



BOREDOM BUSTER BOARD

Create a **Boredom Buster Board** for those times you don't know what to do to or someone says "I'm bored!"

Using poster board let the kids draw a big circle with 10-15 pie-slice sections. Write a number in each slice that corresponds to a list containing ideas that could be done on the spur of the moment. When needed, let your child drop a coin from several feet away and see which idea the coin selects! You can use the same idea using a bowl with an idea written on pieces of paper. Come up with your own list, or borrow from these suggestions:

- Read a book
- Take a walk together
- Visit the library
- Sing a favorite song
- Play a game
- Dance
- Have a picnic
- Watch a favorite movie
- Write a letter
- Build a fort
- Run through sprinkler
- Play in kiddie pool/slip and slide
- Family bike ride
- Play Frisbee
- Have a water balloon fight
- Camp in your back yard
- Go to the Zoo
- Do a service project
- Bake something together
- Go bowling
- Do a puzzle
- Play on a playground
- Go to a museum
- Work in the yard/garden
- Go through old pictures
- Put together your family tree
- Try a new restaurant
- Write out your home's prayer requests and pray for each other.

Family Summer Survival Guide
victoryathome.com

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"We encouraged you, we comforted you, and we told you to live good lives for God. He calls you to be part of his glorious kingdom." 1 THESSALONIANS 2:12 ERV

RESOURCE OF THE MONTH

thrivingfamily.com

Produced by Focus on the Family

PARENT PERSPECTIVE

Family worship is the intersection of a right relationship with God and a right relationship with family. It's the foundation for Church worship!

UPCOMING EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

CHECK VICTORYATL.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION

SALVATION/WATER BAPTISM WORKSHOP

JULY 22- NORCROSS

PARENT/CHILD DEDICATION

AUGUST 20 - HAMILTON MILL

ELEMENTARY LOCK-IN - 3RD-5TH GRADE

ALL CAMPUSES

JULY 14 - ATLANTA ZOO

Follow us on:



SUMMER SCRIPTURES

BEATING BOREDOM WITH GOD'S WORD!

Choosing a Summer Scripture for your home helps focus on the importance and power of God's Word and allows you to have fun together along the way. The following ideas can help you get started.

• **Pick:** During your summer break, schedule a time when you will work together as a family to pick a summer scripture. You should assign one person to lead the process – perhaps a parent or the oldest child. The leader should bring two or three suggested passages based upon whatever theme, virtue or discipline they consider important for your family situation. (You can find different verses by topic using a concordance in the back of your Bible or on-line at biblegateway.com or bible.com) Let each person share which verse they think best for the family and why, before voting. If needed, the leader can break a tie.

• **Write:** Spend some time writing out the verse in different ways. You can use little cards that can be put on bathroom mirrors, computers, in the car, etc. Have kids draw if they are too young to write out the verse.

• **Move:** Create hand motions for each word in the verse. This is helpful for memorization and is great fun creating together.

• **Sing:** Put your verse to a popular tune to sing together. This will take some creativity, but you'll be surprised at how it will come together once you start!



• **Play:** Use your verse to play a fun game with bean bags or make a matching game with the words in the verse. For example, sit in a circle and toss the bean bag to each other. The first person starts with the first word of the verse and tosses the bag. Whoever catches the bean bag next says the second word to the verse and so on.

• **Repeat:** Throughout the summer, choose specific times like bedtime or dinner that you go through your verse together with the motions or in a song.

• Serving Together This Summer

There is nothing more powerful than serving together as a family. Putting the needs of others before your own will demonstrate humility to your kids and give them a great example of true discipleship. Perhaps there is a neighbor or friend that has a need or your serving can be as simple as baking the neighbor some cookies and making them a card. Maybe serving together in VicKids has been on your heart, what a great time to start!

5 Scriptures to Get You Started!

DEUTERONOMY 6:4

PROVERBS 17:22

MATTHEW 3:17

EPHESIANS 4:32

JEREMIAH 32:27

WEEK 1

ENCOURAGE OTHERS - 1 THESSALONIANS 2:12-13 - 4:1

READ 1 Thessalonians 2:12 & 4:1 This week in VicKids your child learns about Paul, who wrote letters to encourage others to live in a way that makes God happy. Use the following ideas to involve your child in family time and learning opportunities, reinforcing simple biblical themes. Repeating the Heartprint - "I Can Learn From God" to your young child will serve as a vital aid in teaching God's truth.

EXPLORE TOGETHER Use your phone to record a message to send to someone else. Talk with your child about what he/she wants to say. It could be as simple as "Jesus Loves You!" or even a Bible verse your child has memorized. Help your child record the message and decide who to send it to. Talk with your child about why it is important we share what we learn about God with others.

Pray and ask God for us to always have a teachable heart. Ask Him to help us always be ready to learn with excitement, because God is never boring and has so much to show us!

WEEK 2

LIVE PEACEABLY WITH OTHERS - 1 THESSALONIANS 5:13

READ 1 Thessalonians 5:13 This week in VicKids your child learns that we should live peacefully with others. Use the following ideas to involve your child in family time and learning opportunities, reinforcing simple biblical themes.

EXPLORE TOGETHER Throughout the week, praise your child whenever he or she makes choices to get along well with others. Praise your child when he or she shares or does something kind. Remind your child we learn from the Bible that we are to live peacefully with others. Say a prayer with your child, asking God to help him or her get along with others. Play the *Quiet Game* with your child. See who can go for five minutes without talking or saying anything. Talk to your child about what it means to live peacefully with others. Sometimes, that means sharing our toys, even if we don't want to. Sometimes, that means not saying anything at all when you want to be or say something unkind.

Pray with your child, asking God to help him or her get along with others. Pray for friends and family, maybe even leading your child through a time of forgiveness or extending an apology if hearts have been hurt.

WEEK 3

BEING PATIENT AND KIND - 1 THESSALONIANS 5:14-15

READ 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15 This week in VicKids your child learns from the Bible we should be patient and kind. Use the following ideas to involve your child in family time and learning opportunities, reinforcing simple biblical themes.

EXPLORE TOGETHER Before dinner one night, tell your child you have a special treat for him or her, but he or she cannot have it until after dinner. Serve your child his or her favorite dessert and enjoy the dessert together! Talk with your child about being patient. He or she probably wanted to eat the special treat before dinner, but he or she had to wait and be patient. *Try this out.* Go to the park with your child. Invite some of your child's friends to come along, if possible. On the way to the park, encourage your child to be patient and kind while he or she is playing with the other children. Encourage your child to wait patiently for a turn and to be kind to those he or she is playing with. Say a prayer with your child, asking for God's help in being patient and kind.

Pray and thank God for the Fruit of The Spirit! Especially patience and kindness when it comes to family, friends and people we meet for the first time!

WEEK 4

BE JOYFUL, GIVING THANKS ALWAYS - 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

READ 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 This week in VicKids your child learns that we are to be joyful, praying continually and giving God thanks in all things.

EXPLORE TOGETHER Sit down with your family and discuss thankfulness. Why is it hard to be thankful at times? Have each family member draw a picture of something for which he or she is thankful. Post the pictures on the refrigerator or front door. Use the pictures as a visual reminder of the many blessings your family has. Remind your child all good things come from God, and no matter our situation, God wants us to be thankful. *Play Together.* Give your child some paper and crayons or colored pencils. Encourage your child to draw things that make him or her happy. Talk about those things with your children. Talk to your child about rejoicing or being joyful. Joy isn't quite like happiness. Our happiness depends on the things we have and the things that happens to us. Joy is something we can have all the time, no matter what happens. The only one who can give us joy is Jesus.

Pray with your family, giving God thanks for all the good things He has done for you and your family.

WEEK 1

WALKING IN GODLINESS - THESSALONIANS 4:1-12

READ 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 This week your student learns about the Apostle Paul who wrote letters to the Christians of Thessalonica to encourage them to love God and live their lives in ways that please God. Paul taught the Thessalonians how to live in a way that pleases the Lord by controlling their bodies, loving others and living quiet and productive lives. We are to live godly lives by daily choosing to follow God instead of falling into the sinful culture that we live in. One night this week, sit down with your children and watch some of the news. Help them point out all the ungodliness they see. Talk with them about how we can make the choice to walk in godliness and overcome the sinful culture we live in. If you are uncomfortable with your child watching the news, find a news clip on YouTube that you can talk about together.

EXPLORE TOGETHER Light a candle and talk about what would happen if you extinguished it near a smoke alarm. Talk about why smoke alarms are important and should be obeyed. Relate it to the Holy Spirit in a believer's life. The Holy Spirit helps guide and alert us when we are not following God's way. Listen to the warnings and remove the enemies lies by replacing them with God's truth.

Pray that you and your family will make your ordinary daily tasks extraordinary by living holy lives.

LIVING IT OUT - 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-5:11

WEEK 2

READ 1 Thessalonians 4:13 - 5:11 This week your student learns that one day Jesus is going to return to earth so we can be with Him forever, and no one but God knows when that will be. He or she learned who will go to Heaven with Jesus and what we are to do until His return. Paul saw the Second Coming of Christ as a given, a future fact. He needed to correct some misunderstandings prevalent among the Thessalonian believers. He wanted them to prepare for it. He wanted them to anticipate it eagerly and with great joy, encouraging and building up one another with it.

EXPLORE TOGETHER Paul was letting the Thessalonians know that Christ will return for His people. On that day, He will destroy those in darkness, but we are children of the Light. We are to be ready for His return, and encourage our fellow Christians as we wait in faithfulness. Plan a fun outing for your family that requires some preparation, like camping or a picnic, but do not tell them when it will be. They have to be prepared and ready for it at all times until it happens. Explain to them that in the same way, we need to live in readiness and excitement for the Lord's return.

Pray and live each day as if the Lord is coming that day, and encourage others to be ready.

PRACTICE CHRISTIAN LIVING - 1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-28

WEEK 3

READ 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 This week your student learns that the Apostle Paul tells us we are to get along with others, be patient, be joyful, pray continuously, and be thankful. We are to walk worthy, or live our lives in a way to show others God is worthy of our praise and right choices. Paul closed out his letter to the Thessalonians with some practical instruction, such as respecting those in leadership. Leaders worked for believers' spiritual success, fulfilling God's purposes for them. God had invested more in their success than anyone else ever could have done, including Paul. He would see them through.

EXPLORE TOGETHER Write each word of 1 Thessalonians 2:12 on index cards or pieces of paper. Place them along a path (mailbox, tree, car, etc.) so your child can find them, and go for a walk. Once all of the words have been found, place the words as they were collected, and read the words. Then put the words in the correct order, and say the verse. Relate the activity to when we don't live as God wants us to, it's like reading the words in the wrong order. It doesn't work. But when we live as God's Word tells us to, it not only makes sense, but it also pleases God.

Pray for your church leaders. Take the time to thank God for the different pastors and volunteers that invest in your life.

ENDURING IN TRUTH - 1 THESSALONIANS 2:1-17

WEEK 4

READ 1 Thessalonians 2:1-17 This week your student learns that Paul wrote a letter of encouragement to the persecuted Christians of Thessalonica. He reminded them God sees and one day will judge those who do wrong and God cares for them. Knowing this, they could take comfort and stay true to God. We can use these same truths to help us stay true to Him too. In their ignorance of scriptural teaching, the Thessalonian believers feared they had missed the second coming of Christ. Paul patiently taught them otherwise. In particular, he referred to a coming man of lawlessness, who would promote himself above all laws. But God's calling upon them was for hope, not fear.

EXPLORE TOGETHER Purchase some special treats and teas and have a tea party. Demonstrate making the tea, and talk about what happens when you add hot water to the tea bag. Discuss how as the teabag sits in the hot water, the flavor of the tea seeps into it. The hot water revealed what was inside the tea bag. The hot water is like the difficult things we face. As followers of Jesus, when mixed with the hot water, the Holy Spirit reveals Himself through us. He is with us and loves us. We can trust Him to help and comfort us.

Pray that you and your family will actively seek the truth so that your actions will better reflect God's Word.