

Family Worship Guide – Week 47

MEMORIZE

Luke 10:2 – And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

READ

Read Luke 10:1-12.

This passage begins a series of teaching on prayer. Before Jesus sends out His disciples, he tells them one thing to pray for – more laborers. Jesus commands us to pray that God would send more and more people out to make His gospel known throughout the world.

In this passage we see the great importance of prayer in accomplishing God’s mission among the nations. God does not send out the disciples telling them to pray for the mission to be easier, but rather, telling them to pray for God to send more laborers to help them. Here we see that prayer is absolutely essential in the mission of God by its impact on God sending people out into the harvest to begin with.

Spend some time together as a family in prayer for God to send out more laborers into the world with His gospel. Pray specifically that God would raise each member of the family up as a laborer to go take His gospel into all the nations of the earth.

Questions:

What does this passage teach us about God? What does this passage teach us about man?

Are there any commands in this passage we need to obey? Are there any promises in which we can put our hope?

What sticks out to you in this passage? What is your favorite part? What is your least favorite part? What part of God’s Word brings the most joy to you?

Bottom Line: God has sovereignly connected the advance of His gospel to the raising up of laborers in answer to our prayers.

SING

Let’s continue to worship Jesus for His saving work on the cross as we lift up our prayers to God to send laborers into the field. Our Family Worship Song this week is ‘Jesus Son of God’. Let our voices resound together, “There is no power that can come against [God’s] love.” And so we can pray with confidence that God will surely be faithful to work through our prayers in the advancement of this gospel, through His Church, to the ends of the earth!

Visit our website for a link to this song: www.brookhills.org/gathering/this_week.html.

SUGGESTIONS

These suggestions were created by the age-group ministry leaders as a way to help parents better communicate the biblical truths discussed in the Family Worship Guide. These suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God-centered discussions with their children. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help their children discover the truths of God’s word and worship him together.

Preschool

- Read Luke 10:2 with your preschooler.
- Explain to your child that “workers or laborers” for Jesus means disciples, or people who tell other people about Jesus. God wants all of us to be His disciples. This means that it’s our job; we are the workers.
- Tell your preschooler that in this Bible verse, Jesus tells the disciples to ask God to send more workers. Ask them how we can ask God for help. By praying! Prayer is simply talking to God. It’s very important to pray. When we pray, God hears our prayers.
- Teach and sing the following song to your preschooler:
(To the tune of *Mary Had A Little Lamb*)

Jesus hears me when I pray, when I pray, when I pray

Jesus hears me when I pray, He listens to my prayers.

(Repeat by adding the names of each member of your family)

Jesus hears ____ when he/she prays, when he/she prays, when he/she prays...

- Pray together and ask God to help each one of you be workers and disciples for Jesus.

Children

- Materials:
 - Cooler filled with a heavy object (such as a barbell or a large rock) along with drinks (or popsicles) and ice
 - Old towel, blanket, or sheet that can get dirty
- Head outside and place the filled cooler in the middle of the sheet, towel, or blanket not too far from a place that would be a good picnic spot. Have family members stand around edges of sheet.
- Tell everyone that some labor, or work, needs to be done. Tell them that the cooler needs to be moved to the picnic spot nearby, but it is too heavy to be moved by anyone by themselves.
- Tell everyone that you have a plan to move the cooler that will involve each of them. Instruct each person (including you) to take a corner of the sheet. Tell them that on the count of three each person will raise up an edge and you will all move forward together to carry the heavy cooler to the picnic area. Ask everyone to cheer if they want to see your plan carried out. (Hopefully, you will have cheers to rally everyone together.)
- Go forward with the plan. Once you have moved the cooler, congratulate each other and have a seat on the sheet so you can enjoy a drink or popsicle together. Tell everyone that they just moved the cooler together similar to the way God wants His gospel to be moved, or advanced, to all nations. Remind them that just as you had a plan that involved each of them to move the object, God has a sovereign plan to involve His people to advance the gospel. 'Sovereign' means having supreme power or authority. God's chooses to use us in His plan even though He does not need us to carry His plan out. Explain that just as you asked them to cheer you on in your plan to move the cooler, God wants our prayers asking Him to raise up more laborers to advance the gospel.

Students

- Name some people or places that you encounter every day that are "ripe for the harvest". (Ex: friends, school, sports teams, clubs, family members, etc.)
 - How can you pray specifically for God's mission to be accomplished in these people or areas?
 - How can you share the gospel with these people and in these environments?
- Where are some places locally that need the gospel? (Ex: homeless missions, low-income neighborhoods, etc.)
 - How can you pray specifically for God's mission to be accomplished in your city?
 - How can you take the gospel to these areas in your cities?
- What are some places globally that have little or no access to the gospel? (For specific information, consider visiting operationworld.org for a list of countries and their needs.)
 - How can you pray specifically for laborers to go to these countries?
 - How can you be involved in taking the gospel to these countries?
- How can you make praying for laborers to carry out the gospel mission part of your daily life?
 - Consider creating prayer reminders such as note cards stuck on your mirror or in your locker.
 - Spend some time brainstorming other ideas on how to remind you to pray for more laborers.
 - Consider setting aside a specific time and place and perhaps a group to spend concentrated time in prayer for the gospel to spread.

