Family Worship Guide - Acts 1:8

Song: All Creatures of Our God and King https://youtu.be/MUZD0hqtSqE

Prayer: Father, we have gathered our family together to worship You. We thank You for Jesus and His work on the cross to make us right with You. Lord, we pray that what we do here glorifies You alone. We know that Your word does not return void. Give us ears to hear and eyes to see what You have given us through Your word. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Text: Acts 1:8

Explanation: This verse can be the statement for the entire book of Acts. We see 2 main things in this verse:

- 1) We see the Holy Spirit enabling believers to share the Good News of Jesus. The Holy Spirit enables us to do so much more than we could do by ourselves. He gives us the ability to repent and believe, fight sin, worship in Spirit and truth, and in this verse we see specifically that He also gives us the ability to share our faith with others. This happens after the "Holy Spirit has come upon you." Not before. The power to share our faith comes only by the power of the Holy Spirit inside us.
- 2) We see that we will be witnesses to all the earth. The great promise of the Gospel was not just that the Messiah would restore the kingdom of God to Israel but also that the kingdom would be offered to all the nations of the world. Through Jesus, even the Gentiles (which is us) will reap the benefits of God's promises to Israel.

The Point: The Holy Spirit gives us the power to share the Gospel with those near and far.

Application:

Pre-K & Elementary Age: What did Jesus do on the cross? Why did Jesus die on the cross? Ask your children to tell you the Good News of Jesus and use the time to teach them if they don't know. (Here's an <u>example</u>.) How can you share this Good News with your friends and family?

Middle & High School Students: What is the Gospel? How would you share the Gospel with someone? (Here's an <u>example</u>.) How can you share the Gospel with those around you under normal circumstances? (sports, school, family, neighborhood, social media) How can you share the gospel right now during the COVID-19 pandemic? Is there anything that keeps you from sharing the Gospel?

Young Adult: Who has God placed in your life for you to witness to? (Friends, co-workers, roommates, classmates in college, professors, people you encounter as you go about your life [restaurants, gym, grocery stores, coffee shop], social media). Is God calling you to go to the ends of earth to be His witness in far away places?

Adult: How are you being a witness for Christ where you are? If you have children, this is your primary mission field. But God has placed others around you that need to hear the Gospel as well. Think of co-workers, neighbors, family members, people you see regularly in your life (restaurants, gym, grocery stores, coffee shop). Pray and consider a short term mission trip with your spouse or family. Pray and consider if God is calling you to pick up your family and move to another country for the advancement of the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

Empty Nesters: Are you being a witness of Christ to your adult children, to your grandchildren, your co-workers, your neighbors, and the people you encounter regularly in stores, coffee shops, restaurants? How has God enabled you to share your faith and who needs to hear it? For those who have retired from a career, God has enabled you to have an abundance of time. How can you use that time to advance His Kingdom? Pray and consider short term and long term mission trips.

Song: Let Your Kingdom Come https://youtu.be/3Rh8I0r9qlA

Prayer: Father, we thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit that enables us to witness to those near and far. The scriptures speak of Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Lord, give us eyes to see and a heart that burns with passion for the people You have called us to. Give us opportunities this week to be Your witness. We love You and ask these things in Jesus' name, Amen.