



HIDDEN LIFE



FAMILY DEVO

COLOSSIANS

Colossians is an invitation to live in Christ.

To do this, we must understand that we will face opposition: False teachers who will want to use the Gospel for some other agenda or purpose. Those who feel they have outgrown the simple message of Christ and have lost hope in the simple Gospel. Those with “plausible” arguments based on human philosophy and materialistic wisdom.

At times the opposition will come as ridicule, isolation, and loss of influence. At other times it will come as a threat of violence, slander, and shame. There will be pressure to conform to the pattern and philosophy of the culture and the current age. In seasons like this it can become easy to try to compromise our commitment to Christ and the Gospel to win favor with those who oppose us, only to find that we are trying to appease people who will never like us.

With so much cultural change it can be difficult to find a place to stand. As followers we find that we can stand in Christ on the Gospel of Peace.

THE HIDDEN LIFE

WEEK 1

The key to being and staying in Christ is to focus on living in Christ. This is what makes Christ real. Putting away who we used to be and putting on the new person we were meant to be. Choosing the way of Christ in whatever we do.



Read Galatians 3:26-29 as a family before you talk with your kids then engage in the discussions below for each age group.



Pre-School

- What do you think it means to live with Jesus Christ?
- How can you show you know Jesus to your friends and family?



Elementary

- If you were to imagine Jesus Christ was walking with you everywhere you went, heard everything you said, and saw everything you did, would you live differently?
- Why is it hard for you to live that way?



Students

- What things have you made a top priority or possibly even an idol in your life?
- How does putting those things above Christ change the way you live?

PARENTS

During family meals this week, put an extra chair at the table. This will represent Jesus' seat. Talk about how adding this seat to the table impacted how you acted, talked, and thought.

THE HIDDEN LIFE

WEEK 2

To be in Christ is to live in Christ by putting away the old self.



Read Colossians 3:12-17 as a family before you talk with your kids then engage in the discussions below for each age group.



Pre-School

- What are some ways your roots can be deep in Christ and for your faith to grow?
- What did you do today that made you please Jesus Christ and not other people?



Elementary

When you consider what you have built your life's foundation upon: (*See Matthew 21:28-32*)

- What things do you consider to be a priority, or what things would you say "define" you?
- Would you say these things are a solid foundation or a shaky foundation?



Students

- What would it look like for you to "put away your old self" at home/school/etc.?
- Looking at Colossians 3:12-13 what characteristics jump out at you that you need to "put on?" How?

PARENTS

Take some time to talk about what your life looked like before you were a follower of Jesus Christ. What things from your old self did you have to put away or stop doing.

THE HIDDEN LIFE

WEEK 3

To be in Christ is to live in Christ by putting away the old self.



Read Colossians 3: 11, 15-17 as a family before you talk with your kids then engage in the discussions below for each age group.



Pre-School

- What is your favorite song to praise God with?
- What can you thank Jesus Christ for today?



Elementary

- What is a Savior?
- Why do we need a Savior?



Students

- What do you take away from Colossians 3:11?
- What does it mean to be One Church?

PARENTS

This week, take some time with your kids to find one piece or a few pieces of clothing that they have outgrown, or maybe some toys that need to be given away. Encourage your children to put the items in a bag and donate the items. While driving to the donation center, talk about how when you give your life to God, sometimes you need to get rid of things in your life so that you don't have clutter distracting you from God and what he has for your life.

HOW HAS JW FAMILIES IMPACTED YOUR FAMILY?

Hey everyone! Do you have any stories you can tell us about how JW Families, that's JW Kids and JW Students, has impacted your kids, youth, or even whole family? We'd love to hear them!

Send them to us at:

JWFAMILIES@JACOBWELLCHURCH.CHURCH

HELPFUL TOOLS FOR FAMILIES

These tools are available at www.jacobswellchurch.church

ALWAYS AVAILABLE

- **JW Kids Devotionals & Family Devotionals**
- **Parent Cue App** www.theparentcue.org
- **RightNow Media** (Video library of resources - FREE SUBSCRIPTION!)
- **JW Kids Online** (Use the app or go online to watch the lessons)
- **Resource Center** (Buy or borrow resources)
- **Share Prayer Requests** (Share prayer requests under **Care** tab on website)
- **Student Life Podcast** (New each week: Sept. – May)
- **Family Dedication**
- **Baptism Classes** (Online and In-Person)
- **Play Group** (2nd Thursday from 9:30am - 11am)
- **Support Groups**
 - Under **Care** tab on website:
Single Moms, DivorceCare, Celebrate Recovery

FAMILY EVENTS

- **Winter Extravaganza** (Winter 2022)
- **Senior Send-Off** (May 2023)
- **Summer Camp** (June 2023)
- **Splash!** (Summer 2023)
- **Christian College Fair** (October 2023)

FAMILY GUIDE

This family discussion guide is designed to create conversations about what we are learning at church and in our own spiritual growth. Use this guide around the dinner table, on the go, or even after you attend church.

This is a tool to help you incorporate spiritual practices into your lives and help you grow spiritually as a family.

