

FAMILY TIME

EXPLORING PSALM 139

We have created a series of games and activities that you can journey as a family that will help you explore the Psalm 139.

You could choose to carve out some time on Sunday morning and use the activities to do church together, but feel free to choose a time in your week that works best for you.

At the end of these activities, it is our hope that you will begin to think more about who God is and what his character is like, and in turn respond with praise, whatever your situation may be!

Who are they for?

We have pitched these sessions predominantly at Primary school aged children, but most of the activities are accessible for all ages. If you have pre-schoolers, they will have fun with the activities and will still grasp lots of the concepts about their Father God, even if the Bible text is too advanced for now.

What does a session look like?

It would be great if you could have Bibles available for everyone to use.

Help your children with finding the passage.

We have included a printable copy of all of Psalm 139 that you can read through together at the end of each session if your children are older.

Then you can talk about the things God is highlighting to each of you.

If your children are younger, when you are reading the Bible passages, explain any more complicated words before you start, or use a different version if you prefer.

We are praying that you have some amazing family times together and that this time at home becomes a season of accelerated spiritual growth for you as a family.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 1: PSALM 139:1-3

Before you read the passage from the Bible together, journey through these activities with your children.

That way, when you read the passage at the end, your children will understand each phrase more clearly.

TASK 1

“You know when I sit and when I rise.”

Show everyone some movie clips on YouTube. Pause them at crucial points in the scene and play a game where the children have to guess what happens next. What will the people do next? Alternatively, you could play some songs. Pause them mid-sentence and take turns guessing what lyrics come next.

Explain that God knows everything about us.

He even knows what we are going to do next.

He knows when we are going to sit down, when we are going to wake up in the morning, what you are going to play with later, what you will have for dinner, what stories you will choose at bedtime... God knows all these things, even before we do!

TASK 2

“You perceive my thoughts from afar”

Ask your family to each think of something that makes them happy and something that makes them sad. Tell them not to tell anyone else in the room at all, just think about them in their head.

Explain to your children that even though no-one in the room knows what they are thinking, God knows every single thought they have.

TASK 3

“You are familiar with all my ways”

Play some music and have a game of musical statues.

Tell your family that every time the music stops, they should freeze and make a different shape with their body each time... the stranger the better.

An opportunity here for lots of laughs as your children watch your funny dance moves!

Tell your children that God is familiar with all the things they can do. He made their bodies to be able to do all sorts of things. Ask them if there are some things they can do that other people can't? Maybe they are double jointed? Maybe they can stand on their head? Tell them that we are all different and God knows all the things that they can do that no-one else can do quite the same.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 1: PSALM 139:1-3

The Bible bit...

Help everyone to find the Psalm in their Bibles,
and read the following verses to finish off.

Pray before one of you reads it out loud.

Ask God to speak to you all as you read and listen together.

Highlight any word or phrase that jumps out so that you
can share what God is showing you personally at the end.

Psalm 139:1-3

**You have searched me, Lord,
and you know me.**

**You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.**

**You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.**

Ask your family what parts of the passage God is highlighting to them?

What jumped out at them?

What was the Holy Spirit was teaching them as they read?

Perhaps you could finish by playing a worship song and praying for each other.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 2: PSALM 139:4-6

Before you read the passage from the Bible together, journey through these activities with your children.

That way, when you read the passage at the end, your children will understand each phrase more clearly.

TASK 1

“Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely.”

Wrap up some ‘presents’ in clear cellophane/ cling film, so that everyone can see what is inside.

Have one present that contains just stones and another that contains something nice to share around, like a packet of biscuits!

The children should be able to see what is in each parcel before they unwrap it.

Explain that our words are a lot like these parcels to God.

God can see what we are going to say, even before the words leave our mouths.

Wrap up some more parcels with bits of paper with words inside that say things like “You stink,” and “I hate you.”

Ask how God must feel when he knows we are going to say something not so nice?”

Then get some parcels that say kind things like “I like you,” “I’m sorry,” and “God, you are amazing!” How does God feel when he sees these words on our tongues? How glad God must be when he knows our next words will be words of praise.

He knows our words are coming and waits with joy!

TASK 2

“Such knowledge is too wonderful for me...”

Explain that when this psalm was being written, the person who wrote the words was amazed at how great God is.

Tell them how amazed you are too, and that sometimes the only thing we can do is to just shout out our prayers and sing out that we love him so much.

Write a family prayer on a big sheet of paper saying:

“I love you God. You know everything I can do. You know everything about me. You even know what I am going to say next. I love you God. You are...

(Have the children add some things they think about God and write them up).

Amen!”

Read the prayer out loud together.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 2: PSALM 139:4-6

The Bible bit...

Help everyone to find the Psalm in their Bibles, and read the following verses to finish off.

Pray before one of you reads it out loud.

Ask God to speak to you all as you read and listen together.

Highlight any word or phrase that jumps out so that you can share what God is showing you personally at the end.

Psalm 139:4-6

**Before a word is on my tongue
you, Lord, know it completely.**

**You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.**

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.**

Ask your family what parts of the passage God is highlighting to them?

What jumped out at them?

What was the Holy Spirit was teaching them as they read?

Perhaps you could finish by playing a worship song and praying for each other.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 3: PSALM 139:7-10

Last time we learned together about how God knows absolutely everything about us.

He loves us so much and he cares about every last thing. God knows us so well that he knows what we are going to say, even before we start to speak!

How amazing is that? Our God is so incredible!

Today we're going to keep learning all about God and what he's like, by looking at some more of Psalm 139.

What Psalm?

(Get your children to shout it out).

TASK 1

“Where can I go from your spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?”

Play a game of Hide and seek around your house OR send the rest of the family out of the room, while you hide an object for them to find. Take turns so that everyone has a turn counting or hiding an object. If you have time, play both games.

TASK 2

“If I go up to heaven, you are there...”

Watch a video clip on YouTube together of someone going into space or a rocket blasting into space.

Talk about how God is always with us, no matter where we are or what we're doing.

Explain that when we played hide the object, it was easy to hide something so our family couldn't spot it.

When we play hide and seek, it's quite easy to hide ourselves so that our family can't find us. But the Bible tells us there is absolutely nowhere that we can hide from God. God is always with us. Isn't that awesome!

TASK 3

“If I rise on the wings of dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea...”

Play charades, with things to act out such as flying, mountain climbing, swimming, walking on the moon, etc.

Have a chat with your children about how no matter where we go, even if we go to the bottom of the sea, or into deepest space, God's spirit is with us.

TASK 4

“...even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast”

Play another game where one of you is blindfolded, while the rest of the family guides them round the house, or even just around the kitchen table!

You could even make an obstacle course with cushions to move around and tables to crawl under.

Explain that God wants to be our help and support.

The Bible says that even in the most far out places “even there, God's hand will guide me, His strength will support me.” Isn't that just totally awesome! God's hand will guide YOU wherever you go. It feels like we need God's hand to guide us right now, so this is great news for us. This means we don't need to worry about where we're going or what we have to face. Why?

Because God is always there with us. Just like the air we breathe, God's presence is all around us!

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 3: PSALM 139:7-10

The Bible bit...

Help everyone to find the Psalm in their Bibles, and read the following verses to finish off.

Pray before one of you reads it out loud.

Ask God to speak to you all as you read and listen together.

Highlight any word or phrase that jumps out so that you can share what God is showing you personally at the end.

Psalm 139:4-6

**Before a word is on my tongue
you, Lord, know it completely.**

**You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.**

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.**

Ask your family what parts of the passage God is highlighting to them?

What jumped out at them?

What was the Holy Spirit was teaching them as they read?

Perhaps you could finish by playing a worship song and praying for each other.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 4: PSALM 139:11-12

Last time we learned that no matter where we go, whether we go up to space, or to the bottom of the sea, God's spirit is still with us and God is there to guide us if we want Him to.

Isn't that so cool! I'm so glad to know that God is with me wherever I go. Today we are going to be learning even more about what God is like. I love this Psalm.

Can anyone remember what number this Psalm is?

TASK 1

"If I say, 'surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me...'"

Watch a video clip together from YouTube of the Wizard of Oz, where Dorothy, Scarecrow and Tin man meet the cowardly Lion in the dark woods. Talk about how lots of us feel wary in the dark because we can't see very well and don't know what to expect.

Ask your family if anyone is afraid of the dark? Why is that?

Do you think God is afraid of the dark? NO WAY! God isn't scared of the dark at all. The Bible tells us that for God, darkness is the same as light to Him.

He can see everything, whether it is dark or light, day or night. The Bible says that the night-time shines like the daytime when God is there. Psalm 139 says that darkness is not dark for God, even a little bit. That's because God's glory is so bright. In fact, did you know that the bible says that in Heaven there doesn't even need to be a sun, because God is so bright that we won't need any other light?

TASK 2

"...even the darkness will not be dark to you."

Make a cave by getting some sheets or blankets and draping them over your kitchen table or some chairs. Get some paper and coloured pens for everyone to draw pictures of things that might live in a dark cave, such as spiders, bats and mice, as well as cave paintings.

Sellotape your pictures to their cave walls.

Use torches and let the children look round the cave and find things. What creature was the creepiest?

Talk to your children about the cave activity. Do they like the dark? Can you think of another type of darkness? It's the darkness we might feel inside if we're stressed or fearful, or worried, or upset. It can leave you feeling like you haven't a lot of hope. Although it's not actually dark, we can feel like darkness is all around when we're talking about our feelings. So, what do I do when I'm feeling like darkness is all around because I'm full of fear?

Just call out to God. Talk to God about the things that frighten you and ask him to step in and deal with your fears. Ask God to shine his light in the darkness.

TASK 3

“...for the darkness is as light to you”

Listen to the worship song “I’m not afraid” by Rend Collective Kids.

Talk about how you can ask Jesus to come and be with you when you’re frightened. Call on his name and tell him the things you are worried about and ask him to help you. Remember, there is nowhere you can go that is away from God’s presence, and that includes the dark! The devil can use things like the actual dark to scare us and make us feel afraid, but when you start to feel afraid, just remember that Jesus rules!

When God is there, darkness has to vanish! His love glows in the dark!

The Bible bit...

Help everyone to find the Psalm in their Bibles, and read the following verses to finish off.

Pray before one of you reads it out loud.

Ask God to speak to you all as you read and listen together.

Highlight any word or phrase that jumps out so that you can share what God is showing you personally at the end.

Psalm 139:11-13

**If I say, “Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,”
even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.**

Ask your family what parts of the passage God is highlighting to them?

What jumped out at them?

What was the Holy Spirit was teaching them as they read?

Perhaps you could finish by playing a worship song and praying for each other.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 5: PSALM 139: 13-16

Before you read the passage from the Bible together, journey through these activities with your children.

That way, when you read the passage at the end, your children will understand each phrase more clearly.

TASK 1

“For you created my inmost being, you knit me together in my mother’s womb.”

Design a person!

Use odds and ends from your kitchen cupboards, like pasta and raisins or string to make a person.

Or simply have paper and pens to design a person. Each of you can decide hair colour, eye colour, etc of your person.

You can be as creative as you like with this. It can be a family effort or everyone can make their own. While you are designing, chat with your children about how God designed and made them.

Tell your children that God knew all about them before they were born. The bible says that when you were in your mummy’s tummy, God was putting you together. God decided that your hair and your eyes would be just the colour they are. You didn’t just end up looking like you did just by chance. It was all planned by God from before you were born.

TASK 2

“I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made!”

Watch a video clip from ‘101 Dalmations’, where the puppies are being born. Talk about how God knew all about us before we were born. We were a big surprise to our parents, but God had already decided who we would be and what we would be like. Look at photos of your children when they were babies or even scan photos if you have them. Talk to them about how excited you felt leading up to their birth and how amazing it was to finally see them for the first time. If your children are adopted or fostered, talk to them about how you planned and prayed for them before you knew them and about that first moment when you met them. Do you think that God would ever make a mistake? No way!

You are wonderfully made, by God who loves you and he never makes mistakes.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 5: PSALM 139: 13-16

TASK 3

“...all the days ordained for me...”

Picture Game: Guess what God planned?

Ask your children what they want to be when they grow up? Show the children some pictures of famous people when they were children, e.g. the Queen as a little girl, Daniel Radcliffe as a toddler, David Walliams, etc.

Everyone must guess what plans God had for each of these children when they grew up. Then show the pictures of them as grown ups. Even if your children don't know each celebrity, it's fine to explain that God planned for each little person to grow into someone who would do something special. Perhaps you could find some photographs of yourselves as children to show your children.

Explain that when these people were kids, no-one probably had any clue they would be so famous, apart from maybe the Queen! But Father God knew everything there was to know about these people, even from before they were born. Isn't that amazing? And the awesome thing is that the bible says that God knows everything about you too.

TASK 4

“...were written in your book before one of them came to be.”

Set a timer for one minute. Tell everyone that their challenge is to guess how long one minute is.

Everyone should stand up at the start and then sit down when they think a minute is up. See who is the closest.

Try it again for shorter times too.

Talk to your children about how God didn't just plan out how we would look.

He has planned out the time we will spend on this earth.

The Bible says that all the days God planned for each of us were written in his book, before our first day of life even happened.

God knows about you and the things you do every day! He knows what you are going to do today, tomorrow, next week, next year and in fact every day for the rest of your life. Why does God want to know about you and all your days? It's because he loves you every hour, every minute and every second of every day and for the rest of your life!

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 5: PSALM 139: 13-16

The Bible bit...

Help everyone to find the Psalm in their Bibles, and read the following verses to finish off.

Pray before one of you reads it out loud.

Ask God to speak to you all as you read and listen together.

Highlight any word or phrase that jumps out so that you can share what God is showing you personally at the end.

Psalm 139: 13-16

For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret
place,

when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one
of them came to be.

Ask your family what parts of the passage God is highlighting to them?
What jumped out at them?

What was the Holy Spirit was teaching them as they read?

Perhaps you could finish by playing a worship song and praying for each other.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 6: PSALM 139: 17-18

Before you read the passage from the Bible together, journey through these activities with your children.

That way, when you read the passage at the end, your children will understand each phrase more clearly.

TASK 1

“How precious to me are your thoughts, God.”

Have a chat with your children about what the word ‘precious’ means? Show them a selection of precious things in a bag, such as jewellery, a family photo, an heirloom, something one of them has made for you, etc.

Explain why they are precious.

Do they have any precious things they can tell us about?

In Psalm 139, David says that God’s thoughts are precious to him. Get a mirror and let the children look at their reflections. Explain that since God thought of you, even before you were born, then that says to me that you are a precious, precious thought to Him. If you want to see the most precious of all of God’s thoughts, just look in the mirror for the answer.

TASK 2

“How vast is the sum of them!”

Watch a video clip from the beginning of the Lion King.

Explain that God had to think up all the different animals. What ones were in the film? Can they think of any other animals that weren’t on the film that God made? Look up some unusual animals on google.

All the animals are so different and God thought up each one! He thought of so many things.

Get a large sheet of paper and some coloured pens.

Each of you should think of an animal that doesn’t already exist and draw a picture of it.

How many legs will it have? What colour will it be? Will it be big or small? Where will it live?

Then get another page.

Ask them to draw a picture of someone they’ve never met.

Will they be a boy or a girl? What colour of hair will they have? What colour of eyes will they have? What will they be good at doing?

Share your ideas.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 6: PSALM 139: 17-18

TASK 3

“Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand ”

Show the children a glass with some rice in it.

Can any of them guess how many grains of rice there are in this bottle?

Can anyone count the grains?

Can someone try to count out three of them?

Talk about how in Psalm 139, instead of grains of rice, it talks about grains of sand. It says that God has so many thoughts about things, that there are actually more of God's thoughts than there are grains of sand on a beach.

Look back at the pictures everyone drew. Talk about how we have all thought up some amazing things!

How many different things do you think of in one day? What sorts of things do you think about? Have you any idea what sorts of things God thinks about? We can't possibly know all of God's thoughts, but we can know some of his thoughts when we look at the things we see around us. And we definitely know that he thought about each one of you and he still does!

We planned out pretend people for fun, but God really did think about and plan out each of us before we were born, not just for fun, but because he loves us and thinks we are the best part of creation. He thought about what we would look like, and he thought about what family would be best for us. He's thought about the things he'd like you to do with him today, and he has thought about all the things he has planned for your future.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 6: PSALM 139: 17-18

The Bible bit...

Help everyone to find the Psalm in their Bibles, and read the following verses to finish off.

Pray before one of you reads it out loud.

Ask God to speak to you all as you read and listen together.

Highlight any word or phrase that jumps out so that you can share what God is showing you personally at the end.

Psalm 139: 17-18

How precious to me are your thoughts, God!

How vast is the sum of them!

Were I to count them,

they would outnumber the grains of sand—

when I awake, I am still with you.

Ask your family what parts of the passage God is highlighting to them?

What jumped out at them?

What was the Holy Spirit teaching them as they read?

Perhaps you could finish by playing a worship song and praying for each other.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 7: PSALM 139: 19-22

Before you read the passage from the Bible together, journey through these activities with your children.

That way, when you read the passage at the end, your children will understand each phrase more clearly.

TASK 1

“If only you, God would slay the wicked.”

Tell your children that they are going to have a picnic. Have a snack, like a petit filous or a cookie and a drink for each person.

Explain that we are going to have a snack together, but there's a catch. They can't eat any of it themselves. Someone else in the family must feed it to them.

Talk about how it felt to be fed by someone else. What was difficult about it?

Chat to your children about how hard it is to let someone else be in control, especially when we think we would do a better job by ourselves.

Talk about how important it is to let God be in control all the time and to leave things in his hands.

Are you good at letting God be in control of things?

David says to God “If only you would sort these wicked people out, God.”

Even though it's so hard, he decides to let God be in control. Have you let God be in control of your life? Sometimes it's hard to let someone else be in control.

When we're babies our parents are in control of everything – where we go, what we eat, what we wear, when we have a drink. But when we get older, we like to be in charge of our own lives and sort things out by ourselves, and it gets hard to let someone else be in control. But God isn't just anyone. He's the maker of the universe, who knows you and wants the best for you more than anyone.

So when we are trying to deal with problems, the best thing we can do is to talk to God, tell him how you are feeling, and let him be in charge of the situation, just like David did.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 7: PSALM 139: 19-22

TASK 2

“They speak of you with evil intent; your adversaries misuse your name.”

Read the following short stories together and talk about what you would do in each scenario. If it is easier, make up some alternative scenarios that are more relevant to your family. Or you could also simply ask each person in your family to share a time when someone was mean to them or to someone else.

In school, Florence lends Violet her doll to play with at lunch time. Violet plays with the doll and tells Florence that she’s put it back in her school bag. When Florence gets home, she takes her doll out of her school bag and it is covered in mud and the dress is ripped. What should Florence do?

Jack’s best mates are called Sam and Josh. They go everywhere together, but one day, another boy tells Jack that Sam and Josh are saying nasty things about him when he isn’t there. What should Jack do?

Joseph loves playing football. There is a football club near his house, and he can walk home by himself when his training is finished. Joseph also love Jesus. Some boys from his football club think following Jesus is silly and they follow him home every week, shouting things like ‘God is so stupid.’ Joseph knows they are wrong about God. What should he do?

David, who wrote Psalm 139 had a lot of enemies. Even though he really wanted to hurt those people or teach them a lesson, David understood that God knew better than him. When people are nasty to us, or bully us, it is never a good idea to just put up with it.

We should definitely talk to someone about it, but before we do anything, we should pray for our enemies and ask God to help us know what to do. If we are nasty back to them, they will never know from our behaviour that God loves them too.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 7: PSALM 139: 19-22

TASK 3

“I count them my enemies.”

Watch a video clip or even a whole movie together that has a notable villain, eg Scar from Lion King, Cruella De’Vil, or even Sharpay from High School Musical if your kids are a bit older.

Ask everyone who the enemy was in the movie? Chat about the times when they noticed the villain of the story planning something mean or being a bully?

So what does the Bible say about our enemies?

In Psalm 139, David has quite a lot to say. David was a great guy... he certainly made some pretty big mistakes, but God loved him lots. But David had a lot of enemies. In Psalm 139, he tells us what his enemies were like. He says they were wicked, bloodthirsty, that they said evil things about God and they hated him. So what did David do? The first thing he does is that he talks to God. He tells God all about the people and how they are making him feel.

Ask your children to think of someone they find difficult, or annoying to deal with. Explain that you want them to think of this person in their heads. Then ask them to picture that person in God’s hands. Tell them to pray quietly into themselves,

e.g. “I really hate that X does this/ says these things about me, but I’m going to place them in your hands and let you decide what happens. Amen”

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 7: PSALM 139: 19-22

The Bible bit...

Help everyone to find the Psalm in their Bibles, and read the following verses to finish off.

Pray before one of you reads it out loud.

Ask God to speak to you all as you read and listen together.

Highlight any word or phrase that jumps out so that you can share what God is showing you personally at the end.

Psalm 139: 19-22

If only you, God, would slay the wicked!

Away from me, you who are bloodthirsty!

They speak of you with evil intent;

your adversaries misuse your name.

**Do I not hate those who hate you, Lord,
and abhor those who are in rebellion against
you?**

I have nothing but hatred for them;

I count them my enemies.

Ask your family what parts of the passage God is highlighting to them?

What jumped out at them?

What was the Holy Spirit was teaching them as they read?

Perhaps you could finish by playing a worship song and praying for each other.

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 8: PSALM 139: 23-24

Before you read the passage from the Bible together, journey through these activities with your children.

That way, when you read the passage at the end, your children will understand each phrase more clearly.

Who can remember what Psalm we have been thinking about in our Family time?

What Psalm? (Everybody shout it out).

Last time we thought about what we should do when we are finding people difficult, and how we can be like David by letting God be in control of the situations we are in. This is our last session on Psalm 139, and to finish off, we are going to be learning some more about what God is like and about just how well he knows each one of us.

TASK 1

“Search me, God and know my heart.”

Ask one person in your family to step outside the room.

Then ask everyone else to answer some questions about that person in order to see just how well they know them, e.g. What is their favourite food? What do they like playing? Who is their best friend at school/work? What makes them scared? What is their favourite movie? What are they good at? What sorts of things worry them? What are they like as a person? (Good qualities).

Then invite that person back in and ask them the same questions. See how many the rest of us got right. Talk about what sort of a person the rest of the family thought they were. This is a chance to really encourage each other and speak God's truth over your children.

Chat about how God knows even more precisely what they are like.

Explain that at the end of Psalm 139, David asks God to search him and know his heart. Then he asks God if there are any offensive things in him / things that shouldn't be there?

Ask your children if they would be brave enough to ask God to show them parts of themselves that aren't so great? Be honest about this yourself with your children. It's always nice to know the good things about ourselves, but to know the things that God would like to see changed might feel a big deal!

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 8: PSALM 139: 23-24

TASK 2

“Lead me in the way everlasting.”

Explain that there was a reason why David wanted God to reveal those things about himself. He wanted to get rid of all the things that stopped him from following God’s lead.

In this game, make different trails with balls of wool or string. Explain that two of the trails lead to rubbish and one leads to a prize. (Get a bag of sweets that can be shared amongst the whole family). Ask for three volunteers to wind up the balls of wool and follow the trail to see if it leads them to a prize or not.

Explain that David asked God to lead him in the way everlasting. Ask everyone to share ideas about what they think the ‘way everlasting’ is? Explain that some of our paths lead to absolutely nowhere, but if we stay close to God and follow his lead, he’ll keep us on the right path for us.

God will not abandon us. He wants the very best for us, so why would he lead us down a dead-end path?

TASK 3

“Lead me in the way everlasting.”

Get an empty container or a tray and some play dough / plasticine.

Work together to make a play dough maze on the bottom of the container with a path that leads to the centre.

Get a marble to roll in between the play dough walls. Create a sign for your maze that says “Lead me in the way everlasting.”

FAMILY TIME

SESSION 8: PSALM 139: 23-24

The Bible bit...

Help everyone to find the Psalm in their Bibles, and read the following verses to finish off.

Pray before one of you reads it out loud.

Ask God to speak to you all as you read and listen together.

Highlight any word or phrase that jumps out so that you can share what God is showing you personally at the end.

Psalm 139: 23-24

**Search me, God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.**

Ask your family what parts of the passage God is highlighting to them?

What jumped out at them?

What was the Holy Spirit was teaching them as they read?

Perhaps you could finish by playing a worship song and praying for each other.