentionally help our children grow spiritually?

In what ways should we protect our children spiritually?

Psalm 101:3

“I will refuse to look at anything vile and vulgar. I hate all who deal crookedly; I will have nothing to do with them.”

If our children shut off from prayer, how we can help bring prayer to the centre of our home?

How can we, as families, bring deliverance to those we meet?

Ephesians 6:18

Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

James 5: 13-16

¹³ Are any of you suffering hardships? You should pray. Are any of you happy? You should sing praises. ¹⁴ Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come and pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ Such a prayer offered in faith will heal the sick, and the Lord will make you well. And if you have committed any sins, you will be forgiven.

¹⁶ Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.



POINTS TO PONDER

1. How can you be creative with prayer?
2. How can you give your children space to hear God's voice?
3. How can you invest into your children's spiritual life?
4. What are you doing to protect your children's spiritual life?
5. How can you be intentional in prayer?



PRACTICAL: HOME FOCUS

Prayer is a conversation with God our Father creator who hears what we say. Like any conversation it is two-way, one person speaks and the other listens and then the same vice versa. God wants to speak to us as much as we want to speak to Him and God wants to listen to us as much as we should listen to Him. As you seek to increase prayer in your home why not try the following:

1. Encourage your children to pray by themselves for as many minutes a day as they are years old. If they are 5 years old they pray for 5 minutes a day, 14 years old – 14 minutes.

2. As a family you can start by using the STOP prayer which is based on the Lord's prayer.

S = Sorry for all they have done that is wrong before God

T = Thankful for all the wonderful things God has done for them and their family

O = Praying for Others in need: family, friends, Government, Countries, etc.

P = If they are struggling to do things for God ask God to Please help them to be stronger in that situation.

Listen as a family to what God may say in return. Sometimes the children may hear things like 'its raining outside' (as it is) or God wants us to go to buy chips, but other times you may get a deep word for the family or nation.

3. When God answers their prayers remind them of Gods goodness. You could keep a memory book to record all the answers to prayer.

SESSION 9: REMEMBERING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS



NOTES

Why should we remember what God has done?

What kind of milestones can you intentionally build into our children?

What ways can you make space to share the stories God has done?

How can we remind ourselves what God is doing?

Deuteronomy 6.

Name some people that God was faithful to in the Bible and why?

How old do children have to be to start to build their own story with God?

Psalm 78

O my people, listen to my teaching. Open your ears to what I am saying. ²⁻³ For I will show you lessons from our history, stories handed down to us from former generations. ⁴ I will reveal these truths to you so that you can describe these glorious deeds of Jehovah to your children and tell them about the mighty miracles he did. ⁵ For he gave his laws to Israel and commanded our fathers to teach them to their children, ⁶ so that they in turn could teach their children too. Thus his laws pass down from generation to generation. ⁷ In this way each generation has been able to obey his laws and to set its hope anew on God and not forget his glorious miracles.

Read and discuss the bible verse above . What stories can you share with your children?

What can you do as a family to ensure you don't forget Gods faithfulness?



POINTS TO PONDER

1. Discuss some of the things God has done for your family?
2. What has God put in your children's hearts for the future?
3. How can you create a spiritual adventure for your children?
4. Are you modeling a life to your children that you are grateful for God's faithfulness?
5. How can you incorporate time to remember what God has done for you as a family to ensure that God is given the glory?



PRACTICAL: HOME FOCUS

God is a faithful God and it is important to remember what He has done for share these stories with our children.

Here are a few ideas of how you can do this within your family:

1. For one meal a week or daily ask the children what they are thankful for. Let it be part of your family time celebrating Gods goodness.
2. Deut 6:7-9 Be creative on how you remember Gods faithfulness, make a picture frame of adventures you have had together, or how God has answered your prayers. Maybe just have a blank canvas that the children can write on whenever they remember something God has done for them.
3. If you are believing for something why not do something like Andy and Catherine did and create a visual which they took from Matthew 17:24-27. Believing God and seeing him provide. Putting coins in the fishes mouth.
4. Have [family bag time](#), where you pull objects out of a bag to discuss what God has done.

SESSION 10: WORSHIP IN THE HOME



NOTES

What does worship in the home look like?

Is there an overflow of worship going out from your household into everyday life/school?

What impact does worship have on our children's lives outside of the home?

What can we do to make worship play a bigger part in our homes?



POINTS TO PONDER

1. How can we teach a worshipful lifestyle to our kids?
2. Why should we worship God as a family?
3. What is your greatest challenge when it comes to encouraging your children to worship?
4. What is the vision for your family?



PRACTICAL: HOME FOCUS

God has made us to worship him as individuals, families and communities. Here are some ideas of how you can strengthen your family's worship life.

1. Have a regular moment of prayer and worship in the home, be intentional and create a rhythm of meeting together for this. Whether it be once a week or once a day, as it says in **Zechariah 4:10** ¹⁰ **Do not despise these small beginnings, for the LORD rejoices to see the work begin**
2. Let the music that is coming out from your music system be Christian. Maybe tap into the most up to date songs that you are singing at church and play them. Check out what is the most current Christian music your kids can relate to and download that too. Enjoy the worship experience together.
3. Worship is not just singing praises and worship to Jesus, it is a lifestyle. Think of ways you can worship God in your actions as a family and actively encourage each other to reach out beyond the home to show Jesus to people.
4. Encourage your children to write their own worship song/rap to God, help them to naturally seek for themselves what being a real worshipper means and talk, discuss and act upon it.

SESSION 11: FACING THE STORMS TOGETHER



NOTES

When you feel you can't go on any more what can you do?

How do you bring God into the center of the storm?

What can you do to help your children when your family is in a hard place?

What kind of decisions do you have to make before and during a storm?

What does it look like to 'crucify yourself' in a storm?

In Isaiah 53 Jesus was broken, but in His brokenness, He stood up and won the victory. How as parents can we learn from this?

STOP trying to do it in your own strength. What four things can you do to pass through the storm?

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POINTS TO PONDER

1. What kind of storms have you faced in the past and how have you grown through them?
2. How can we help our children to find strength in God when our family is in a crisis?
3. Are you connected to a church community, helping those in need when times are good for you, and opening yourself up for support in times of trial?
4. How can you strengthen yourself in the Bible in times of battle?



PRACTICAL: HOME FOCUS

Sometimes being a parent can be an emotional roller coaster as you journey through life with your children and join in their successes and failures. How do you handle times of crisis together? Will you be a family who builds their house upon the rock or the sand? So how can you get through these times as a whole unit and not fall apart. This is a difficult one to answer as there are so many different situations that may happen and each one would need to be handled differently. But here are a few suggestions:

1. In all things and situations, stop trying to do and handle things in your own strength. A house divided against itself cannot stand (Matthew 12:25) but together you are stronger. Whether that is as a family or reaching out to your wider community of church or family, praying, seeking practical help the active body of the church should be there for you in love and support.
2. In the time of a storm Jesus took time out for himself as he slept on the boat. His peace and security in that moment was that God was bigger than any storm and He was safe. Take time to keep God in the centre of any storms you are going through and ask for His guidance, peace and authority within the storm.
3. Try not to act rashly within the storm. Ask for God's wisdom on how to handle your emotions in your current situation.
4. Never stop talking to God. Isolation is the devil's playground, so keep in communication with God and your fellow believers and you will get over and win the victory in this situation together. Remember **Isaiah 42:3 He will not crush the weakest reed or put out a flickering candle. He will bring justice to all who have been wronged.**

SESSION 12: MINISTERING WITH YOUR CHILDREN



NOTES

When our children join us in ministry what impact does it have on them?

How can we keep a long term perspective as we raise our children, and avoid short term survival mode in their spiritual lives?

What principles can we apply as our children join us in ministry?

How can we encourage our children to be ministers of God's kingdom wherever they are?

POINTS TO PONDER

1. How can involving your children in ministry benefit your family and their faith?
2. How can your children join you in the ministries you are involved with in your church community?
3. What ministry opportunities can you do as a family outside of your church community?
4. How can we make sure that ministry does not become an empty performance?

**PRACTICAL: HOME FOCUS**

Our children's personal faith is so important. If our children can learn to trust, love and live for Jesus by themselves rather than it being imposed on them then their faith will be longer lasting, as it is a faith that is from their own experience. Ministry and faith should start and be outworked from the home, but it should not stay there. I encourage all parents to get their kids as involved with church activities and voluntary roles as possible as long as Jesus remains the focus of why they are doing what they are doing. So how can you do this:

1. Keep your child's faith alive. Watch out for local mission, Scripture Union beach missions, Summer Christian festivals, and find places you can serve as a family whilst also attending programs for your children's ages.
2. Ensure if your children are serving in church that they also are part of the worship services, so as well as giving they are receiving too.
3. Find ways you can minister as a family outside the home, eg helping a neighbour in need, helping the homeless, stopping and sharing a kind word with a stranger. Make up invitations to invite people to your church. Discuss Luke 6:31 and find out what things they would like done for them, then discuss how you can do that for other people.

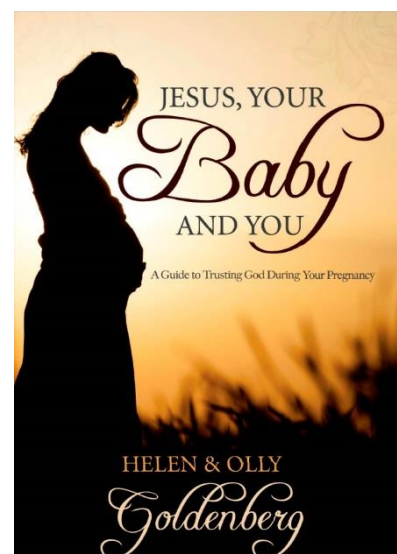
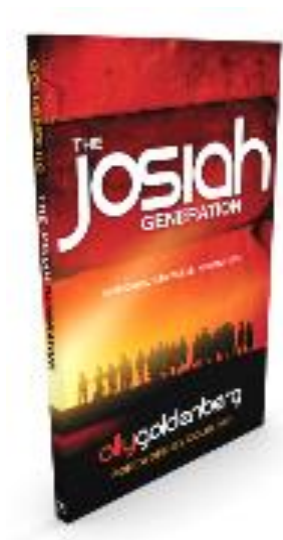
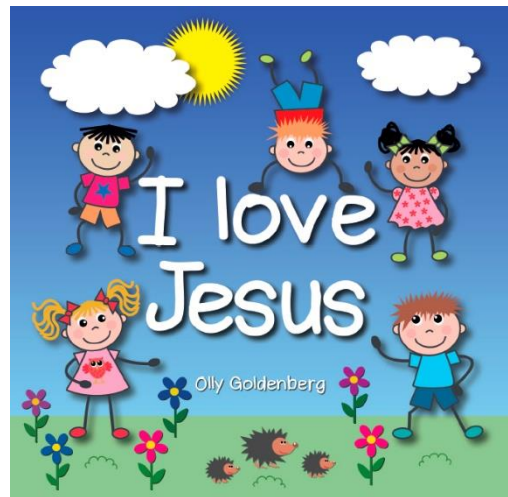
FURTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Free Downloads from ahwg.co.uk

Dare Cards and family bag time details – available at <https://www.ahwg.co.uk/featured>

Other Resources:

1. At Home with God – A parents guide to raising spiritual giants.
2. I love Jesus music CD for under 5s.
3. The Josiah Generation – telling the story of how God is using this generation of children.
4. Jesus, Your Baby and You. Don't wait until they are born, encourage parents to being ministering to their babies from the womb.



Olly & Helen Goldenberg have been involved in ministering to families for around 3 decades.

At Home with God is a ministry for parents, to equip and encourage them in their role as the primary disciplers of their children.

They previously led one of the largest children's ministries in Europe, before pioneering *Children Can*, a ministry which has taken them around the world. Their ministry includes parent training (including expectant parents), pastor's conferences, and ministry to children and youth. They produce many resources to equip the next generation of church to take their place.

They have five children and live in Dorset.

