**Guided Questions**
**August 2025 Family Devotion**

**Wednesday - 8/13 - Philippians 1:1-11**
Philippians is one of several letters we find in the New Testament written by the apostle Paul. Paul writes this letter while he is in prison in order to encourage and equip this church to continue to show and share the good news of Jesus Christ. In these first few sentences of his letter, we read his prayer for this church. What does Paul want to grow in this church? Why does he want this to grow? (see verses 9-11)

**Thursday - 8/14 - Philippians 1:12-26**
As you read these verses, try to picture Paul in prison. Though we may think he is scared, lonely, or even angry to be in prison, Paul uses words such as "confident", "without fear", "rejoice", and "courage". How can Paul feel this way when he is stuck in prison?

**Friday - 8/15 - Philippians 2:1-11**
In verses 3-4, Paul instructs us to put other people before ourselves by giving up what we think we deserve for the good of someone else. He tells us to not only think about what we need but to think about what other people need. In verses 5-11, he shows us that Jesus Christ is not only an example to follow, but Jesus did this for YOU and ME! How does Paul say Jesus did this for us?

**Monday - 8/18 - Philippians 2:12-18**
As we live a life of obedience to God, we are showing that God has saved us from our sin. Paul tells us to do this with "fear and trembling", but he does not mean that we should be afraid. Instead, he means we obey God because we are in awe (wonder) of Him and we respect Him. One practical way to do this is by not complaining or arguing. How does fearing God help us not complain or argue with one another?

**Tuesday - 8/19- Philippians 2:19-30**
Timothy and Epaphroditus were two believers Paul hoped to send to the church at Philippi to encourage them. How would these two men be an encouragement to this church? What does this teach us about needing other believers in our life?

**Wednesday - 8/20 - Philippians 3:1-11**
Paul had a lot of things he could have been proud of, but none of these things mattered to him anymore compared to the treasure of knowing Christ. The most important thing in his life was knowing Jesus. What is the most important thing to you? How is knowing Jesus the best thing?

**Thursday - 8/21 - Philippians 3:12-4:1**
Paul encourages these believers to follow the example he has set for them. Who is a follower of Jesus in your life that has set an example you can follow? What is special about what they believe and the way they live?

**Friday - 8/22 - Philippians 4:2-9**
What should we do when we feel anxious about something? What do you feel anxious or worried about today? Spend time praying together as a family- tell God what you are thankful for and what is causing you to worry.

**Monday - 8/25 - Philippians 4:10-23**
Today, we finished the book of Philippians. Great job! Philippians 4:13 is a verse you probably know. How does reading Philippians 4:11-12 help you understand it more clearly?

**Tuesday - 8/26 - Luke 1:1-44**
What is the good news proclaimed to Mary by the angel? Why is this good news for her? Why is this good news for us today?

**Wednesday - 8/27 - Luke 1: 45-80**
What was the ministry God gave to John the Baptist? Why do you think it was so important for the Messiah to have a herald go before him to prepare the way of his coming?

**Thursday - 8/28 - Luke 2**
Who did the angel appear to? What was the good news the angel proclaimed? What was the shepherds' response? What is your response when you hear this good news?

**Friday - 8/29 - Luke 3**

John the Baptist proclaimed to the people that the Messiah (the promised Savior from the Old Testament) was coming, and he told the people to repent of their sins. Repentance means to realize we have done wrong, turn away, and do the right thing. What is something you need to repent of today? Spend time praying together as a family- thank God for forgiving you and ask for His help as you live a life of repentance.