

Personal Devotional

**Day 1: Watch the Pastor Vodcast**

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After watching the vodcast, spend some time reflecting on what you heard and the implications for your life and those around you.

**Day 2: Here are some suggested passages to read as you reflect on the Eternity and Immutability of God**

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*What do these passages tell you about God? How do they help you to worship and be in awe of God and enjoy knowing Him through Christ?*

*Eternality:*

Ps 90:2, 4; Job 36:26; Deut 33:27; 1 Chron 16:36; Hab 1:12; Rom 16:26; Heb 1:8; Rev 10:6, 4:9

*Immutability:*

Jam 1:17; Pss 33:11; Mal 3:6; Ps 18:2; Num 23:19; Job 23:13; Prov 19:21; Eccl 3:14; Heb 1:12, 6:17, 13:8

**Day 3: Reflect on these questions as a guide to put off sinful behaviors**

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**Hebrews 12:1-2** tells us to lay aside every hindrance and sin that keeps us from focusing on Christ and living for Him.

Use the following questions as prompts to think about how you should live differently in light of the Eternity and Immutability of God.

What are the biggest hindrances and sins in your life right now that keep you from focusing on Christ and following Him more closely? How do you think these affect other people in your life?

What do you think will be the hardest or most difficult thing to overcome? What is most likely to hinder you from changing the way you live?

Spend some time in confession to God, lamenting the effects of sin in your life. Then praise Him for the forgiveness you have through Christ!

**Day 4: Reflect on these questions as a guide to putting on Christ-like living**

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**Colossians 3:1-17** encourages us to focus on Christ, put off sinful living, and put on Christ-like living.

Based on your reflection time yesterday what are sinful patterns of living you need to cast away?

How does the eternity and immutability of God inform how you should live? How you should treat others?

What new habits (spiritual disciplines) do you need to start or improve upon?

List at least one new way you will seek to live, by the strength God provides, this week.

Spend some time in prayer asking God to give you the strength to follow Christ more intently.

**Day 5: Tell someone about what you learned about God this week**

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As we spread God's fame, we must tell others of His greatness. This week try to tell someone (maybe a neighbor, co-worker, fellow church member, etc) about what you learned about God and how that is impacting the way you live.

Family Devotional

**Day 1: Family Worship Guide**

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**Time in Word**

Before sitting down to do family devotion time, make sure to read the passages and reflect on the content in this section.

Here are some discussion questions to get **conversation started:**

What do these verses tell us about the eternity and/or immutability of God?

What are the implications of this about God?

What does this tell us about Jesus?

How does this instruct the way you are to live?

**Time in Song**

Singing is part of the Christian Faith. Consider: 1 Chronicles 16:9, 23; Colossians 3:16; Psalm 100; Psalm 104:31-35. Including

singing in our homes is a way to model and teach our kids about this part of the Christian's Life. Including singing in our homes also can enhance our families' time as they sing along side other believers in corporate singing on Sundays.

**Consider singing one or more of these songs as a family:**

**Time in Prayer**

In the life of Jesus, we have a perfect example of the importance of prayer. He demonstrated this through His instruction on how to pray (The Lord's Prayer) and the many examples we find in the Gospels of Him praying (for example: Matthew 14:23; Mark 14:32-42; Luke 6:12; John 17). Therefore, followers of Jesus should also be people of prayer.

**Here is one example of how to pray as a family:**

The A.C.T.S. pattern of prayer.

One example of how to do this is to go through one category at a time and each member of the family prays in light of that category. Feel free though to utilize in other ways.

Adoration

To adore God; to praise God for who He is and what He has and is doing; to worship and love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength (Mark 12:30)

### Confession

Acknowledging your sins before God. When you received eternal life through Jesus, a father-child relationship was established between you and God that will never be broken, but our fellowship with God can be hindered by unconfessed sin.

### Thanksgiving

Expressing gratitude and praise to God for specific things He has done in you and your family's life.

### Supplication

Making requests and expressing desires to God on behalf of family, church, friends, others, the world, the lost, and yourself (specific requests).

## **Day 2: Everyday Chats**

Here are some ideas for how to take everyday life moments and chat about our glorious God with your family.

*Immutability of God.* Every day we face change. Whether the change in our mood, our circumstances, the weather, etc. As we face these changes this provides an opportunity to discuss the immutability of God (He doesn't change). Therefore, He is completely trustworthy because He is not controlled by the changes of each day.

*Eternality of God.* Every minute of every day we are constantly dealing with the changing of time. We are bound by our limitations

and the ticking of the clock. God however, is not bound by time. He is eternal. Maybe take a moment and point out the changing of time as the day goes on and the fact that God is eternal and doesn't have a beginning or an end and is therefore not bound by experiencing life one moment at a time. He knows it all at once.

There are many daily opportunities to help give our kids awe of God by discussing how amazing He is.

## **Day 3: Family Activity Suggestion**

As we make disciples of Jesus Christ in our homes it is important to spend quality time together as a household. So why not step away from the hustle and bustle of life and spend time together as a family.

### **Here are a few suggestions:**

Make an obstacle course in your yard and time each other racing through it.

Have a water balloon fight during one of these hot summer afternoons.

Maybe do some finger painting with your younger children.

Have a paper airplane flying contest to see who can get theirs to fly the farthest.

Have a pizza and movie night to watch an old "classic"

## STEP BY STEP: RUNNING WITH JOY

You know your kids best. The main thing is spending quality time with them as a family.