

Family Worship



April 28-May 04, 2024

Throughout Scripture, we see God's chosen people leading their families in worship. Abraham led his children in the LORD (Gen 18:17-19), Joshua vowed to lead his family in worship (Josh 24:15), and we see Job do the same (Job 1:5). Family worship is also a command of God given in Deuteronomy 6:4-7 and Ephesians 6:4. Family worship is simple, with three elements: (1) read the Bible, (2) pray, and (3) sing to God. Our family worship liturgies are intended more as a toolbox than a tightrope – as a help rather than a hindrance. Select elements that will be helpful as you lead your family in simple Bible reading, prayer, and singing to God for 10 minutes or so each day. *Soli Deo Gloria!*

(Bold portions are for reading aloud together.)

Call to Worship

He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.

Holy and awesome is his name!

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.

His praise endures forever!

Psalm 111:9-10

Prayers of Adoration

Song of Adoration

God's Law

"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God." Colossians 3:1-3

Confession of Sin

When you confess sin together as individuals and as a family, here are some different ways you could come before God:

- Someone can lead in a prayer of confession while others pray along.
- Each person can pray silently in his or her heart to God.
- Everyone can take turns (as they are willing) confessing sin out loud. In this we come before God together as sinners needing His mercy.

Or here is a corporate confession of prayer:

Lord, thank You for dying for us and rising from the dead. We exalt You, who are enthroned in the heavens and reign as Lord of all! Forgive us for being so easily divided in our minds by the distractions of sin. Help us to see where we have wandered from the great calling we have, and to repent with the help of Your Holy Spirit. Father, we rejoice that our life is hidden in You with Christ. Help us to show this in our lives, with joyful thanks. Amen.

Gospel Promise

“And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, He has now reconciled in His body of flesh by His death, in order to present You holy and blameless and above reproach before Him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the Gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven.” Colossians 1:21-23b

Song of Response: “Take My Life and Let it Be”

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee
Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love
At the impulse of Thy love

Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee
Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King
Always, only, for my King

Take my lips and let them be filled with messages for Thee;
Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold,
Not a mite would I withhold

Take my love, my God, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store
Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for Thee
Ever, only all for Thee

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Bible Reading (up to one chapter/day is a good guide)

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

In 2023-24 we will be including the whole Westminster Shorter Catechism for you to use as a family. The practice of catechesis is a rich blessing that spans centuries of Church History, and we hope that as you spend some time with your children covering two or three questions every two weeks, God will deepen your family's love for Who He is, what He's done in Christ, and the Scriptures He has given us!

49. Which is the second commandment?

The second commandment is, Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them; for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me: and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

50. What is required in the second commandment?

The second commandment requireth the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire, all such religious worship and ordinances as God hath appointed in His Word.

51. What is forbidden in the second commandment?

The second commandment forbiddeth the worshipping of God by images, or any otherway not appointed in His Word.

Weekly Fighter Verse

O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

Psalm 139:1-3

Family Prayer (here is some room for prayer items)

Singing the Doxology