

Activity 2: Family Rules

Introduction: Taking out the trash, picking up toys, and walking the dog are responsibilities common to children for generations. Accomplishing tasks successfully can have great rewards; personal satisfaction, increased responsibility, and perhaps a small allowance are wonderful examples of wages (rewards) for a job well done! However, there are also wages received for NOT doing a great job. Being mean to others, disrespecting parents, and similarly poor behavior can lead to big, big trouble! During this second in a series of three Awesome Journey Devotions, we will discover that everyone receives wages for their actions (whether good or bad), but that Someone has made a way to change everything!

Materials needed: A Bible, a sheet of paper, writing utensil.

Prep time: Minimal

This week's Awesome Journey activity encourages families to discuss the rewards, or wages, of following the family rules. As this continues a series of three devotions discussing sin and the need for a Savior, it's highly advisable that parents intentionally minimize distractions during this activity and discussion. Preparation should include much prayer and reviewing Pastor Steve's teaching: [Leading Your Child to Receive and Believe in Jesus](#).

- Gather the family at the dining table. Explain that you will be working as a team to list your family's specific rules and expectations. For example, "Everyone in our family uses kind words when speaking to others", or "The dishwasher is emptied by Bobby every Saturday and Sunday".
- Encourage each family member to contribute their ideas. List the brainstormed family rule statements individually on the sheet of paper.
- When everyone agrees that the compiled list accurately represents your family's rules/expectations, discuss the wages of following (or not following) each rule.

Discussion Questions and Potential Responses:

1. **What happens when we follow our family rules? What happens when we don't?** *Chores get finished, we get along better; we argue, someone gets in trouble, etc.*
2. **What are some of God's family rules?** *Love others, love God, treat others with kindness.*
3. **What kind of payment do you get for following God's family rules?** *Feel good inside, feel joy when helping*
4. **What is another word that means payments or rewards?** *Wages*
5. **There are wages for doing good things. Are there also wages for doing bad things?**
6. **What kind of wages does a robber or liar get after being caught?** *Jail, time out, etc.*
7. **Look up and read aloud Romans 6:23. Discuss what price people pay for sin, and what way did God make for you not to be punished?** *Death; Jesus took the punishment for believers*
8. **Follow up with prayer thanking Jesus for taking our punishment for sin.**