

Kids Invite-Ready Devo

Family Devotional to Prepare Kids to Invite Their Friends to Church

There are people in your kid's life who don't know Jesus. God wants to use your family to invite them to church. This is a 4-week family devotional that walks you step-by-step on how to invite your friends to church.

- 1. The first week you'll ask God to give you a list of names of people to invite.
- 2. The second week, you'll ask God to make you bold.
- 3. The third week, you will risk and invite your friend to join you at church.
- 4. The fourth week, you'll pray that your friend will encounter Jesus' love.

Choose a day and time to sit down as a family each week – Sunday nights work great! You'll need a Bible. You also need paper and something to write/draw with. As you read the passages of scripture, each family member will draw out the story.

Week 1: Who

Who does God want me to invite to church?

Memory Verse: Psalm 17:6

"I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer."

Bible Story: Luke 6:12-16

- Read Luke 6:12-16.
- Jesus spent all night praying. He asked God, "Who should I ask to follow me?" God gave him 12 names. These are the people Jesus asked to be his disciples.
- Let's follow Jesus' example. Let's ask God, "Who do you want me to invite to come to church with me?" God had specific people in mind for Jesus to ask. God has specific people in mind for you to ask.
- You are going to pray as a family and ask God who you should invite to church. Sit
 quietly and let God bring people to your mind. The people that pop into your mind might
 be people you really like. There might be people that pop into your mind that you don't
 like very much. There might be people that pop into your mind that you never even

- thought of. Don't be surprised by that! Even if you don't like someone very much or don't know them that well, God loves them. He created them and He wants them to know Him.
- If no names come to mind tonight, that's okay. Pray again tomorrow, and the next day, etc. Soon, God will give you an idea of who to invite.
- You aren't going to go out and invite those people right away. You are going to pray for them all this week and next week. We'll pray God will prepare their hearts – and your heart too. Then, you will plan a time to invite them to church. We'll learn more in this devotional.

Prayer Focus:

- Write out a list of people whom God brought to mind. Pray for each person by name every day this week.
- God, who in my life do you want me to invite to church to hear the Good News of Jesus? Please bring a few people to my mind.

Week 2: Courage

God, give me the courage to ask.

Memory Verse: Romans 1:16

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes..."

Bible Story: Joshua 1:1-9

- Read Joshua 1:1-9.
- Joshua was a faithful helper to Moses. When Moses died, God chose him to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land, reminding him to be strong and brave because God was with him.
- The good news? God is with us too! Jesus promised He will never leave us. After rising from the dead, He gave us the Holy Spirit to help and guide us. When you follow Jesus, His Spirit lives in you—so no matter how hard life gets, you don't have to be afraid!
- Jesus is your best friend. He loves you no matter what. He never leaves you. He listens to you. He understands you. He forgives you of your sins. He gives you peace when you are scared. He guides you to make the right decisions. He gives you eternal life in heaven. Jesus is the best friend you could ever have! Don't you want people to meet your best friend, Jesus, so He can be their best friend too?!
- Every day this week, you are going to ask God to give you courage. He is faithful and He will give you courage and boldness. He will prepare you this week so that next week you can invite your friends to church!



Prayer Focus:

- Ask God to give you courage.
- Continue praying for the people God put on your heart to invite.

Week 3: Invitation

With Jesus by my side, I'm going to risk to invite.

Memory Verse: Matthew 28:20

"...I am with you always..." -Jesus

Bible Story: Luke 14:15-24

- Read Luke 14:15-24.
- God invites everyone to His great feast, but not everyone chooses to come. Jesus died on the cross so that we could be with God forever in heaven. Just like in the Bible story where people made excuses to miss the feast, many people today make excuses not to come to church.
- When you ask your friends this week, they might say yes and that's awesome! But if they say no, that's okay too. You can always invite them again another time.
- Parents: If your child's friend declines the invitation, reassure them that it's not their fault. Guide them to keep praying for their friend, trusting that one day, they might say yes to Jesus' invitation!

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for a great conversation with your friend, so you can invite them to church with confidence.
- Ask God to open their heart to say yes to the invitation!

Activity: Create an Invitation

- Supplies Needed:
 - Construction paper
 - Markers, colored pencils, or crayons
- Steps:
 - 1 Fold a piece of construction paper in half to make a card.
 - o 2 Use markers, crayons, or colored pencils to decorate the front. You can draw pictures, write "You're Invited!" or add fun designs!
 - o 3 Inside the card, write this message:

- "Dear , Will you come to church with me on (day of the week)? It's really fun! We get to play games, sing songs, and learn cool things about Jesus. From, "
- 4 Add extra decorations or a personal note if you'd like!
- 5 Give the card to your friend and pray that they say yes!

Week 4: The Battle

May Jesus win the battle for my friends!

Memory Verse: 1 Timothy 2:3-4

"This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth."

Bible Story: Ephesians 6:10-20

- Read Ephesians 6:10-20.
- There is a battle going on. Even though we can't see it, we must be prepared for battle a spiritual battle. The evil one doesn't want your friends to meet Jesus.
- Last week you invited your friends to church. The evil one will do anything and everything to prevent your friends from getting to church, hearing the good news about Jesus, and accepting Jesus as their savior.
- We can put on God's armor and protection. With His strength, we can fight the good fight and stand against the evil one.
 - weapons in place. To stand up against evil, we need to hold on tight to the truth that only Jesus gives us.
 - Breastplate of Righteousness: The breastplate protects a soldier's heart and other important organs. We can't fight Satan with our own goodness — we need Jesus' goodness to protect us and help us win.
 - Shoes of Peace: Soldiers needed strong shoes to travel and fight. We also need to be prepared to share the good news about Jesus so others can have peace that comes from God.
 - Shield of Faith: A soldier's shield protects them from weapons. Our shield is faith in Jesus. When we trust in Him, we can stand strong and face any challenges the enemy throws at us.
 - Helmet of Salvation: A helmet keeps a soldier's head safe, and Jesus' salvation keeps our minds and hearts safe. Know Jesus protects us forever!

- Sword of the Spirit: A soldier's sword is a sharp weapon for close fights. The Word of God (the Bible) is our sword! When we know God's Word and trust in the Holy Spirit, we can defeat the enemy.
- With the armor of God, we're ready to stand strong against anything!
- Jesus is praying and fighting for your friends! He loves them so much and He can't wait to be their best friend!

Prayer Focus:

- That nothing will stop our friends from coming to church.
- Against distractions when they hear about Jesus.
- That their hearts will be open to God's truth.