

Session 8: KIDStory@Home

Write these commandments that I've given you today on your hearts. Get them inside of you and then get them inside your children. Talk about them wherever you are, sitting at home or walking in the street; talk about them from the time you get up in the morning to when you fall into bed at night.

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 (MSG)

Inherently we want to lead our children in the ways of the Lord; we just don't know how or where to start. We are intimidated and think those in the church will do a better job though the children are there for maybe an hour a week. KIDStory is a simple strategy where everyone in your home can connect with Jesus and His Story. Having a regular routine each day creates an environment that builds trust, stability and security.

KIDStory@Home will revolutionize the way parents engage with their children. God will transform lives as moms and dads create a relational learning environment where the entire family can become eye-witnesses and active participants in God's Story. KIDStory@Home relies on the working of the Holy Spirit to use Jesus' method of teaching: telling stories, having interactive experiences and meaningful discussions. Parents can listen rather than lecture ... listen to the Holy Spirit and the responses of their children. KIDStory is about God transforming a life, a family and ultimately a community through His Story and His Spirit.

KIDStory@Home can create environments where families gather together as:

- Parents disciple their children - taking on the spiritual leadership of their children
- Parents can give and receive input from other parents who observe their children
- Children see parents' faith in action through the highs and lows of following Jesus
- Children have other adults who speak into their lives
- Children have peers who believe what they believe - they are not alone
- Families learn and discuss the Bible Stories together which can continue throughout the week. In most churches, children and parents are learning different things
- Children and youth are contributing members of the group and church
- Environments are created where there can be open discussion and fun, engaging activities centered on the Bible story rather than sitting passively
- Families are having their spiritual, social, physical and emotional tanks filled
- Children are given responsibilities and learn to lead
- An environment for new/non-believers to learn the Bible along with their children
- Parents are blessing their children and imparting God's message to their hearts



Click Here to Watch a Video on
KIDStory@Home



Sometime during the day we suggest you go through each of these elements:

My Story: We want to create a place where it is safe to share our personal stories and daily experiences. We want our children to not only know that we care, but how God is involved in our daily lives. A simple question can be asked that relates to something in the Bible story or have EVERYONE share what their *high* and *low* was for the day. Everyone includes parents!

God's Story: Everything is centered on God's Story - accurately telling it followed by interactive, fun retelling activities that engage everyone and help each one to learn the story.

Let's Connect: It's really important to connect the Bible Story to our personal stories. Throughout the week, we want to move from remembering some of the facts to what God is doing in our hearts and lives. By the end of the week we want the Spirit to speak to each person for the implication that God would have for each person. It will not be uncommon to have a different response from each person in the family. This is good! Follow-up in the weeks to come to see how each person is doing in their obedience to what God said.

Huddle Up: Draw your family in for prayer and a blessing. The prayer can be giving thanks for each person's high and make His presence known in their lows. The blessing can be specific to what has been discussed that day or be something done routinely like singing a song, saying a Bible verse or placing your hand on your child's shoulder or head. We want to create the environment, like Jesus did, where everyone feels welcomed, loved and blessed.



On the first day:

- Do an Opening
- Give the background so the Bible story is more easily understood
- Tell the Bible story being Biblically accurate
- Do a retell activity

On subsequent days:

- Do an Opening
- Do a different retell activity
- Ask one or two additional questions which by the end of the week you will be asking heart and hand questions

Ask Yourself

1. How am I currently partnering with parents to disciple their children?
2. Which families can I ask to start using KIDStory@Home?

For more KIDStory@Home resources, go to:

katw.org/kidstoryhome

Join us for Session 9 when we focus on the logistics of starting a StoryClub.

For more information on Kids Around the World, go to:

katw.org



My Story

- We are creating a safe environment for everyone to share something personal
- Follow-up to see how each one obeyed hand questions from previous weeks.
- The simplest, yet most revealing story, is to share a high and low of the day.
- Create an environment that is fun!!
- Parents and children are engaged, where they are deepening their relationship.

God's Story

- Share any necessary background info.
- Use dramatic elements that would make the story more engaging and interactive. Use as many senses as possible especially visual objects and pictures.
- Keep the length of the story appropriate for the children to learn so they can tell others.
- Involve the children in the story. Provide leadership opportunities for older children to take the lead here.
- Allow the children to choose how the story can be told and retold.

Let's Connect

- There may be suggested questions but be in prayer for the Holy Spirit to lead.
- Use questions to connect *God's Story* to *My Story*.
- Throughout the week, move from remembering facts to what God is doing in their hearts and lives.

Huddle Up

- Prayer for each person including parents!
- Touch and bless each person as Jesus did

My Story

This is a time to gather everyone and give an opportunity to share a personal story. You could ask a question that relates to the Bible story or simply ask for their high and low of the day.

God's Story

The first day you will want to tell the Bible Story as well as have a fun interactive retelling of the story. Each day thereafter you can engage the children with different retell activities that will interest different family members. Stay Biblically accurate while doing things that are memorable and unexpected as God did with telling His Story.

Let's Connect

Each day there is a simple question or two to engage everyone with what happened in the Bible Story and how it relates to our own personal story. They take us from our head to our heart then to hand questions for personal application.

Huddle Up

This is a time for family members to gather in close and be praying for one another in relation to what each has shared. Give thanks for their highs and pray for their lows. Close by declaring a blessing over each family member.

