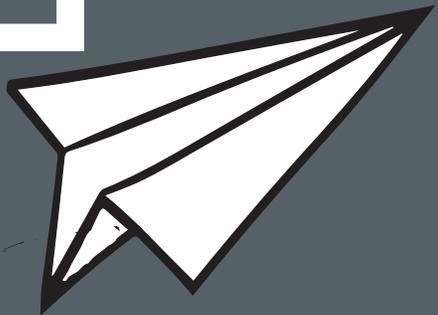




EXODUS

PART II

family discipleship guide



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Adapted from material by
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time, moments, & milestones



God calls the family to play a vital role in discipling the next generation. This often feels like an overwhelming task. It doesn't need to be. How this is accomplished varies from family to family and is as unique as the DNA of each home. Family discipleship isn't one-size-fits-all, and it isn't easy—even the most intentional of Christian parents may find themselves at a loss as to how to begin.

Though each family is unique, we believe that vibrant family discipleship can take shape around three key elements:

time

Create family discipleship time

Parents build intentional time into the rhythm of family life for the purpose of thinking about, talking about and living out the gospel. Parents who leverage time prioritize gathering their family in the home regularly—daily or weekly—to read Scripture or pray, to learn about a missionary and to sing praise songs together. Depending on the ages of the children, this regularly occurring time might vary in what it emphasizes and accomplishes.

milestones

Recognize and remember family discipleship milestones

Parents mark and make occasions to celebrate and commemorate significant spiritual milestones of God's work in the life of the family and child. Parents who leverage milestones might mark the one-year anniversary since a child's broken arm was healed by going out for ice cream to celebrate God's faithfulness. They might plan a special day around talking about sex and sexuality. They might plant a tree to remember a grandparent who modeled God's love to them. Parents who leverage milestones look for ways to use significant birthdays, trips or anniversaries to reinforce the gospel to their family. This might be occasions we make and create, like an orchestrated family rite of passage ceremony. On the other hand, it could be occasions we mark, like a yearly remembrance of a birth or death that was significant to the family.

moments

Capture family discipleship moments

Parents who leverage moments might use a good grade on a test to talk about how God gives us gifts to be used to build His kingdom. They might use an argument between siblings as a chance to talk about mutual submission to one another out of love. Parents who make use of moments look for ways to connect everyday ups and downs to gospel truths.

WEEK TWENTY // BREAD FROM HEAVEN

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside time this week for your family to sit down and read Exodus 16. Summarize the main points and answer these questions together.

// What are some things that you are grateful for?

// Do you ever have trouble with complaining? Why?

// Have you ever seen the Lord provide for your family when it seemed like you had nothing or when circumstances seemed hopeless?

MOMENTS

Look for opportunities in the course of your week to point out how God has provided for your family. Leverage every chance you get this week to help others. Find a way to serve the poor, orphans or foreigners in your city. Point out how God is generous—God gives what is best—and He is a provider—God meets the needs of His children.

MILESTONES

In Exodus 16:33, the Israelites put aside a jar of manna as a keepsake so that future generations would see the Lord's provision. Is there anything you have that could serve as a symbol of the Lord's provision and be passed down generation to generation?

WEEK TWENTY-ONE // **WATER FROM A ROCK**

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside time this week for your family to sit down and read Exodus 17:1-7. Summarize the main points and answer these questions together.

// What are some things that you are grateful for?

// Do you ever take God's blessings or provision for granted? Share times when you have.

// How could God use your family to help others through giving of your time, talent and possessions?

MOMENTS

Look for opportunities in the course of your week to point out how God has provided for your family. Leverage every chance you get this week to help others. Find a way to serve the poor, orphans or foreigners in your city. Point out how God is generous—God gives what is best—and He is a provider—God meets the needs of His children.

WEEK TWENTY-TWO // WISDOM

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside time this week to read Exodus 17:8-18:27 together as a family. Summarize the main points and then discuss these questions.

// What are the different roles or jobs that each person is responsible for in your family? // Why is it good that one person is not responsible for everything?

// How can you be better at doing the jobs you don't want to do or sharing the responsibilities you enjoy?

// Are there things in your home, physically or spiritually, that would benefit from more hard work, leadership or delegation? How can you work at them together?

MOMENTS

Leverage opportunities this week to work hard at the tasks that have been assigned to you and remind each other that your work serves the Lord. Encourage each other often with Colossians 3:23-24, "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."

WEEK TWENTY-THREE // AT MOUNT SINAI

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your household to read Exodus 19..

Then go through these questions together:

// How would you have felt to be there during all of this?

// What would be the most exciting part? What would have been the scariest part?

// What is your favorite thing about God?

MOMENTS

Look for ways this week to run to God - even when you sin - instead of from Him.

WEEK TWENTY-FOUR // THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside time this week for your family to read Exodus 20:1-21. Highlight some of the main points, read through the Ten Commandments again and then answer these questions together.

// What do you think would change in your life tomorrow if there were suddenly no laws in America?

// Do you see laws as a blessing from God? Why or why not?

// Are there any of the Ten Commandments that are particularly difficult for your family?

// Spend some time praying that your family would know God's laws, be obedient to God's laws and be quick to offer and ask for forgiveness.

MOMENTS

Leverage opportunities this week to point out laws that protect us and guide us. Use those opportunities to talk about why following the law is good and how breaking the law comes with consequences. In that, God is just—God is right to punish sin.

MILESTONES

The Ten Commandments were written in stone and intended to last in every way. Is there any mission specific to your family that you might consider making into a lasting symbol?

WEEK TWENTY-FIVE // MORE LAWS

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your household to read Exodus 20:22-23:19.

Then go through these questions together:

// What law would you make for our family? Why?

// What do you think is a weird rule we have in our family?

// Do you like things being in a routine or rhythm? Why or why not?

// God built a rhythm for His people that was daily, weekly, and yearly. Why would He do that?

MOMENTS

Look for opportunities to point out the “why” behind certain rules or expectations at home. Help your kids understand the “why” to some rules and school or church. Point out rhythms that help you or your family.

MILESTONES

Each week has a rhythm to it and Sunday worship is a part of that rhythm. Be sure to celebrate the joy and gift of that rhythm.

WEEK TWENTY-SIX // **A PLACE PREPARED**

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your household to read Exodus 23:20-33.

Then go through these questions together:

// If you had your own personal Promised Land, what would you want in it?

// God was going to do all of the hard work by making all of the enemies afraid of the Israelites and then have the Israelites run them away. Why do you think God didn't do it all? Why invite the Israelites to have a role?

// What are some things you think God is inviting you to have a role in? At home? At school? At work? At church?

MOMENTS

Look for opportunities to point out ways God has prepared a place for you and your family. Point out ways He is inviting you to step into what He has called you to.

MILESTONES

Look back to see where God delivered on promises He made to you. See where He brought you to a Promised Land of sorts. Celebrate it.

WEEK TWENTY-SEVEN // GOD'S GLORY

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside time this week as a family to read Exodus 24:1-18 together. With those verses in mind, discuss the following questions.

// If someone said to you, "Whatever God's law is, I am going to follow it perfectly!" what would you say to them?

// What do you think it was like to eat and drink in the presence of the Lord on the mountain?

// Aaron got to see all this and then go back and be with the people while Moses went further up the mountain with Joshua. After hearing from the Lord directly and eating and drinking in His presence, why do you think Aaron turned so quickly to other gods?

// What doubts do you have about God? How can you pray through them and address them as a family? How can we lean on God's grace and truth in times of doubt or self-righteousness?

MOMENTS

Leverage opportunities this week to remind your family that God Is in Charge of Everything and God Is Good. Look for places where God has demonstrated His goodness, where doubt has crept in and where self-righteousness has set in on your family.

WEEK TWENTY-EIGHT // THE SACRED SPACE

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your family to read Exodus 25:10-22. Imagine what the ark of the covenant would look like or draw a picture of it together.

// Why do you think the top of the ark of the covenant is called the “mercy seat”?

// What is “mercy”?

// How does your family show mercy to one another?

// The ark of the covenant was also where God met with Moses. Where does your family gather during the week to meet with God? How can that be more a time of mercy seeking and mercy sharing?

MOMENTS

In times of discipline this week, share the gospel with your family and talk about how God is just— He is right to punish sin—and He is merciful—God does not give His children the punishment they deserve.

WEEK TWENTY-NINE // THE TABERNACLE

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your household to read Exodus 26.

Then go through these questions together:

// What is the coolest thing you've ever built or put together?

// God seems really particular about how the Tabernacle is made. Why?

// What does that show us about God?

// What does it show us about His grace toward us?

MOMENTS

Find time to build things together or point out where what you are doing is worship.

WEEK THIRTY // **SO SHALL IT BE**

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside time this week for your family to sit down and read Exodus 27:1-19. Summarize the main points and answer these questions together.

// Do you like using the instructions of a game or to build something? Why or why not?

// God gave a lot of instructions in the Bible. What do you think about those?

// Along with instructions and commandments, God also gave us a Jesus as an example. How is that helpful for us?

// What makes it hard for you to follow God's instructions?

MOMENTS

Look for opportunities in the course of your week to point out how God has laid out ways for us to flourish in life and how obedience to those instructions is actually for our good.

WEEK THIRTY-ONE // THE PRIESTS

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside time this week for your family to sit down and read Exodus 27:20-29:46. Summarize the main points and answer these questions together.

// What is your favorite thing to wear?

// What do you think the priests outfits were like? Do you think they were comfortable?

// What do you think about the process priests had to go through? Was it necessary?

// What does that show us about the holiness of God?

// What does it show us about the grace He gives us?

MOMENTS

Look for opportunities in the course of your week to point out how holy and gracious God is. Look for ways to teach about how our worship and our lives should point to His holiness.

WEEK THIRTY-TWO // THE ALTAR OF INCENSE

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time during the week for your family to read Exodus 30:10 and Leviticus 16, the Day of Atonement, together and then discuss the following questions.

// The Day of Atonement was the biggest holiday of the year for Israel. It was the day when one lamb was sacrificed for the atonement of the people's sin. What might that holiday be pointing toward?

// Read Hebrews 10:19-22. Why do Christians today get to approach God with confidence, when in Exodus only the high priest could do it and only once a year? What difference does Christ's blood make?

// What would you say to someone who asks, "How good do I have to be to talk to God and expect Him to listen?"

MOMENTS

Leverage opportunities this week to remind your family that God Wants to Talk With Us. Pray at regular times together this week and as you are on the go together.

MILESTONES

How can you leverage big holidays in the year (including birthdays and anniversaries) to point your family toward Christ and His mercy?

WEEK THIRTY-THREE // SET APART

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your family to read Exodus 30:11-38 and discuss these questions.

// What is your favorite fragrance or smell? Why?

// At the end of the passage God says that they cannot use that fragrance for anything except for the anointing oil and incense. Why does that matter?

// What are some things we can be tempted to use for other people or things rather than set them apart for God?

MOMENTS

Leverage opportunities in the course of everyday life this week to distinguish between the holy and the common (Leviticus 10:10). Help your family see the difference.

WEEK THIRTY-FOUR // **HOLY WORK**

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your family to read Exodus 31:1-11 and discuss these questions.

// What is your dream job?

// The two men God puts in charge of building the Tabernacle were not priests or pastors or anything like that. They were “skilled workers” full of the Holy Spirit. What do you think about that?

// What are some things God has gifted you to do that seem like they don’t really matter in the church or to God?

// How could God use those gifts?

MOMENTS

Leverage opportunities in the course of everyday life to point out how God has gifted your family with ways to serve Him - even if it seems like they are things that don’t matter.

WEEK THIRTY-FIVE // **HOLY REST**

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your family to read Exodus 31:12-18 and discuss these questions.

// What sticks out to you in these verses? Why do you think the Lord takes Sabbath rest so seriously?

// On a scale of 1 – 10, where does your family rate at keeping the Sabbath?

// Is Sabbath rest the same as doing nothing? Why not?

// What are some ways you can practice Sabbath as a family this week?

MOMENTS

Leverage opportunities in the course of everyday life this week to encourage one another in the Lord. Let your family see you resting in and considering the Lord instead of “getting stuff done.” Memorize and share with one another Hebrews 10:24, “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works.”

WEEK THIRTY-SIX // THE GOLDEN CALF

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your family to read Exodus 32. After reading the chapter, discuss these questions with one another.

// What is “idolatry”? Is there anything in your life that is so important it rivals or outpaces God?

// Read verse 24 again. Have you ever lied to try to cover up something wrong? How did it go?

// Why is it so hard to follow God’s laws? Should we just give up trying?

// What do you think it means to follow God’s laws through “grace-driven effort”? Why do we want God to be first in our life?

MOMENTS

Leverage opportunities in the course of everyday life to remind each other that God is what is best. God is worthy—only God deserves all glory.

WEEK THIRTY-SEVEN // SHOW ME YOUR GLORY

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside time this week for your family to read Exodus 33:7-23 and then discuss these questions.

// Read verse 11 again. God Wants to Talk With Us. Does your prayer life reflect that?

// Prayer of intercession means praying for others. Share how your family can pray for one another this week and then pray together.

// Who are others in your neighborhood, school or workplace you can be praying for?

// Whom would you like for the Lord to save? Commit to pray for that person this week.

MOMENTS

Leverage opportunities this week to teach your family how to pray: to the Father, because of the Son, with the help of the Holy Spirit. We praise, thank, confess and make requests. Let the refrain of your week be, "God Wants to Talk With Us."

MILESTONES

Consider writing down some prayers in the form of letters for your kids. Save them up to give to them one day.

WEEK THIRTY-EIGHT // **GOD OF MERCY**

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside time this week for your family to read Exodus 34:1-28 and then discuss these questions.

// What would you think about what was happening if you were an Israelite?

// What is mercy?

// How is God showing mercy in this passage?

// How can you show mercy like God?

MOMENTS

Leverage opportunities this week to show mercy to one another.

WEEK THIRTY-NINE // GOD OF GLORY

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside time this week for your family to read Exodus 34:29-35 and then discuss these questions.

// What would you think if you saw Moses like that?

// What changes with someone when they get close to God?

// How can you tell if you're close to God? What is different about you?

MOMENTS

Leverage opportunities this week to look at behavior and attitude as more of a symptom than a cause. Help point each other back to Jesus as a way to be transformed - not through behavior modification.

WEEK FORTY // **GENEROUS HEARTS**

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your family to read Exodus 35 together and then discuss these questions.

// How do you see people using their skills to serve the Lord in chapter 35?

// What gifts and talents did the Lord give you? Why do you think God made you the way that He did?

// How can you use what God has given you to serve Him, your city and your church?

// Discuss your family's combined gifts and what you could do together for the kingdom this week.

MOMENTS

Leverage opportunities in the course of everyday life this week to serve others. Memorize and share with each other 1 Peter 4:11, "Whoever serves as one who serves by the strength that God supplies— in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ."

WEEK FORTY-ONE // **GENEROUS HANDS**

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your family to read Exodus 35:30-36:38 together and then discuss these questions.

// What is your favorite thing to do at church?

// Read Exodus 36:1 again. Who gave the skilled craftsmen their skill?

// God asks for the ones who have the skill AND whose heart was moved to help. Why are both important?

MOMENTS

Pay attention to how God has gifted you and your family AND pray that God would move in their hearts to use their gifts to serve Him.

WEEK FORTY-TWO // THE HOUSE OF WORSHIP

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your family to read Exodus 37-38 together and then discuss these questions.

// The instructions for the construction of the ark of the covenant, table, lampstand and altar are very detailed. Why do you think the Lord cares so much about the details?

// The ark is described as having four poles on the sides so that it could be lifted up without a person having to touch the ark. Why do you think no one could touch the ark?

// Look back at Exodus 25:22. What did the Lord tell Moses about the mercy seat?

// What are some ways your family can approach God with confidence? How does Christ's sacrifice make it so you are able to do so?

MOMENTS

Take advantage of opportunities to discuss God's holiness—He is completely perfect and separate from sin, but we are still able to approach Him because of the work of Jesus Christ on our behalf. Encourage your family to thank the Lord for His mercy—He does not give His children the punishment they deserve. In discipline this week, talk about what we deserve and what mercy looks like in your family.

WEEK FORTY-THREE // THE PEOPLE OF WORSHIP

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your family to read Exodus 39 together and then discuss these questions.

// How many times does the text repeat the phrase, “as the Lord had commanded Moses,” in chapter 39?

// What does it mean to be obedient to the instructions of the Lord?

// What are some ways you and your family have struggled to be obedient to the Lord?

// What would you say to someone who asked, “Why would you base your life off a book written thousands of years ago?”

MOMENTS

In moments of discipline this week, find opportunities to talk about what it means to be obedient and disobedient. Talk about what it means to have self-control—freedom from obedience to our sinful thoughts and emotions. Talk about what it means to glorify God through our obedience to Him—to show, honor and enjoy God as most valuable.

WEEK FORTY-FOUR // FINISH THE WORK

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your family to read Exodus 40 together and then discuss the following questions.

// Why might God's presence in the tabernacle be signified by a cloud?

// Imagine together what this cloud might look like. Take a look back at Exodus 19:16-20. How might the cloud look different over a mountain versus over the tabernacle?

// Look at verses 34-38. The tabernacle was set up in the middle of the camp so that the presence and guidance of the Lord could always be seen. How are Christians guided by God today? Where does He dwell now? Read 1 Corinthians 3:16 for help with your answer.

// What are some ways your family can better seek and be attentive to the guidance of the Lord?

MOMENTS

When making choices or decisions this week, be ready to talk about what it means to yield to the guidance of the Lord because He is sovereign—God has the right, wisdom and power to do all He pleases—and He is faithful—God always does what He says He will do.

MILESTONES

In Exodus 40:2, the Lord tells Moses, “On the first day of the first month you shall erect the tabernacle of the tent of meeting.” The tabernacle being set up on the first day of the year is significant in setting a foundation of worship and celebrating the Lord's dwelling with man. Create a family tradition of celebrating each new year and dedicating the year to the worship of the Lord. This might be a good time to make spiritually-focused family resolutions or goals.

WEEK FORTY-FIVE // FILLED

IDEAS FOR FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

TIME

Set aside a time this week for your family to read Exodus 40:34-38 together and then discuss the following questions.

// What was your favorite part of the book of Exodus? Why?

// God's presence FILLED the tabernacle. What do you think that was like for the people?

MOMENTS

Be intentional to point out where you see God working and moving. Recall the book of Exodus to reveal God to your family.

ATTRIBUTES of GOD

Scripture is meant to show us who God is. Exodus shows us that God is a rescuer: He draws us out of darkness and draws us into His light.

Here are some attributes of God we find in Scripture as we read it.

ALMIGHTY	Nothing is too hard for God.
ATTENTIVE	God hears and responds to the prayers of His children.
COMPASSIONATE	God sees, cares, and acts when His children are in need.
CREATOR	God made everything.
DELIVERER	God rescues His children.
FAITHFUL	God always does what He says He will do.
GENEROUS	God gives what is best.
GRACIOUS	God shows His greatness and worth.
GOOD	God is what is best.
HOLY	God is completely perfect and separate from sin.
JUST	God is right to punish sin.
LOVING	God does what is best.
MERCIFUL	God does not give His children the punishment they deserve.
PROVIDER	God meets the needs of His children.
REFUGE	God is a place of safety and protection for His children.
SOVEREIGN	God has the right, wisdom, and power to do all that He pleases.
UNCHANGING	God never changes.
WISE	God knows what is best.
WORTHY	Only God deserves all glory.

to God
be the Glory

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EXODUS

PART I

family discipleship guide

