



FAMILY FAITH NIGHT

Jesus' love for us

A TIME FOR THE FAMILY TO COME TOGETHER AND SHARE THEIR FAITH AND HAVE FAMILY CHURCH WITH ONE ANOTHER.

THINGS TO GET READY

Before starting the family time get all the following ready:

- Candle + matches
- Glass of water
- Red whiteboard marker or similar
- pen
- Tissue/toilet paper

IMPORATNCE OF FAITH AT HOME

Research shows parents have a 60% influence on the faith development of their children.

"Family is the primary agent for faith formation which is God's vision"
Freudenburg, B

A VERSE

Find and read this bible verse together after the Object lesson.

John 3: 16
For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

BEGINNING - PRAYER

Sit together and pray as a family.

Light the candle to indicate a family time has started. Invite different members of the family to light the candle before each family faith night.

Hold hands and pray a prayer together or recite this prayer:

Dear God, Today we come together as a family with our hearts open to your voice. We sit at home not able to go to church, but we know we are the church and will show your love to this country. We don't know what the future holds, but we know you hold the future in your hands and so we trust our country's future in your hands.

Amen

Other ways to pray

1. Try a popcorn pray – where anyone in the group can pop up and say a small prayer.
2. Spin the prayer bottle – have a bottle on the table and play spin the bottle where who ever the bottle points to when stationary should pray a prayer or read the one above.

MIDDLE - STORY TIME

A story about Adam the Labrador

Read the story on the next page aloud as a family. Take turns reading or pick a story teller to capture the wonder in the story.

DISCUSSION TIME

1. Has anyone shown you love like Adam's before?
2. Have you ever shown love like Adam did?
3. Does this story remind you of someone special?



ENDING - OBJECT LESSON

God's love spreads.

Using tissue/toilet paper draw 1 big heart and 3 smaller hearts above it. Colour in the smaller heart with red whiteboard marker or similar. place the tissue paper into water.

watch how the water pushes the red up to the other hearts.

What we learn: See how Gods love (the big heart) spreads to all the other hearts. God's love spreads to us and so we can do the same.

Story



Adam: a dog tale.

Our story begins on a bright sunny day with creation buzzing with wondrous noises. With all the amazing noises in the air around a tiny new noise has joined in. A puppy Labrador was born to a mommy Labrador and a daddy Labrador. Small but so sweet, they named their puppy Adam. The dogs lived on a farm with a farmer who took good care of them. They always had enough food and got plenty of hugs, scratches and pats. The dogs loved to play with each other and found all sorts of games to play. They only had one rule, never go to the end of the farm close to the road. Everything was right and happy until one day, the puppy Adam noticed an overwhelming delicious scent in the air. He followed his nose to the end of the farm close to the road. When he looked up he saw a strange man standing in front of a big red van. Adams eyes got big as he saw where the Scent was coming from, a juice steak was sitting in the back of the big red van. The strange man said to Adam he can have the steak, all he must do is get into the van. Not following the one golden rule given to Adam, he strolled into the van. BANG... the doors were shut. Knowing he was in danger now, Adam squealed for help... Mom and Dad heard the sequels but could not get to Adam in time.

The Farmer went on the search in town for the big red van, after many days of searching he finally saw it. Parked in front of a broken down building with a big sign saying DOG FIGHTS. Fearing what happened to his poor Adam he knocked on the door and the strange man appeared saying, "What do you want?" The farmer pleading with the strange man to give back Adam; he loves Adam so very much. Sadly, the strange man shouted, "Get off my property and never come back, this dog is mine now and he will be a fighting dog!"

The farmer tried everything to get Adam back, but nothing worked. Days, weeks, and months went by and back at the farm something amazing happened. A new puppy was born from the same mom and dad Labrador. The farmer so happy a new puppy has joined his family. Still missing Adam, he thought of a good name for the new puppy; he named the new puppy Nu-Adam. The family had much fun together on the farm. There was just one rule, never go to the end of the farm close to the road. Everything was right on the farm until a day came were Nu-Adam noticed an overwhelming delicious Scent in the air. He followed his nose to the end of the farm close to the road. When he looked up he saw a strange man standing in front of a big red van. In the back was a juice steak and the strange man invited him to jump into the back of the van. Nu-Adam looked at the man and turned away, remember what the rule was he left to go back to the farm house. The Strange man called the farmer and said to him, "I want that new dog of yours, he seems to be smarter than the others." The farmer telling him to go away, because he does not want to lose another dog. The strange man said something which was frightening he exclaimed, "Your old dog has given birth to a whole litter of puppies. If you give me your new dog, you can have the old Adam and all his puppies!" not knowing what to do the farmer fell silent; he wanted Adam back and the puppies but couldn't bear give up Nu-Adam. Before he could say anything, Nu-Adam barked at the farmer and licked his face before jumping into the back of the van. Nu-Adam knew by giving himself up he would save the old Adam and the puppies.

The strange man kept to his agreement and delivered Adam and his puppies to the farmer. Nu-Adam gave up his life for all the dogs to be safe on the farm.