



Family Worship Guide: Genuine Religion

Read Together

²⁶ If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. (James 1:26-27 ESV)

Main Idea: Devotion to God changes the way you speak and live.

Preschool Takeaway: When you are angry, it can be easy to say things you know are bad. When we have a relationship with God, he gives a kind heart and helps us speak kind words.

Have you used words that were not kind recently? Why were they not kind?

Kids Takeaway: Your words and your actions matter. When we follow God, he helps us to talk and live differently. When we want to say something mean, he helps us to control our tongue. When we want to just do what we want to do, he helps us see the needs of others and serve them. We struggle a LOT! But God is our helper.

Is there something you need to confess to God? Where do you think you need his help the most?

Students Takeaway: God does not like people being “fake.” Those who genuinely follow after God, reveal they are his followers by their words and actions. Do you gossip and speak (or type) mean things about others? Do you focus just on yourself? Is there a noticeable difference between you and the world? True devotion to God does not produce a faker. It changes you to look more like Jesus.

Couples: Take a moment and evaluate how you speak to one another and to your children. Does it reflect Christ? Are you living unstained from the world, or have you allowed the world to stain your pursuit of intimacy with one another? Confess these sins to one another and to the Lord.

Pray Together

A. Adore – Praise God for being our helper.

C. Confess any sins the passage highlighted.

T. Thanksgiving – Give thanks to God for the kind words of others that helped you this week.

S. Supplication – Ask God to use you to care for those afflicted in your life. Take a moment to pray for them.

Sing Together

Turn your eyes upon Jesus.
Look full in his wonderful face.
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace.

Serve Together

Make plans to visit either Way of the Cross or Open Hands together as a family this week.

Bible Story of the Week

Jesus Heals a Leper

*Lepers were considered untouchable. They were social outcasts and lived lives of great trouble. Matthew records a brief story of when a leper went to visit Jesus.
(Matthew 8:1-4)*