



Summer Family BUCKET LIST

This month's toolbox item is a "Summer Family Bucket List," where we offer some suggestions for summer family activities and give space for your family to add ideas of your own. Bring your family together and brainstorm ideas. When the kids have input, they are naturally more excited to participate. Once you have created the list, post it somewhere in your home and check off items as you do them. It'll be fun to get to the end of the summer and see how much you have done together.

Here are some ideas to use as a starting point.

Easy Fun Activities

- ☐ **Build something together.** It can be a birdhouse, lemonade stand, blanket fort, or even a cardboard castle. Let the kids lead the way with their imagination.
- ☐ **Go on an "Acts of Kindness" scavenger hunt.** Make a list of kind things to do around town (pay for someone's drink, leave encouraging notes, compliment a stranger, etc.). See how many you can complete in a day or week!
- ☐ **Make homemade ice cream.** There's nothing like a sweet treat to bring a family together, and it tastes even better if you create it yourself!
- ☐ **Go to a lake and kayak or canoe.** Skimming across the water in some type of craft is always exciting and produces a few laughs and smiles, especially if splashing is involved.
- ☐ **Have a game night and learn new card games.** Depending on the age(s) of your kid(s), they might be ready for a more challenging game that makes them think a little more and strategize.
- ☐ **Try out a new ice cream place once a week and vote for the best at the end of the summer.** Heck, you can even compare the ice cream you made to what you taste in the shops.
- ☐ **Make paper airplanes and race them.** It's even more fun if you can find somewhere tall (like a parking garage) and throw them off there.
- ☐ **Go to a fruit farm and pick your own.** Strawberry patches are typically popular in the summer, so see if you can find one in your area.
- ☐ **Take the entire family on a bike ride.** You may have to do a little work to find some bikes (especially for you), but these kinds of rides are super fun.

- ☐ **Stargaze.** Lie on a blanket in the yard, look for constellations, and maybe bring out a telescope or stargazing app. Don't forget the snacks!

☐ Add your own: _____

☐ Add your own: _____

☐ Add your own: _____

Devotional Activities

- ☐ **Go on a nature scavenger hunt with a God-sighting twist.** Go on a scavenger hunt to find things in nature (a butterfly, bird, smooth rock, etc.) and share how each thing reminds you of God's creativity and care.
- ☐ **Do a sunrise or sunset devotion.** Wake up early (or stay up late) to watch the sunrise or sunset together. Bring hot cocoa or lemonade and read a Psalm about God's creation (Psalm 19 is a good one!).
- ☐ **Create a summer scripture memory challenge.** Pick one verse each week to memorize as a family. Make it fun with chalk art, songs, or even little prizes.
- ☐ **Do a prayer walk in your neighborhood.** Take a family walk and pray silently or aloud for each home you pass. Pray for peace, health, and the presence of God in each family.
- ☐ **Camp out with a purpose.** Whether it's a backyard tent or living room fort, spend a night "camping" and read a Bible story around a flashlight "campfire." Talk about God's faithfulness through hard times.
- ☐ **Host a backyard worship night.** Set up some string lights, bring out a guitar or worship playlist, and sing together under the stars. Close the night with each person sharing one thing they're grateful to God for.
- ☐ **Host a "Faith + Fun" night.** Invite another family over for a cookout, then do a simple Bible devotion and play yard games or water balloons afterward.
- ☐ **Go on a Bible journaling picnic.** Bring Bibles, journals, and colored pens to a park. After reading a short passage together, everyone gets time to draw or journal their thoughts and prayers.

☐ Add your own: _____

☐ Add your own: _____

☐ Add your own: _____