

2019

# BACK TO SCHOOL PLAN

**IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!** Time for backpacks, #2 pencils, and notebooks. Whether you have kids in your community public schools, send your kids to private school, or homeschool, back-to-school means a new rhythm for your entire family. In all the chaos and adjustment, it can be difficult to create intentional moments for you and your family to connect in meaningful ways.

This worksheet is designed to help you do just that. So grab your calendars and bribe your family with some delicious snacks, then sit down together to create your personalized 2019 Back to School Plan!

## YOU'LL NEED:

- Pen or pencil
- A print out of the next three pages
- Your calendar

# STEP 1

## SCHOOL-YEAR-GOAL

As individuals, decide on *one* area you'd like to grow in this school year. Maybe it's getting your homework done by a certain time. Maybe it's limiting technology during the week. Maybe you want to get a "B" in math, or make the soccer team, or wake up fifteen minutes earlier.

Write down everyone's individual goals:

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Now, talk about a goal you can work toward as an entire family. Maybe it's praying together before the school bus arrives or saving Saturday mornings for pancakes as a family. Whatever it is, make sure it's simple, measurable, and involves every member of your tribe.

Write down your family goal:

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To keep yourselves motivated, write down three reasons why your family goal is important:

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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# STEP 2

## SCHOOL-YEAR-SERVING

Nothing brings a family together like a common cause or passion. This school year, choose an organization, family, or group to serve.

Start off by allowing everyone to share who or what they're passionate about serving. Is it animals? Sick kids? The elderly? Homeless? Soldiers overseas? Out-of-work clowns? The choice is yours!

Once everyone has shared their response, take a vote and choose a group to focus on together this school year.

Our family's common cause this school year will be:

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Now it's time to choose how you'll serve. There's more than one way! You can give time, money, or even gently used clothes, toys, or resources. You can also raise awareness for and pray for your cause-of-choice.

Discuss your options and choose 2-3 different ways you can support your cause together.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Now for the hard part—putting it on the calendar! Your family is busy, and if you're not intentional about serving together, it's probably *not* going to happen. Take your answers above and choose a month to complete it during (bonus points if you pick an actual *date!*).

We will complete #1 during the month of: \_\_\_\_\_

We will complete #2 during the month of: \_\_\_\_\_

We will complete #3 during the month of: \_\_\_\_\_

# STEP 3

## SCHOOL-YEAR-FUN

You didn't think we were going to leave out the *fun*, did you?!

How can your family have fun this school year? Brainstorm some ideas and let everybody share! Come up with 5 fun things to do together. Try to be realistic, which means a month in Tahiti or a new swimming pool might not make the list.

Our school-year fun will be:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

You did it! This coming school year is going to be the best one YET. And when you do all these things, you will be well on your way to giving your kids the one thing they need most over time: Love.

Now post this list where everyone in the family will see it often and will be reminded to make these things happen.