



# FAMILY FAITH NIGHT

A ray of Hope

## THINGS TO GET READY

Before starting the family time get all the following ready:

- Candle + matches.
- Crayons, colouring pencils, paint, glitter, pasta, eggshells (anything you'd like to use for decorating).
- Cardboard or paper and glue
- Youtube if you'd like to play worship.

## A VERSE

Find and read this bible verse together inviting everyone to give an answer as to what they think the passage means.

### Hebrews 10:23

<sup>23</sup> Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.

## A Song

Here is a song entitled "Wonder" By Hillsong which you can play if you'd like before opening in prayer or you can even play it during the activity.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=haQ1earucJ0>

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

## BEGINNING - PRAYER

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### 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, we thank you for all the wonderful things you have given us, animals, plants, family, and friends, for all of your creation. God, we invite you into our family and this time together.  
Amen*

### Other ways to pray

- One-word prayer (everybody says a word of something they are thankful or grateful for.
- Everybody gets a different colour crayon (or sweetie) and each person prays something different according to their colour.

## MIDDLE - STORY TIME

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### Betty's Garden

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

## DISCUSSION TIME

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### Questions

1. How important is it to keep promises?
2. How often do you ask God for things?
3. What gives you hope?

Isn't cool to know that when we pray and ask God for things that He promises to help us no matter what! God gives all of us hope and helps us to spread hope to those that need it the most.

If we ever need help, if we ever need hope all we must do is pray and ask God to give us hope.

## ENDING – ACTIVITY

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### **A picture of hope**

As a family you can decorate and create a beautiful work of art, of something that gives you all HOPE.

You can do one big picture, or you can do several pictures, whatever you like, as long as everybody joins in and gets their hands dirty!

It can be anything – flowers, and animal, granny, or grandpa or even a bible verse.

We would like to encourage you as a family to take a picture of your creations and submit them for our church service community moment – lets spread hope like Betty did!

*Pictures can be submitted via Whatsapp or emailed to [james@westview.org.za](mailto:james@westview.org.za)*

## Story

### Betty's Garden

Betty lived in a small town where each family has its own house with a beautiful garden in front of it. All houses of the town were the same, a separate house with a garden ...

Betty lived in a beautiful small house coloured in white. She had a beautiful garden full of colourful plants. She loved flowers a lot that's why you can see her garden covered with various kinds of colourful flowers. She loved planting rare and different colours of flowers. Flowers for her were messengers delivering messages to people. That's why she took a very good care of them.

Every morning Betty waters her flowers carefully and picks some of them to put in her white basket. She loved going for walks along the river side. So every morning she takes the flowers she picks to give away to people on her way to the river. She used also to carry some seeds in her basket too

to throw in people's gardens on her way to the river to surprise them with some beautiful flowers which will grow in their gardens ...

Betty had a dream. She was doing her best to fulfil her dream.

She dreamt of building a hospital to treat the sick people in her town. They only have a clinic in her hometown ... When people get sick, they travel a long distance to another town next to them. It was hard for people to move when they are sick to another place for treatment. She used to think about the best thing that she can do to have the money for building a hospital.

One day when she was watching television, she found a contest about the best flower of the year. The competition was to go for the best flower which has the best beauty among the other flowers. Betty was so excited and decided to participate in the competition. The winner of the competition would get a big prize, lots of money! Enough to build a hospital even...

After days of thinking, she finally had the best idea for the best flower. The only flowers that she finds amazingly beautiful were lilies...

Betty loved lilies and believed that they were amazing flowers.

She started planting lilies in her garden and started taking a very good care of them till the time of the competition. She gave them extra attention to be the best. She gave them the best care. She wanted so much to win the prize. She hoped that she can fulfil her dream of help her town people.

Day by day the lilies started growing and becoming the best lilies the one can see ... Their colours were amazing...

Her hometown people kept encouraging her because they knew how good she was at planting flowers.

The competition started and all started putting their flowers on the assigned tables. Betty put her lilies out too and then the judges started looking at all the flowers of the competition.

They wrote their notes and kept examining the flowers.

They started paying more attention to Betty's lilies. They found that her flowers were extraordinarily beautiful than the other flowers. The flowers were different from the other flowers. True they were ordinary lilies, but they were grown with love. The flowers had the best strong petals and they looked perfect.

The judges took a while to announce the winner of the competition. They decided that Betty was the one to win the competition for the best flowers.

They announced that Betty was the winner. She won the biggest prize!

Betty took the money and was so happy of the prize and that finally she can start building the hospital she wanted in her hometown.

She left to her town. People were so happy for Betty that she won the prize.

She told them about the surprise she kept for them. When she told them that she was going to build them a hospital for their treatment with the money of the competition, they could not believe it! They were so happy that Betty had thought of them, and not wanted to keep all the money for herself.

Because of what Betty did all people in her town started feeling hopeful again and they all started helping her too. They felt hope and started spreading hope. They started helping her in building the hospital and spreading joy throughout the town.

Finally, the hospital was built, and all equipment had been bought. Their dream came true. They had a hospital in their town and there was no need to travel far for treatment ever again. Outside the hospital they planted a big garden full of beautiful flowers to always remind them of the hope the hospital brings to the town.

Because Betty never lost hope in her dream, she succeeded in giving hope to all the people around her.

*The End*