



paya lebar
methodist church

Setting Up A Family Altar Workshop

**Conducted by:
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Monday 15th June 2026 Afternoon @ PLMC Ohana Church Camp

I. Introduction

In this workshop, participants will be equipped with the “what”, “why” and “how” of setting up and leading a family altar in the home.

There will be hands-on practice and also a Q&A segment.

II. What is a Family Altar?



II. What is a Family Altar?

A Family Altar is a spiritual practice where family members come together regularly at a pre-determined place to:

1. Exalt God through praise & worship;
2. Enjoy His Word by reading and sharing;
3. Encourage one another through prayer.

III. Why Build Family Altars?

Deuteronomy 6 (NIV)

4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

5 Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

6 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.

III. Why Build Family Altars?

Deuteronomy 6 (NIV)

7 Impress them on your children.

Talk about them when you **sit** at home and when you **walk** along the road, when you **lie down** and when you **get up**.

8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and **bind** them on your foreheads.

9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

III. Why Build Family Altars?

Impress them on your children is like sharpening the pencil.



III. Why Build Family Altars?

A Family That
Prays
Together
Stays Together



III. Why Build Family Altars?

James 5:16 (GNT)

**So then, confess your sins
to one another
and pray for one another,
so that you will be healed.
The prayer of a good person
has a powerful effect.**



IV. How to Set Up Family Altars?

To set up a family altar, we need to consider the following key steps:

- Choose a space in the home where it is conducive and the family can easily gather.**
- Be consistent, as far as possible, on the specific and unhurried timing chosen for the gathering.**

IV. How to Set Up Family Altars?

To set up a family altar, we need to consider the following key steps:

- Be realistic and keep your plan simple, especially when you have young children.**
- Encourage active participation from younger children by making the gathering engaging and interactive.**

IV. How to Do Family Altar?

A Sample Pattern

- 1. Greet our Triune God and Pray**
- 2. Praise & worship (1-2 songs)**
- 3. Read a short passage of God's Word using a family devotional guide.**
- 4. Talk about what it says and means and how you can put into practice what God has shown you.**
- 5. Share thanksgiving and pray for one another.**
- 6. Say The Lord's Prayer or do the adapted Aaronic Blessing (Num 6:24-26) followed by a family hug.**

IV. How to Do Family Altar?



Greet

1. Greet God Together

Good morning God the Father

Good morning God the Son, Jesus

Good morning God the Holy Spirit



IV. How to Do Family Altar?



Pray

2. Pray Together

Dear God, thank You for our family time.
We gather to pray and read Your word.
Prepare us to learn together.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen!

IV. How to Do Family Altar?



Sing

1. Let's sing songs to praise God.

It's About Love



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

IV. How to Do Family Altar?



Read

1. Read God's Word in Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV) responsively.

14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.

15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

IV. How to Do Family Altar?



Read

2. After reading the Bible passage:

Reader says: *This is the word of the Lord.*

The rest of the members say: *Thanks be to God.*

IV. How to Do Family Altar?



Talk and Act

1. Talk about what it says and means and how you can put into practice what God has shown you.
 - ❖ Share with one another one key phrase in the passage and what it means to you.
 - ❖ What is one good thing that we can do to bring glory to God?

IV. How to Do Family Altar?



Pray

1. Pray for one another

- ❖ Thank God for the family time and ask God for help to put what has been learned into practice.

Example (with children from 2 to 7 years old):

“Dear God, thank You for teaching us. Help us to do good things to make You famous. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen!”

IV. How to Do Family Altar?



Pray

1. Pray for one another.

- ❖ Ask for each other's prayer needs and pray for each other accordingly.
- ❖ Have a short prayer for each other.

Example 1 (with children from 8 to 12 years old):

“Dear God, please take away Hannah's fear of taking exams. Please give her good rest and help her to revise well for her exam, In Jesus' name, I / we pray, Amen!”

IV. How to Do Family Altar?



Pray

1. Pray for one another.

- ❖ Ask for each other's prayer needs and pray for each other accordingly.
- ❖ Have a short prayer for each other.

Example 2 (with children from 8 to 12 years old):

“Dear God, please give Daddy wisdom to solve the problem he is facing at work. Keep him in good health and strength. In Jesus' name, I / we, Amen!”

IV. How to Do Family Altar?

Why do we pray in **Jesus' name**?

Jesus promised to do it to bring glory to God the Father.

“And I will do whatever you **ask in my name**, so that the Son may **bring glory to the Father**. You may **ask anything in my name** and I will do it.”

John 14:13-14

IV. How to Do Family Altar?

What does '**Amen**' mean?

Revelation 5:13-14

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea and all that is in them, singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour and glory and power, for ever and ever!" The four living creatures said, "**Amen**," and the twenty-four elders fell down and worshipped.

IV. How to Do Family Altar?

What does '**Amen**' mean?

➤ “Let it be” or “Agree”

Nehemiah 8:6

Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, “Amen! Amen!**”**

IV. How to Do Family Altar?

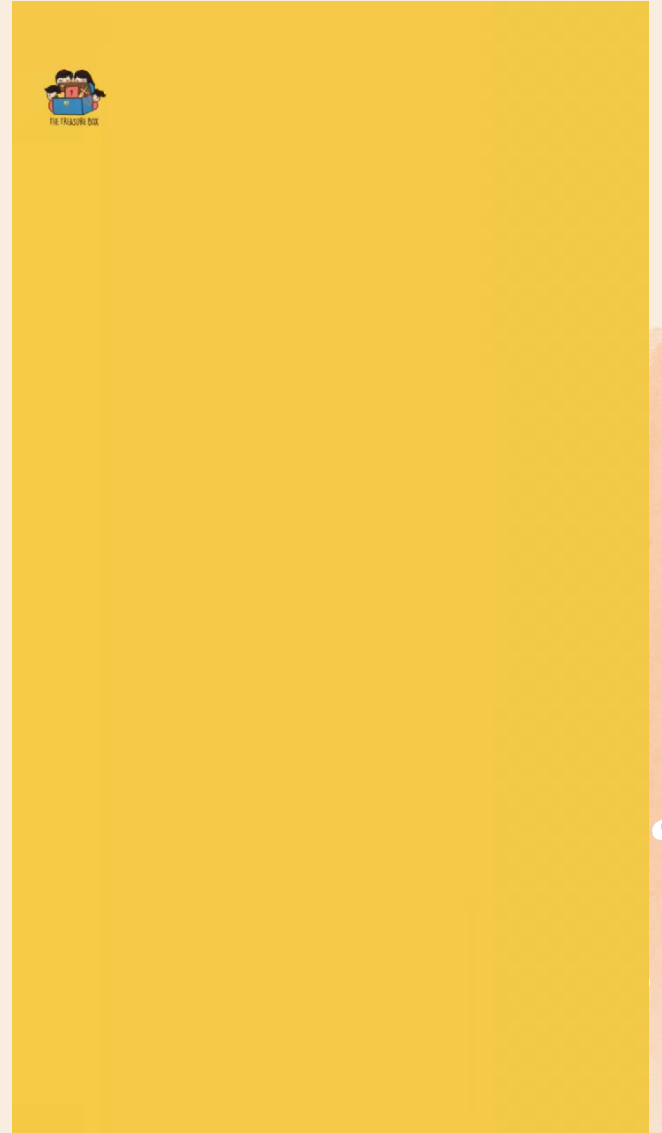
I HAVE A QUESTION!



Why do we close our 🙈
, put our 🙏 together
and bow our heads 🙇
when we pray?

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/Co0vi1eIsCN/> or

https://www.facebook.com/watch/?extid=CL-UNK-UNK-UNK-AN_GK0T-GK1C&mibextid=2Rb1fB&v=1219869382283326



IV. How to Do Family Altar?



Pray

1. Parents do the adapted Aaronic Blessing for their children (12 years old and below)

*“_____ (Name), the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His face towards you and give you peace, protection, *healing, obedience to daddy, mommy and Jesus. In Jesus’ name, Amen!”*

IV. How to Do Family Altar?



Pray

2. Or end the family devotion with The Lord's Prayer. (9 years old onwards)
(Note: Younger children can repeat after the parent if they have not memorised it).

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in Heaven,
Hallowed be Your name,
Your Kingdom come,
Your will be done,
On earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For the Kingdom, the power
And the glory are Yours
Now and for ever.
Amen.



IV. How to Do Family Altar?

The Lord's Prayer sung by Zoei Toh
when she was about 2-3 years old (15 years ago)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AR4PQ30VkBk>

Family Altar Hands-On Session

- 1. Each family will do the family altar practice worksheet for about 20 minutes.**
- 2. Those who do not have children with them, you can form your own group and have some take on the roles as parents and children respectively.**
- 3. Let's do it and enjoy the family time!**

Resources for Family Devotions & Prayer

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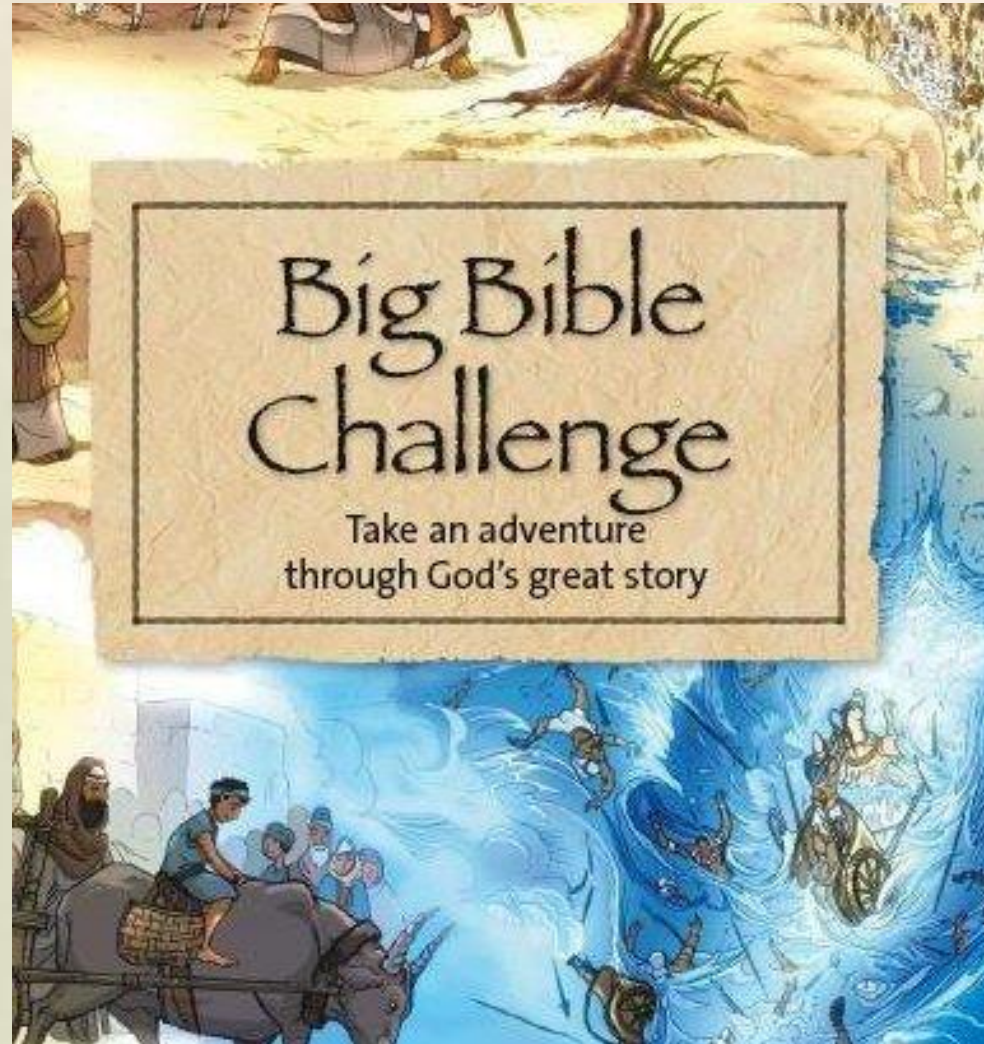
Resources for Family Devotions & Prayer

www.thetreasureboxsg



THE TREASURE BOX

100 Passages Undated English Bible Reading Notes for Primary-Aged Children Produced by SU UK



GENESIS 9: 8-17

The story so far ...

God had created the world in such a way that all creatures could live in peace with him and with each other. But the people rejected God's good rules and all their thinking and planning was evil and wrong. Noah was the only one who was living in a way that pleased God. So God made a plan. He destroyed what he had created and started afresh with Noah and his family.

God's promise to Noah

Again, God said to Noah and his sons: I am going to make a solemn promise to you and to everyone who will live after you. This includes the birds and the animals that came out of the boat. I promise every living creature that the earth and those living on it will never again be destroyed by a flood.

The rainbow that I have put in the sky will be my sign to you and to every living creature on earth. It will remind you that I will keep this promise for ever. When I send clouds over the earth, and a rainbow appears in the sky, I will remember my promise to you and to all other living creatures. Never again will I let flood waters destroy all life. When I see the rainbow in the sky, I will always remember the promise that I have made to every living creature. The rainbow will be the sign of that solemn promise.



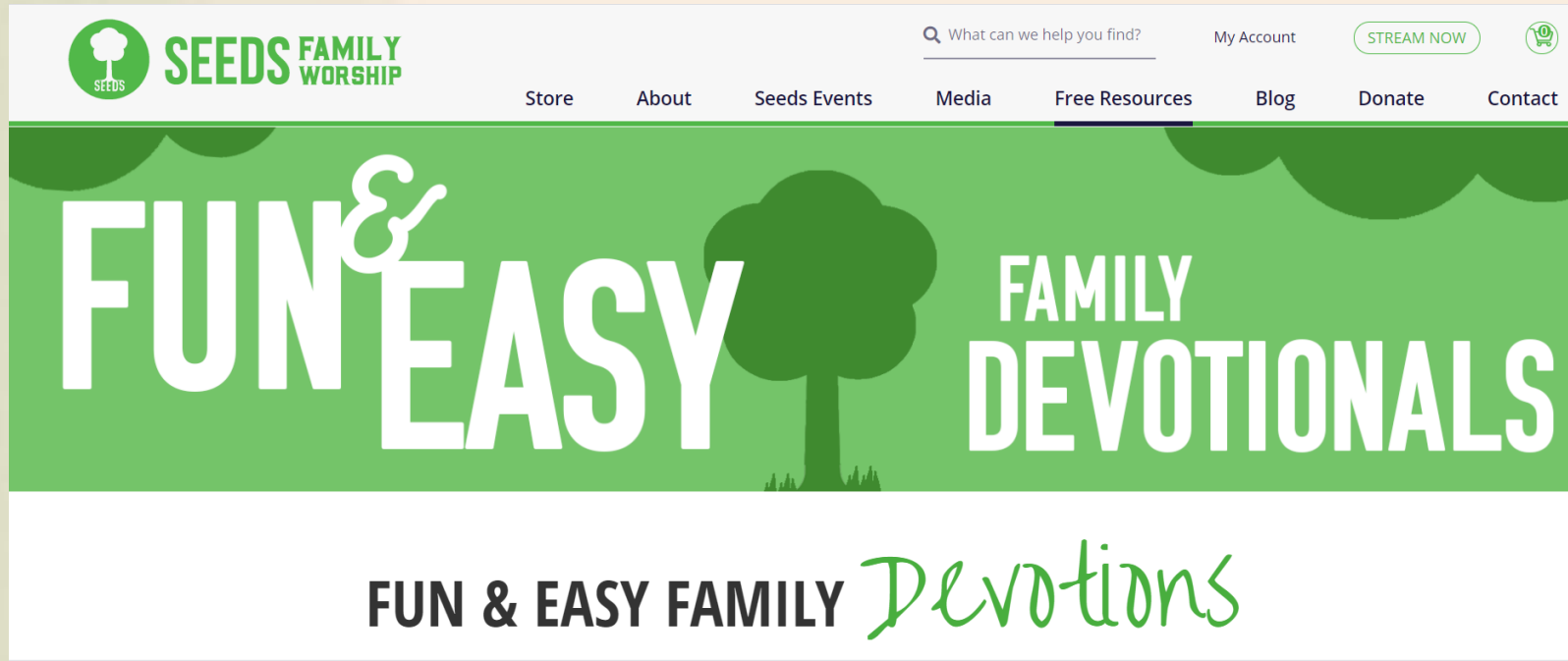
What happened next ...

God kept his promise, his 'covenant' with Noah. Noah's family became bigger and bigger and spread over the whole earth. But Noah's children and their children soon forgot God's covenant promise. They did not live according to God's good rules, but did whatever they wanted to do.

60 Days Undated English Bible Reading Notes for Pre-schoolers Produced by SU UK



Resources for Family Devotions & Prayer



<https://www.seedsfamilyworship.com/twenty-verses-in-2020/>

Resources for Family Devotions & Prayer

1. [Family-Time-Book.pdf](#)

2. [Family On-The-Go-Devotions.pdf](#)

3. [308031 Limitless Love-trk-20170202.pdf](#)

4. [2-21-Day-Family-Devotional-Who-is-God-Volume-1.pdf](#)

Song of Dedication

“Household of Faith”



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNCC9tqSIWA&t=4s>

Thank You!



God bless you
and
your family!