

FAMILY WORSHIP



MARCH

2020

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Dear Parent,



Every Christian parent wants to raise families who will grow up to love and trust Jesus. Parents deliberately search for the church that provides the most opportunities for their families to grow up in the Lord. We want Sovereign King Church to be that church!

We must not, however, neglect our homes—where our families see our faith on real-time display every day. According to the Bible, we parents have the primary responsibility for teaching our families about God. His word must be prominent in our conversation and daily life with our kids. Training our families in godliness is not something that we can put off until they're older.

In Deuteronomy 6:4-9, we read:

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

The call to training our families in godliness is comprehensive. To summarize this passage, it is saying we, parents, have responsibility to teach our families during mealtime, drive time, bedtime, in the morning- the whole day through. The elders at Sovereign King Church recognize that we have a responsibility as a church to walk alongside parents as they train their families in godliness. We want to equip parents to pray and plan for the spiritual development of their families. We want to encourage you to begin to have a time of family worship throughout the week. In this guide, you will find out what family worship is and how to do it. It contains weekly bible readings, catechism questions, things to pray for, and song suggestions. It is our prayer that it will help you establish a family tradition that will bless you, your children, and generations yet to come.

WHAT IS FAMILY WORSHIP?

Family worship should be a priority in your home because the home is the training ground for biblical formation in the lives of your children. It is the responsibility of parents, and primarily of fathers, to provide Christian instruction in the home for the purpose of raising your children to know and fear the Lord.

Family worship is simply taking time as a family to worship God at home in a family setting. When a family gathers together at home for prayer, Bible reading, and turning their hearts to the Lord - that is family worship. It is also called family devotions. Unfortunately, few Christian adults today grew up in homes that practiced family worship. You may not have had this modeled for you growing up, and if you are like most Christian families today this has not been a regular part of your life.

There is good news! It is never too late to begin family worship - with teenagers, or with grandchildren. It is OK to start slowly. "Do not despise the day of small beginnings."

What should you do during Family Worship?

Keep it simple.

You don't have to replicate a church service. Simple consistency is far better than trying something complicated which you will give up. Remember, you will fail and have times where family worship is a struggle. Don't give up. Just ask God to help!

Consider including the following elements together during your family worship:

Read: Read a portion of the Bible together. If you have children who are old enough to read you can have them read aloud. Of course, you will want to help with any big words or concepts.

Discuss: After reading the Bible together, work through a simple process of examining what has been read. First, what did the passage say to the original readers? Second, what does the passage mean for all time? Third, how does this passage apply to us as individuals and as a family? You will want to ask questions and get everyone to participate in the discussion.

Sing: Yikes! Did you say singing? One of the ways that God invites us to worship Him is by singing. If your children are younger, and you are enthusiastic about it, they will love it, and you will lay the groundwork for singing in your family for generations to come. If your kids are all teenagers, and you have never tried singing together as a family, you may want to try this in a few months - after family worship has taken root. It can be helpful to use worship CDs or DVDs. Youtube.com works as well. We have a link to a family worship playlist at www.sellersburgkids.com

Catechism: It's a funny word but it just means question and answers. Christians throughout history have memorized catechism questions and answers to help learn the basics of the faith. In this guide we will include catechism questions for you to work on with your family. Every Sunday we will have a time to work on them together as a church.

Pray: End your family worship time with prayer. Let prayer become an important part of your home. Pray for your neighbors, your community, the nation, and the world.



March 1-7

Bible Passage for the Week

Matthew 5:1-3

1 Corinthians 5

Verse to Memorize

Matthew 5:1-20

Catechism Questions

Q. 6. Are there more gods than one?

A. There is only one God.

Q. 7. In how many persons does this one God exist?

A. In three persons.

Q. 8. Who are they?

A. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

People to Pray for:

Church:

Christ Church Cincy

Pastor Joseph Bayly

Ministry:

Sweetwater Research

Magistrate

Sen Joseph Silk- Oklahoma

Song Suggestion

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Lead On O King Eternal

March 8-14th

Bible Passage for the Week

Matthew 5:3

1 Corinthians 6

Verse to Memorize

Matthew 5:1-22

Catechism Questions:

Q. 9. What is God?

A. God is a Spirit, and does not have a body like men.

Q. 10. Where is God?

A. God is everywhere.

Q. 11. Can you see God?

A. No; I cannot see God, but he always sees me.

People to Pray for:

Church:

Reformation Church of Shelbyville

Pastor Jerry Dorris

Ministry:

Bobby McCreery

Magistrate

All Those Running For Office

Song Suggestion

Psalm 3 You Are My Shield

Grace Grace God's Grace

March 15-21st

Bible Passage for the Week

Matthew 5:4

1 Corinthians 7

Verse to Memorize

Matthew 5:1-1-22

Catechism Questions

Q. 12. Does God know all things?

A. Yes; nothing can be hidden from God.

Q. 13. Can God do all things?

A. Yes; God can do all his holy will.

People to Pray for:

Church:

Church of the King TX
Pastor Ron Smith

Ministry:

Daniel Courney

Magistrate

President Donald. J. Trump

Song Suggestion

From the Depths of Woe

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

March 22-28th

Bible Passage for the Week

Matthew 5:5-6

1 Corinthians 8

Verse to Memorize

Matthew 5:1-22

Catechism Questions:

Q. 56. What is it to repent?

A. To be sorry for sin, and to hate and forsake it because it is displeasing to God.

Q. 57. What is it to believe or have faith in Christ?

A. To trust in Christ alone for salvation.

People to Pray for:

Church:

Evansville Church of the King
Jacob Mentzel

Ministry:

Coleman Boyd

Magistrate

Gov. Eric Holcomb

Song Suggestion*

You Brought Me Back to Life
Some Trust in Horses Psalm 20

Bible Passage for the Week

Matthew 5:7-8

1 Corinthians 9

Verse to Memorize

Matthew 5:1-24

Catechism Questions:

Q. 14. Where do you learn how to love and obey God?

A. In the Bible alone.

Q. 15. Who wrote the Bible?

A. Holy men who were taught by the Holy Spirit.

People to Pray for:

Church:

Reformed Church of the Holy Trinity

James Brown

Ministry:

David Graves

Magistrate

Clarksville City Council

Song Suggestion*

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Psalms 1 How Blessed

By Doug Wilson

Many of you are here as parents of little ones and, in some cases, many little ones. For you, the worship of the Lord is a far more arduous task than it is for the rest of us. All of us are engaged in the work of worshipping the Lord, but you are carrying young ones in your arms as you perform the same labor that we do.

The work includes great things, like keeping everyone in fellowship throughout the whole service, and trivial things, like finding your place in the psalter. The work is daunting, and it is sometimes easy to forget why you are doing it. There are three things for you to keep in mind as you continue

The first is that while you sometimes need to be reminded why you are doing this, God knows exactly why you are doing it. Do not grow weary in doing good. God sees, and your labor in the Lord will bear good fruit. Your labor is before the Lord—He sees, and He rejoices. When you need to be reminded, there is one who can always remind you. You are here with your little ones because God calls you to worship Him together with all the children He has given you.

This means, secondly, that God receives, *as true worship*, every distracted *shush*, every dropped hymnal, and every time you have to take your child out to have a little word with him. You are not taken away from true worship by these things, but farther into true worship than most of are privileged to go. If Christian discipleship consists of “my life for yours,” what is worshipping with four to seven little ones?

Third, do not think of this time as the time of distraction, but rather as a time of fruitful planting, and trust God to be kind. He will bestow a time of fruitful harvest. The sun is hot and the soil is hard—but it will all come back to you, thirty, sixty and a hundred fold.



