

Family Time with God Week 5–Toilet Paper to Go

YOU WILL NEED: Two rolls of toilet paper and a Bible marked at Micah 6:8.

DISCUSSION STARTER

SAY: Let's pretend that there was a toilet paper crisis all across our country and we were given only one roll of toilet paper to make it through the week. I'm going to pass around the roll and I want you to take whatever you think you would need.

Pass around the roll. Let your kids take as much as they want although there needs to be enough for everyone in your family.

SAY: Now that we each have some toilet paper, we're going to use it to answer some questions. For each square that you have, I want you to tell me something that you really like to do...And if you pull off a bunch, don't worry, we're going to limit you to 10 squares.

Let each person have a turn, tearing off squares and saying the things that they like doing

ASK: What are some things that you like to do?

Younger children might need some prompting such as, "What do you like doing at school...at recess...outside...in your room...on Saturday mornings, etc. And, remember, it's good to for you to mention things you like doing with your kids.

ASK: What are some things that you don't like doing? (Let everyone give three answers, even if they're out of toilet paper.)

SAY: The Bible says that God's commands are not meant to burden us. God has told us how to live because He knows what is best for us.

ASK: What are some things that God tells us to do to follow Him? (Be kind, tell the truth, be generous and forgiving, to treat others the way we want them to treat us, etc.)

SAY: Listen to what the Bible says about how God wants us to live:

Read Micah 6:8 from your Bible.

"He has told you men what is good and what it is the Lord requires from you: Only to act justly, to love faithfulness, and to walk humbly with your God."

SAY: There are three things God mentions here: *Hold up one finger*—ONE—To act justly *Hold up two fingers*—TWO—To love faithfulness *Hold up three fingers*—THREE—To walk humbly with your God ASK: What would a person who lives this way be like? (Take a few answers.)

ASK: What do you think stops a lot of people from living this way? (*Take a few answers.*)

FAMILY GAME

SAY: We're going to take a roll of toilet paper and see who in our family can roll it the farthest while still holding onto it. In other words, we want to see who can unroll it the greatest distance.

Play the game as much as you want and if you have enough toilet paper, instead of rolling it, let them try tossing it.

Ask your family to gather up all the toilet paper scraps and to put them in a pile in front of you.

SAY: The toilet paper would only go so far. Then it would either tear or we would hold it back. In life, we each need to think about how far we are really willing to go to follow God.

Hold up a strand of toilet paper.

SAY: The toilet paper tore where it was weakest and the next couple of questions are going to help each of us see where we are the weakest in our walk with God. God wants us to walk humbly with Him and if we know our weak spots, we can help each other to be stronger in living for Jesus.

ASK: What do you think is good in your walk with God?

ASK: What do you think is bad or missing in your walk with God?

ASK: Is there anything holding you back from fully following Jesus with your whole life?

ASK: What do you struggle with most in your walk with God? (Taking time to read the Bible, an attitude, sin, not being generous or giving the way we should, etc.)

ASK: Is there a sin you feel tempted with more often than others? If so, what is it?

ASK: **How can our family help you to love Jesus more and follow Him better?** (Pray for each other, pray with each other, have times where you talk about spiritual matters, etc.)

SAY: As you get older there will be times where the answer to those questions will change. You'll struggle with different things and have different temptations but through it all I want you to know that you can always to with us about anything that is going on in your life.

PRAYER REQUESTS ASK: *What are some things that you would like to talk to God about tonight?*

Take prayer requests and then take turns praying.