



Family Devotional: Stay Connected!

Theme: Trusting God When You Feel Spiritually Dry

When we feel spiritually dry—like our prayers aren’t working, or the Bible feels boring—it might be a sign that we’ve disconnected from the Source of life: Jesus! This week, let’s do a fun water relay to learn why staying close to Him really matters.

THINK ABOUT IT:

Have you ever felt like your faith was on autopilot? You’re doing all the “right” things—church, prayer, reading your Bible—but your heart still feels... dry?

That’s normal. But it doesn’t mean God is gone. Sometimes we’ve just drifted. The good news? **God hasn’t moved—we have. And He’s always ready for us to come close again.**

Key Verses:

- James 4:8 — “Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.”
- Psalm 145:18 — “The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth.”
- Jeremiah 29:13 — “You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart.”
- John 15:4 — “Remain in Me, and I will remain in you.”
- John 15:5 — “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit. Apart from Me you can do nothing.”
- Malachi 3:6 — “I the Lord do not change.”
- Hebrews 13:8 — “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”
- Isaiah 40:8 — “The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the Word of our God will stand forever.”

Real Talk

Spiritual dryness is real—and it’s not a sign of failure. It’s often a signal that something’s off in our connection with God. Maybe it’s routine. Maybe it’s pain. Maybe it’s isolation. But here’s the truth: God hasn’t moved. He’s still here, and He still wants you.

Like the branch separated from the vine in John 15, we can’t bear fruit if we’re disconnected. We need to return, remain, and reattach.

Ask yourself:



- Am I rooted in routine or in Christ?
- Am I seeking connection or just checking boxes?
- Am I drawing near—or keeping my distance?

Biblical Story of Spiritual Dryness: Elijah in the Wilderness (1 Kings 19)

Elijah had just experienced a huge spiritual high—calling down fire from heaven in a dramatic showdown with the prophets of Baal. But right after that, he crashes emotionally and spiritually. Queen Jezebel threatens his life, and Elijah runs.

He ends up alone in the wilderness, spiritually dry and deeply discouraged. He even prays, “I have had enough, Lord... Take my life” (1 Kings 19:4).

But what does God do? He doesn’t shame Elijah or scold him for being weak. He meets him in his weariness. God provides food, water, and rest. Then, He speaks—not through fire or earthquake, but in a gentle whisper (1 Kings 19:12).

Takeaway:

- God meets us in our lowest moments.
- He knows when we need physical, emotional, and spiritual rest.
- He often speaks in stillness, not spectacle.

If you're in a spiritually dry season, remember Elijah. He wasn’t disqualified by his dryness. He was restored.

Reflection Questions

1. When was the last time I felt spiritually connected to God?
2. What has changed since then?
3. Have I been honest with God about how I feel?
4. What distractions do I need to put aside to truly abide in Christ?

FAMILY CHALLENGE: Stay Connected Water Relay

Supplies:

- Two containers (cups, bowls, etc.)
- A sponge (or anything that holds water)
- Water
- Towel (for spills!)

How to Play:



1. Fill one container with water—this represents **Jesus** (the Source).
2. Set the second container across the room—this represents **your life**.
3. Using only the sponge, see how much water you can transfer in 1–2 minutes.
4. Make it fun! Take turns or do a relay with teams.
5. Afterward, talk about it:

Spiritual Parallel: When we don't return to the source (Jesus), we dry up. Talk about how staying close to God keeps us spiritually "hydrated."

Discuss:

- What happened when your sponge dried out?
- Was it harder to carry water when you weren't full?
- What would happen if you never returned to the source?

💡 TALK ABOUT IT:

- What are some ways we can stay spiritually connected to Jesus?
- What are signs we might be feeling "spiritually dry"?
- How can we help each other as a family when we feel that way?

🌟 Bonus Challenge:

This week, whenever someone in your family says the word "thirsty," stop and take 10 seconds to say something you're thankful for about God. It's a fun reminder that our souls need living water, too!

🙏 FAMILY PRAYER:

God, thank You for always being near, even when we feel far away. Help us stay close to You—not just in what we do, but in our hearts. Fill us with Your presence and remind us to keep coming back to You. Amen.