

Family

Bible:

- Exodus 20:12
- Proverbs 1:8-9
- Luke 1:26-31
- Luke 2:41-52
- Ephesians 5:22-6:4

TO START:

Find some funny family photos to show your kids (if you don't have any go to <http://awkwardfamilyphotos.com/> and find some hilarious options.

It would also be funny to find some funny photos of your family to show.

Say: We are going to show some pictures of families-Let me know when you see one that might as well be our family.

Families can be super funny, awkward, messy....

Give your child a chance to share their words

What emotions come to your mind when we talk about families?

Would it surprise you to hear that there are more silly families in the Bible than there are good ones?

There are some are all kinds of stories about families in the Bible, but here is something to think about – why do you think that God created families?

Family

An essential element of family is to reveal God's character like nothing else in Creation.

And family does more than reflect God's character. It provides a safe place for you to experience God's love and learn how to love other people.

Even Christ himself was born within the context of a family. "God in the flesh" submitted to an earthly mom and dad to model what it means to honor parents and to benefit from their loving direction. It was within the nurturing care of His earthly family that "Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men" (Luke 2:52).

Celebrate the importance of family by hosting an "Our Family Rocks!" Awards Ceremony.

Plan a fun, fancy dinner (your "awards banquet") and have each family member create award certificates that highlight positive qualities of other family members. For instance, family members might win awards for Best Laugh, Most Creative Expression, Best Prayer Pal or Most Generous.

When the appointed date arrives, have everyone dress up and enjoy your banquet. Then roll out a red "carpet" (red linens or red duct tape on the floor), take pictures and present your awards to each other.

Afterward, discuss:

- God made family. Why do you think He did that?
- Why do you suppose God chose to put us together as a family? What "awards" do you think He would give to our family? What "awards" could we work toward earning next year?
- Proverbs 1:8 says, "Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching." What is God saying in this verse? How does that affect the way we live our lives together?

Wrap up with prayer, thanking God for each individual family member and asking for His blessing to help your family thrive.