

### 30 Days to a Godly Heritage

#### **Part I: The Ten Commandments**

Establish 5 minutes a day to share spiritual truth with your family. Start with a verse; ask a question; give an insight; close in prayer. It's as simple as that to see God begin to build a godly heritage for you and your family!

Day 1 The Verse: The First Commandment (Exodus 20:1-3)

The Question: What possible "little g" gods do people serve? What "little g" gods is our family in danger of worshipping?

The Insight: How we spend our time, money and passion can reveal any "little g" gods in our lives.

The Prayer: God help us to serve you wholeheartedly and to not have any "little g" gods in our lives.

Day 2 The Verse: The Second Commandment (Exodus 20:4-6)

The Question: What does it mean that God is a jealous God?

The Insight: Just like a great marriage requires loyalty and faithfulness on the part of a husband and wife, a great relationship with God requires us to be loyal and faithful to him because he certainly is to us.

The Prayer: God, thank you for being so loyal and faithful to us. Thank you that you are a jealous God that wants our love and faithfulness in return. Forgive us for our unfaithfulness and help us grow to be more loyal to you and your kingdom.

Day 3 The Verse: The Third Commandment (Exodus 20:7)

The Question: What are ways that God's name might be misused (profanity, blaming God, flippant use of God as in *OMG*)

The Insight: Sometimes we misuse God's name when we sing or pray in church without really surrendering to him and his will.

The Prayer: God, your name is holy. Forgive us for being careless or thoughtless about your name and honor. May your name be holy for our family.

Day 4 The Verse: The Fourth Commandment (Exodus 20:8-11)

The Question: How should we keep the Sabbath day holy?

The Insight: The third day after Jesus was crucified he rose from the dead and that day was a Sunday so Christians have set aside Sunday as the true Sabbath in honor of Jesus Christ.

The Prayer: God, thank you for giving us a Sunday every week that our family can set aside to honor you and make sure our lives are centered on you and your kingdom. Help us to keep Sundays sacred and to make a new commitment to be with our church family at Meadows every Sunday to honor you.

Day 5 The Verse: The fifth Commandment (Exodus 20:12)

The Question: What are some ways we can show honor to our parents?

The Insight: Remember, parents have parents that need to be honored even if they have passed away and if we are saved, God is our Heavenly Father and deserves the greatest honor.

The Prayer: (This would be great to have one of your kids lead out in this prayer time)  
God, thank you for our parents and for the sacrifices they have made to enrich our lives. Thanks also for being our Heavenly Father!

Day 6 The Verse: The Sixth Commandment (Exodus 20:13)

The Question: How does the taking of a life dishonor God the Creator?

The Insight: Jesus taught that hatred and anger really grow from the same heart sin as murder (Matthew 5:21-22).

The Prayer: Dear God, thank you for being the Creator of life and thank you for creating us in your own image. Help us to honor and respect life because it comes from you.

Day 7 The Verse: The Seventh Commandment (Exodus 20:14)

The Question: What is adultery and why does it dishonor God and his plan for marriage?

The Insight: The Bible teaches that when we sin we commit spiritual adultery against God (James 4:4).

The Prayer: (This would be another great prayer for your kids to lead out in.) God, thank you for your plan for marriage. Help mom and dad build a strong and healthy marriage that honors you.

Day 8 The Verse: The Eighth Commandment (Exodus 20:15)

The Question: What does it mean to steal? What things have we stolen from God?

The Insight: Everything belongs to God according to the Bible: our money, our gifts, our body, our life.

The Prayer: God help me to learn how you are the true owner of everything I have included the air I breathe and help me give you the honor that you deserve.

Day 9 The Verse: The Ninth Commandment (Exodus 20:16)

The Question: Who is my neighbor?

The Insight: When we influence others to think negatively or poorly about someone else we are breaking this commandment.

The Prayer: God, teach me to see everyone as my neighbor and to treat them as I would wish to be treated.

Day 10 The Verse: The Tenth Commandment (Exodus 20:17)

The Question: What does it mean to covet?

The Insight: Contentment is a discipline that we must develop. Complaining and wishing for something more or different can lead us far from God.

The Prayer: God, forgive me for setting my heart on things instead of on You. Help me learn to be content.

## 30 Days to a Godly Heritage

### **Part II: The Ten Disciplines**

Establish 5 minutes a day to share spiritual truth with your family. Start with a verse; ask a question; give an insight; close in prayer. It's as simple as that to see God begin to build a godly heritage for you and your family!

Day 11 The Verse: Living on God's Word (Matthew 4:4)

The Question: How is God's word like food?

The Insight: In the story of the manna in Exodus 16 the people had to pick up the miracle bread every morning. It would not keep overnight without spoiling except on the day before the Sabbath!

The Prayer: Dear God, help me to develop a spiritual hunger for your word that would be even stronger than my daily hunger for food.

Day 12 The Verse: Confessing our sins to God (1 John 1:9)

The Question: Why does the confession of sin need to be specific?

The Insight: God is faithful to forgive our sins when we confess them out of honor for Christ and his sacrifice on the cross.

The Prayer: God, help me to become more sensitive to my sin and how it grieves you so that I can confess and renounce them swiftly and biblically.

Day 13 The Verse: Learning to Pray about all matters (Philippians 4:6-7)

The Question: How can our anxieties help us become better at prayer?

The Insight: The peace of God replaces our anxieties when we place matters in the hands of God.

The Prayer: Dear Lord, help me to learn to trust you with every concern in my life and instead of worrying help me to use my anxieties as a trigger for prayer.

Day 14 The Verse: Developing an attitude of gratitude (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

The Question: How can we be thankful for difficult things or circumstances?

The Insight: When we learn to prefer God's will over our own we can become truly thankful and grateful people.

The Prayer: Lord, forgive me for the many times I complain instead of disciplining myself to be thankful and to look for your will and purpose in my life.

Day 15 The Verse: Learning to tithe (Malachi 3:8-10)

The Question: What is the purpose of the tithe?

The Insight: Tithing is not God's way of getting money for the church; rather it is God's way of protecting his people from worldliness and materialism.

The Prayer: Dear God, thank you for all you have given me. Help me joyfully practice being a good steward of what already all belongs to you by tithing.

Day 16 The Verse: Keeping Sundays sacred (Hebrews 10:24-25)

The Question: How do we neglect church and Sunday School?

The Insight: Sundays with our church family should be a time of both being encouraged by others and encouraging them as well.

The Prayer: God, help me to remember that every Sunday is sacred and that there is a purpose for me to carry out with my church family each week as we meet together for your glory.

Day 17 The Verse: Becoming a soul-winner (2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

The Question: What does it mean to be a "soul-winner?"

The Insight: God wants to seek out the lost and speak to them through each one of us.

The Prayer: Dear Lord, help me become a faithful witness to bring others to Christ.

Day 18 The Verse: Refusing to hold grudges (Colossians 3:13)

The Question: How do you know if you are holding a grudge?

The Insight: Refusing to forgive someone who wronged you is like drinking poison; it will surely kill you.

The Prayer: Dear Lord, help me to extend forgiveness to everyone who wrongs me remembering that you have forgiven me.

Day 19 The Verse: Dealing with anger (Ephesians 4:26)

The Question: How can we be angry without sinning?

The Insight: Deal with your anger daily. Don't ever take it to bed with you!

The Prayer: Lord, I refuse to hold grudges. I set others free from their offenses against me so that I may be free myself.

Day 20 The Verse: Guarding your heart (Proverbs 4:23)

The Question: What should we guard our heart from?

The Insight: Take a daily assessment of the condition of your heart spiritually so that you know it is in good shape.

The Prayer: Dear Lord, help me learn to be watchful and carefully guard my heart and my passion for you.

## **30 Days to a Godly Heritage**

### **Part III: The Ten Promises**

Establish 5 minutes a day to share spiritual truth with your family. Start with a verse; ask a question; give an insight; close in prayer. It's as simple as that to see God begin to build a godly heritage for you and your family!

Day 21 The Verse: *God's Direction* (Proverbs 3:5-6)

The Question: How do we acknowledge God in our ways?

The Insight: When we lean on our own understanding instead of exercising our faith in God we eliminate the plans God has that are bigger than ourselves.

The Prayer: Dear Lord, I want to lean on you today confident that your plans are bigger and better than mine. Thank you for your faithfulness.

Day 22 The Verse: *God's Forgiveness* (1 John 1:9)

The Question: What is the difference between forgiveness and cleansing?

The Insight: The word for confession in the NT means to say the same thing, i.e. to echo God's perspective about that sin.

The Prayer: God, help me see my sin as you do and to truly confess my sins to you so that I may be cleansed through the blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

Day 23 The Verse: *God's Grace* (2 Corinthians 12:9)

The Question: What does it mean to be sufficient?

The Insight: We typically think of sufficiency to mean that we don't have any needs or challenges; this verse promises that our needs or challenges will never bankrupt God's grace.

The Prayer: Dear Lord, help me to use my challenges and needs to keep me consciously dependent upon you and your grace.

Day 24 The Verse: *God's Power* (Philippians 4:13)

The Question: How does Christ strengthen and empower us?

The Insight: This promise of empowerment is closely linked to the imagery of John 15 that depicts Christ as the true vine and believers as branches abiding in him.

The Prayer: Dear Lord, help me to live by the power of your presence in me.

Day 25 The Verse: *God's Support* (Matthew 11:28-30)

The Question: What burdens are you carrying right now?

The Insight: One of the disciplines of a healthy Christian life is rolling our burdens over upon the Lord daily and entrusting them to him.

The Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank you that you always welcome me to come to you and find rest from my burdens. Help me to come daily to you.

Day 26 The Verse: *God's Peace (Philippians 4:6-7)*

The Question: Why is thanksgiving an important part of effective prayer?

The Insight: *God's supernatural peace is like a great warrior that stands guard over our hearts and minds to assure us of God's loving care and watchfulness.*

Day 27 The Verse: *God's Protection (Psalm 32:7)*

The Question: What does *God* hide us from?

The Insight: *We should learn to listen for the songs of deliverance that are being sung over us throughout the day.*

The Prayer: Dear Lord, thanking you for being my spiritual hiding place. You are the mighty *God* and I thank you that you for the songs of deliverance that are sung over me!

Day 28 The Verse: *God's Favor (Psalm 5:12)*

The Question: What is the favor of *God*?

The Insight: How has *God's* favor surrounded you recently?

The Prayer: Dear *God*, your favor is priceless. Thank you for favoring me not because I deserve it but because you love me. Help me to value your favor and refuse to compromise it in my life.

Day 29 The Verse: *God's Love (Romans 5:8)*

The Question: Why is it important for love to be demonstrated?

The Insight: *God's* love was demonstrated to us in our sinful state not because of how lovable we were. That is why it is unconditional love.

The Prayer: Dear Lord, it is wonderful to be loved by you. Help me to love you faithfully in return.

Day 30 The Verse: *God's Gift (Romans 6:23)*

The Question: What are the characteristics of a gift?

The Insight: *Jesus'* death on the cross was the price of the gift of eternal life.

The Prayer: Dear *Jesus*, thank you for giving your life on the cross so I might receive the gift of eternal life.