



For each of the activities below, choose whether you prefer doing this alone or with family and friends:

- |                          |       |                     |
|--------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| 1. Eating                | Alone | With Family/Friends |
| 2. Playing               | Alone | With Family/Friends |
| 3. Studying              | Alone | With Family/Friends |
| 4. Watching TV           | Alone | With Family/Friends |
| 5. Watching a movie      | Alone | With Family/Friends |
| 6. Going out             | Alone | With Family/Friends |
| 7. Celebrating birthday  | Alone | With Family/Friends |
| 8. Celebrating Christmas | Alone | With Family/Friends |

A lot of the things we do are more fun when we do it with people who are special to us. It's sad to celebrate your birthday or Christmas when there's no family or friends to celebrate with you. In our lesson today, we will look at a different kind of family. The early believers started spending time and doing a lot of things together. The more they did, the more they regarded each other as family.



***Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.***

In our verse today, we're looking at a time when Jesus was already resurrected and ascended to heaven. During this time, people were talking about how Jesus was raised from the dead and that they now believe that Jesus is the Son of God. They wanted to know more about Jesus, but the churches we know now, were not yet present at that time. So what the people did is to spend time with the apostles.

The apostles were Jesus' closest friends and followers. They were with Him wherever He went while He was still on earth. This means that they learned a lot from Jesus and can teach other people too.

*Because the people really wanted to learn more about Jesus, they spent a lot of time with the apostles. They ate together, prayed together and stayed together to learn more and more about Jesus. When we really want to learn and be good at something, we have to spend a lot of time to be good at it. That is what the followers did. They devoted themselves, spending time with the apostles and with one another.*

*When you think about it, our family is where we first learn things. We learn about good and bad, how to treat other people, how to say "thank you" and "I'm sorry". We share food as a family and we also pray together. So this is how the believers saw themselves. They treated one another like family. They shared food and money among other things. They were a part of God's family. When you believe in Jesus Christ, you become a part of that family too.*

*Families are important not just because we spend time together but because we also share the same values. We do things together. We follow what our parents say. This is why when you are a part of God's family, you have to do things the way God, our Father says. There are things the world says is ok to do but God clearly says is wrong. As part of God's family, we should always follow our Father.*



**Parent to Kid**  
**2-6 years old**

- Do you like being part of our family? Is being part of a family a good thing?
- Do you see anything different between our family and other families? Give some examples.

**7-12 years old**

- Do you want to be part of God's family? What can you do to devote more time to learning about God and following His ways?

**Kid to Parent**

- Can you share an example of something the world says is ok, but God says not to do?

Just like our family does things a certain way, so do the people in God's family. And if we say we are part of God's family, we also do things the way God's family does - like reading God's word, praying, spending time with other members of God's family.



Dear Lord,

Thank You that Jesus came to earth to save us so that we can be a part of Your family. You have shown us over and over how much You love us and how precious we are to You as Your children. Please continue to teach us Your ways and help us spend time with You when we pray. Help us follow Your ways even though it may be hard to do. We honor You as our Father and want to follow You. Thank You also for our family who will help guide us. In Jesus' name,

Amen.



Aside from being part of God's family, God also gave us our families as a gift. Find ways to bond as a family to make this gift even stronger. Here are a few fun ideas!

1. Everyday, share 1 thing you are grateful for.
2. Practice kindness. Talk about what kind act you have done for someone in the family today or what you plan to do tomorrow. (ex, help mom wash dishes, share my cupcake with dad)
3. Exercise together for 5 minutes
4. Pray together at the beginning or end of the day
5. Leave love notes for one another inside the house
6. Build a blanket and pillow fort and camp inside the house
7. Play card games or board games together