

Seven Tips to Get Kids Excited about Daily Devotions

Crystal Bowman—Co-author of *Our Daily Bread for Kids*—365 Meaningful Moments with God

1. **Turn Mealtime into Talk Time.** Kids love to talk and be the center of attention. At the end of your meal, let each child have the spotlight while everyone listens. Ask the child about his or her day—what was great and what wasn't so great? Follow this talk time with kid-friendly devotions and a specific prayer for each child.
2. **Take Turns Choosing Devotions.** If you have more than one child, take turns letting your children choose what kind of devotions you will have as a family at mealtime—a Bible story book, a reading from a kids' devotional book, or a favorite Bible passage are a few examples.
3. **Pass the Prayer Cup!** Write the names of friends and family members on small slips of paper and put them in a cup. When it's time for the mealtime prayer, pass the cup and have each person pull out a name, then pray specifically for those people. After the people have been prayed for, place their names in another cup to continue this process for days or weeks until all the names from the first cup have been drawn. Then start over. Be sure to include your pastor, leaders, and teachers.
4. **One-on-One.** Depending on how many children you have, try devotions with just one child at a time at naptime or bedtime. Your children will love the attention and it often results in meaningful conversation.
5. **Memorize Those Verses!** Choose one verse a week to read and memorize as a family. Talk about what the verse means and read it together every day. As your kids begin to learn it, read some of the words and see if they can recite the rest. Write the verse on note cards and tape to your bathroom mirror or kitchen window so they can read them throughout the day.
6. **Give Each of Your Children a Bible.** Bibles come in many different versions and for all different ages. Letting your children have their own Bibles lets them know that God's Word is for them. Write your child's name in his or her Bible and include a specific Bible verse.
7. **Watch a Bible Story Video.** There are many Bible stories that have been made into videos for kids. Choose one day a week to watch a Bible story video together. Share a special snack as you watch the video as a family.

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