

Family Devotional: Better Together

Bible Passage: Ecclesiastes 4:9–12

Main Idea: God made us to grow in faith with one another

Opening Questions

Ask each person:

- What is one hard thing you faced this week?
- Who helped you with something recently?
- When is a time you tried to do something alone but needed help?

Say: "God made families, friends, and the church so we do not have to face life alone."

God's Word

Read aloud:

- Ecclesiastes 4:9–12
- Hebrews 3:13
- Galatians 6:2

For younger children, summarize:

"Two people can help each other. When one falls, the other can help them up. God wants us to encourage and care for one another."

The Redwood Tree

Explain: "Redwood trees can grow incredibly tall. Their roots are not very deep, but they spread out and connect with the roots of other redwoods. Together, the trees help each other stand through storms."

- Give everyone a length of yarn, string, or even strips of paper. Have each person hold one end while linking the strings together in the center.

Ask:

- What might a storm in someone's life look like? (*Examples: fear, sadness, temptation, sickness, trouble at school, argument.*)
- How can we help someone stand during a storm?
- Why is it harder to face trouble alone?

Say:

- "We are stronger when our lives are connected to God and to people who love Him."

Talk It Through

Read Proverbs 18:1. Explain that isolation can make problems feel bigger and can make it harder to make wise choices.

Discuss:

- Why might people hide when they are hurting?
- What makes a home feel safe enough to tell the truth?
- Who are trusted people God has put in our lives—family, friends, neighbors?
- What is one way our family can encourage someone this week?

Choose one practical action together:

- Send an encouraging text or card
- Invite someone for coffee or dinner
- Call a family member who may be lonely
- Help someone with a task
- Pray for someone who is having a hard week

Family Prayer

“Jesus, thank You that You never leave us alone. Help our family be a place where people are known, loved, and encouraged. Show us when someone needs help, and give us courage to ask for help when we need it. Help us stay connected to You and to Your people. Amen.”

Family Challenge for the Week

Each day, encourage one person on purpose—at home, at school, at work, or at church.

At your next family devotional, share what happened.

Remember: “A cord of three strands is not easily broken.” - Ecclesiastes 4:12