Six Days of Family Worship

When the Future Looks Impossible (September 14–19 • Genesis 11:10–32)

Instructions: Choose either the longer or shorter Scripture reading. Read it aloud, ask the questions that fit your children, sing or listen to the day's song, and finish by praying together. Keep it simple and warm; even 7–12 minutes can establish a meaningful family rhythm. Encourage every child to participate, even if a prayer is only one sentence.

One Truth for the Week

God faithfully carries his promise forward by grace; when the future looks impossible, our hope rests in Jesus, not in our own ability.

Day 1 — God Is Faithful Through Every Generation

LONGER READING
Genesis 11:10–26; Colossians 1:15–17

SHORTER READING
Genesis 11:10–12, 24–26

The main idea: Genesis 11 traces one family from Shem to Abram. Most of these people are known only by name, yet God was quietly carrying his promise forward through every generation. The list reaches back to the Savior promised in Genesis 3:15 and points ahead to Jesus, the true image of God. Years passed and people came and went, but God never forgot what he promised.

Younger Children

- Who kept the family line going?
- Did God forget his promise?
- Who is the promised Savior?
- Can you trust Jesus while you are little?

Older Children

- What do the repeated names teach us about God's faithfulness?
- How does this family line point backward to Genesis 3:15 and forward to Jesus?
- Why does an unnoticed life still matter to God?
- Where can you faithfully represent Christ this week?

Sing: This Is My Father's World — Reawaken Hymns
This hymn reminds us that the world and all of history belong to God, whose rule never fails.
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Prayer Points

- Praise God for faithfully working through every generation.
- Thank God for sending Jesus exactly as he promised.
- Ask God to help your family represent Christ in ordinary places.

Pray Together

Faithful God, you never forget your promises. Thank you for sending Jesus. Help us trust him and faithfully show others what he is like. Amen.

Parent note: A life does not need to draw attention to matter. Help children see that trusting Christ and representing him in ordinary places is valuable because God is faithfully at work.

Day 2 — Grace Reaches Every Kind of Family

LONGER READING
Joshua 24:2–3; Acts 7:2–4; Romans 4:16

SHORTER READING
Acts 7:2–4

The main idea: Abram grew up in Ur, where his family worshiped false gods. He did not earn God's attention or find his own way to God. God graciously revealed himself and called Abram to trust and follow him. Our family background cannot save us, and a painful or sinful past cannot put us beyond God's reach. Jesus welcomes sinners who come to him by faith.

Younger Children

- Did Abram's family worship the true God?
- Who called Abram?
- Can Jesus save people from any family?
- Who must you trust to forgive you?

Older Children

- What does Joshua 24 tell us about Abram's background?
- Why is God's call of Abram an act of grace?
- Why can neither a good family nor a troubled family decide your standing with God?
- What does it mean for you to trust Jesus personally?

Sing: Jesus Strong and Kind — CityAlight
This song invites weak, lost, and needy people to come to Jesus, who receives them with kindness.
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Prayer Points

- Thank God that his grace can reach any person and family.
- Ask Jesus to help each family member trust him personally.
- Pray for a family you know that needs the hope of Christ.

Pray Together

Jesus, thank you that your grace reaches sinners from every kind of family. Help each of us trust you and welcome others with your kindness. Amen.

Parent note: Thank God for a Christian home, but explain gently that parents cannot believe for their children. Each person needs to trust Jesus personally.

Day 3 — Turn From False Gods to the True God

LONGER READING
Joshua 24:2–15; Colossians 1:15–20

SHORTER READING
Joshua 24:14–15

The main idea: Ur and Haran were centers of moon worship, and Terah served other gods. Their idols promised help but could not give life, forgiveness, or lasting hope. Our idols may look different—approval, success, appearance, comfort, or control—but they cannot save us either. God calls us to turn from whatever takes his place and trust Jesus, the true Lord over all creation.

Younger Children

- What did Terah worship?
- Could the moon god save him?
- Who is the true Lord?
- Who should we trust most?

Older Children

- What did the gods of Ur promise but fail to provide?
- What good things can become idols in our lives?
- How does Colossians 1 show that Jesus is greater than every created thing?
- What false source of hope do you need to turn from?

Sing: Only a Holy God — CityAlight
This song directs our worship away from created things to the one holy God who alone deserves it.
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Prayer Points

- Praise Jesus as Lord over everything he created.
- Confess anything you have trusted in God's place.
- Ask God to give your family undivided hearts that love him.

Pray Together

Holy God, you alone deserve our worship. Forgive us for trusting other things in your place. Turn our hearts to Jesus, our true Lord and Savior. Amen.

Parent note: Define an idol simply as anything we trust, love, or obey in God's place. Keep the focus on Jesus, who is better than every false promise.

Day 4 — God Calls Us to Follow by Faith

LONGER READING
Genesis 11:27–31; Acts 7:2–5; Hebrews 11:8–10

SHORTER READING
Hebrews 11:8–10

Talk it through: God appeared to Abram and told him to leave his home for a land God would show him. Abram could not see the whole road ahead, but he could trust the God who called him. Faith is not pretending that hard things are easy. It is relying on God's grace and taking the next step he has clearly shown us because his character is trustworthy.

Younger Children

- Who told Abram to leave home?
- Did Abram know the whole way?
- Could Abram trust God?
- What has God told us to do?

Older Children

- What did Abram know, and what remained unknown?
- How is biblical faith different from wishful thinking?
- Why does following God not require seeing the whole future?
- What next step of obedience has God made clear to you?

Sing: Amazing Grace — Reawaken Hymns
This hymn celebrates the grace that finds lost sinners and teaches us to trust and follow God.
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Prayer Points

- Thank God for speaking clearly through his Word.
- Ask for faith to obey what God has already shown you.
- Pray for wisdom about one decision your family faces.

Pray Together

Gracious God, thank you for calling sinners to yourself. Help us trust your Word, follow Jesus, and take the next faithful step even when we cannot see the whole road. Amen.

Parent note: Avoid presenting faith as a leap into the dark. Abram trusted the God who spoke; our faith rests on God's Word and is centered in Jesus.

Day 5 — God's Promise Rests on His Faithfulness

LONGER READING
Genesis 11:30–32; Romans 4:16–21

SHORTER READING
Romans 4:18–21

Talk it through: Genesis 11 closes with no promised son, no land, and no nation. Sarai could not have children, and the family stopped short of Canaan. From a human point of view, the future looked impossible. Yet God's promise did not rest on Abram and Sarai's ability. Nothing—not long years, human weakness, or even death—could keep the faithful God from doing what he promised.

Younger Children

- Could Sarai have a baby by herself?
- Did that stop God's promise?
- Does God always keep his word?
- What can you tell Jesus when you are afraid?

Older Children

- Why did God's promise look impossible at the end of Genesis 11?
- What did Abraham believe about God in Romans 4?
- What is the difference between trusting God's promises and expecting our preferred outcome?
- What impossible burden do you need to place in God's hands?

Sing: Great Is Thy Faithfulness — Reawaken Hymns
This hymn praises the unchanging God who never forgets and always keeps every promise.
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Prayer Points

- Praise God because his faithfulness never changes.
- Bring God one situation your family cannot fix.
- Ask for wisdom to obey while you wait and trust him.

Pray Together

Faithful God, our strength is limited, but your promises never fail. We bring you what we cannot fix. Help us trust your character and obey you while we wait. Amen.

Parent note: Do not promise that every hard circumstance will turn out as we want. Point children to something better: God is with his people and will keep every promise he has made.

Day 6 — What Looks Impossible Is Certain in Christ

LONGER READING
Galatians 3:7–9, 26–29; Colossians 1:15–23

SHORTER READING
Galatians 3:26–29

Talk it through: God carried his promise through Abram's family all the way to Jesus. Jesus is the promised Savior and the visible image of the invisible God. Through his death and resurrection, everyone who trusts him is forgiven and welcomed into God's family. The story does not depend on our background, goodness, or strength. Our life, hope, and future are secure in Christ.

Younger Children

- Who did God send through Abram's family?
- What did Jesus do for sinners?
- How do we join God's family?
- Is our hope in ourselves or in Jesus?

Older Children

- How did God fulfill his promise through Abram's family?
- What does Colossians 1 teach about who Jesus is?
- Why can background, goodness, or strength never save us?
- How does belonging to Christ change the way you face the future?

Sing: There Is One Gospel — CityAlight

This song centers our hope on the one gospel of Jesus, who died, rose, and holds our future secure.

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Prayer Points

- Thank Jesus for fulfilling God's promise and saving sinners.
- Ask God to help each family member rest his or her hope in Christ.
- Pray for someone who needs to hear the good news of Jesus.

Pray Together

Jesus, you are the promised Savior and our only hope. Thank you for dying and rising to bring us into God's family. Help us trust you with our future and share your good news. Amen.

Parent note: End with the gospel simply: we have sinned, Jesus died and rose again, and everyone who turns from sin and trusts him is forgiven and made part of God's family.