

Sovereign King Church



Family worship
April 2021

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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.



April 4th –10th

Bible Passage for the Week

[Luke 24:1-12](#)

[Isaiah 44](#)

Verse to Memorize

[Psalm 8:1-6](#)

Catechism Questions

Q. What kind of life did Christ live on earth?

A. A life of poverty and suffering.

Q. What kind of death did Christ die?

A. A. The painful and shameful death of the cross.

Q. Did Christ remain in the tomb after his crucifixion?

A. No; he rose from the tomb on the third day after his death.

People to Pray for:

Church: [Reformation Church of Shelbyville](#)
[Pastor Jerry Dorris](#)

Ministry: [End Abortion Now](#)

Magistrate: [Rep Bruce Borders](#) (Indiana State Rep.)

Song Suggestion

[Easter Song –Keith Green](#)
[Psalm 22 Forsaken Me \(MSAL\)](#)
[Christ the Lord is Risen Today](#)

Notes to Help

Bible Passage for the Week

Luke 24:1-12 Tells the Easter story. Notice how the various people respond to the resurrection of Jesus and in particular how the disciples respond when the women tell the story. How do you think you would have responded to their joyful claims? The resurrection seems too good to be true but it is the core truth of our hope. Without the resurrection, there would be no hope but Christ has raised from the dead and we will too.

Isaiah 44– This passage includes the wonderful truth that God forms us in the womb. Use this passage to talk about how God has been with us since before we were born. You can talk about the sanctity of life and also the promises that God has for multiple generations, promises that He keeps in Christ Jesus.

Catechism Questions

This week's catechism reminds us of both the suffering of Jesus and the wonderful resurrection of Jesus from the dead. At Easter we often put a little extra emphasis on the resurrection but be mindful that we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus every Sunday and not only on Easter. The Cross and the Empty tomb are the most important truths of life. These truths need to be ingrained on you and your family. Talk about why they are so important.

People to Pray for:

Reformation church partners with us often in preaching the gospel. Thank the Lord for another local church which is involved in fighting abortion. Then pray God will end abortion using both his church and civil magistrates like Rep Borders.

Song Suggestion

Psalm 22 was the Psalm that our Lord Jesus cried out on the cross. When Jesus said "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me," he was reciting this Psalm. Read the psalm with your family when you sing it and point out how although the Psalm begins with despair it ends with great hope. The Lord Jesus knew both the despair of the cross and the hope of the resurrection. If we are his we will both know suffering and yet have perfect hope.

April 11-17th

Bible Passage for the Week

[Ephesians 2:13-22](#)

[Hebrews 13:17](#)

Verse to Memorize

[Psalm 8:1-7](#)

Catechism Questions

Q. 180. What is the Church?

A. The Church is Christ's Body and Bride, and the Temple of His Holy Spirit.

Q. 181. How do we become members of Christ's Church?

A. By being baptized into His name.

Q. 182. Why does the Church assemble?

A. We gather to devote ourselves to the Word of God, fellowship, the breaking of bread, and prayer.

People to Pray for:

Church: [Sovereign King Church](#)
[Pastor Joseph Spurgeon](#)

Ministry: [Mark Cox](#)
[Aaron Sabie](#)

Magistrate: [Gov. Holcomb](#)

Song Suggestion*

[The Church's One Foundation](#)
[O Church Arise](#)
[Jesus With They Church Abide](#)

Notes to Help

Bible Passage for the Week

This week, Sovereign King Church went from being a church plant to being a full-fledged member church in Evangel Presbytery. Mark Cox and Aaron Sabie were ordained as ruling elders and you took your pledge to submit to their leadership. The scripture readings this week point us to the blessing of the church and the importance of submitting to the leaders of the church. Spend some time this week talking about why church is important. Ask your kids what their favorite part of church is. Give God thanks for the church.

Catechism Questions

One of the blessings Christ purchased for us with his blood is the Church. He redeemed a people for himself and we get to be a part of that people. Remind your children that they are an important part of Sovereign King Church. Teach your children to love the church. You do this by speaking well of the church, praying for the church, and giving yourself to the work of the church.

If you're kids are a little older, this would be a good week to talk about the Lord's supper and whether they are ready to profess faith and talk with the elders about taking the Lord's Supper. Click [here](#) for article on Lord's Supper and Kids.

People to Pray for:

If you click the link to Sovereign King Church it will take you to a page with some things to pray for your pastor and elders. This week put extra attention in your prayers for your church.

Song Suggestion

Jesus, with Thy Church abide;
Be her Savior, Lord, and Guide,
While on earth her faith is tried:
O, we beseech Thee, hear us.

As you sing about the foundation and mission of the Church, pray that Christ will be abide with Sovereign King Church and that we will follow Him.

April 18-24th

Bible Passage for the Week

[Matthew 8:23-9:1](#)

[Isaiah 45](#)

Verse to Memorize

[Psalm 8:1-8](#)

Catechism Questions

Q. What is the Bible?

A. The Bible is the word of God consisting of the 66 books that make up the Old and New Testament. It is eternally true and applicable for all of life.

Q. How many books are in the Old Testament?

A. There are 39 books in the Old Testament.

People to Pray for:

Church: [Mt. Moriah Baptist Church](#)

Pastor Jon Hancock

Ministry: [FLF Network](#)

Magistrate: [Rep Todd Huston Speaker of the House](#)

Song Suggestion*

[Storm the Forts of Darkness](#)

[The Son of God Goes Forth to War](#)

[Psalm 8 Beyond the Stars](#)

Notes to Help

Bible Passage for the Week

The passage in Matthew may look familiar. This is because Pastor Joseph was going to preach through the passage a few weeks ago but got sick. This will provide you an opportunity to do review. Pay attention to how Jesus faced obstacles in the storm and opposition by the devil and still completed his mission which was to rescue those trapped by the devil. Talk to your kids about how Christ came to overcome the works of the devil.

Isaiah 45 is an amazing piece of prophesy. Isaiah foretells of the Persian ruler, Cyrus who would come years later. The Scripture foretells of him by his name. In speaking of him before he was even on the scene, we are reminded that God is in control of all things. The passage ends with a reminder that God will save his people. Tell your children that God knew their name too before they were born.

Catechism Questions

The word of God is our foundation and authority. This week and the next couple of weeks, you will be working on memorizing the names of the books of the bible. This is an important skill for your children which will go with them all throughout life. There are songs and other helps available online.

People to Pray for:

Mt. Moriah Baptist Church is a local church in Henryville. Pastor Hancock and your Pastor Joseph used to serve as student ministers in sister churches near Shelbyville, Kentucky.

Song Suggestion

Two of the songs this week remind us of the mission of Christ. Storm the Forts of Darkness used to be a theme song associated with the Salvation Army. The message is that we have a mission from God to take the gospel into darkness. The Son of God Goes Forth to War reminds us that the battle is one through self-sacrifice and faith. Finally Psalm 8 is the musical version of the passage for memorization. Next Sunday, the children will be saying the whole Psalm together during their catechism time.

April 25– May 1st

Bible Passage for the Week

[Matthew 9:2-8](#)

[Isaiah 46](#)

Verse to Memorize

[Psalm 8](#)

Catechism Questions

Q. What are the books of the Old Testament?

A. Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, I and II Samuel, I and II Kings, I and II Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, The Song of Songs, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.

People to Pray for:

Church: [Tabb St Presbyterian Church](#)
Robert Hoyle and Eli Jones

Ministry: [Sweetwater Research](#)
David Pendergrass

Magistrate: [Clark County Sheriff Jamey Noel](#)

Song Suggestion

[Books of the Bible Song](#)

[Psalm 55:22 Cast Your Cares](#)

[He Is Exalted/I Will Exalt Him](#)

Notes to Help

Bible Passage for the Week

Matthew 9:2-8. Again this is a familiar passage from last month's guide. There is nothing wrong however with repetition. One thing our kids have enjoyed is to take a passage and copy it out by hand while trying to make it look like the fancy scrolls and bibles of old. Have your kids write out Matthew 9:1-8 or Psalm 8 this week. If your kids can't yet write, print out a copy and let them draw along the margins.

Catechism Questions

There is a song in the song suggestion list that will help with this catechism question.

People to Pray for:

Tabb St. Presbyterian Church is an old church but has some younger families revitalizing it. Robert Hoyle and Eli Jones are two younger men helping to grow the church and restore it to its roots.

Sweetwater Research provides clean water and the gospel to developing nations. Pray for David Pendergrass as he travels to around the world to help those who need it.

Sheriffs are among the most powerful civil magistrates in the country. Pray for our local sheriff.

Song Suggestion

Music is important. Our enemy knows how important it is which is why he uses it all the time. Songs promoting filth are targeted at young kids. Fill your home with music that is fun and yet teaches truth. Don't use the excuse that you can't sing for the reason you don't sing. Fathers you need to establish your household as a singing household. The Bible says the Lord sings over us. It tells us to sing and make melody in our hearts. I want to encourage you to get your children into music, both singing and playing instruments. Youtube has beginner lessons for about any instrument for free.

How to Know if your Child is Ready to Take the Lord's Supper

The children of members of Sovereign King Church are considered members of Sovereign King Church and we value having them in worship right alongside the rest of the church. But children are considered non-communicate until they have been received to the table by the elders.

The Lord's Supper is different than baptism. While there is some disagreement upon the time and mode of baptism within our church, we agree that the Lord's Supper is a different sacrament than baptism with its own requirement, benefits, and judgements. The Lord's Supper is a covenant meal designed by Christ to renew and strengthen our faith. Therefore, there are certain requirements for coming to the table:

1. The party coming to the table must be a Baptized member of the church in good standing. This is the communion meal of the members of the Church (1 Cor. 11:18ff), and we do not admit people into the church without baptizing them. Neither do we admit those who have been suspended from the sacraments or excommunicated to the table..
2. The person must be truly trusting in Jesus Christ alone for their salvation. They must also be able to profess their faith (1 Cor. 11:26).
3. The person must be capable of self-control in coming to the table (1 Cor. 11:21-22).
4. The person must be able to understand what the elements mean (1 Cor. 11:29). The elements should be more than an ordinary snack of bread and wine, rather the person should be capable of understanding that they represent the body and blood of the Lord and that they who partake of the Lord's Supper in faith spiritually feed on Christ.
5. The person must be capable of self-examination (1 Cor. 11:28). They must be able to analyze themselves and make sure that they are repentant of their sin against God and against neighbor. One aspect of discerning the Lord's body is making sure that one is in harmony and peace with their brothers in Christ.

If your child is coming of the age where they are professing faith in Christ and are interested in taking the Lord's Supper, how do you know if they are ready? Pastor Joseph has recorded a video that will be helpful to parents as they wrestle with this question. You can find the video by clicking [here](#).

If you think your son or daughter is qualified to take the Lord's supper and would like the elders to examine them, please let Pastor Joseph know and we will schedule a time.

Why Do We Do That?

Maybe you have been coming to Sovereign King Church for a while and have noticed that our order of worship is a little different than some other churches you have been to in the past. You were used to singing several songs, taking up an offering, and a sermon but at Sovereign King Church there is an order to worship used each week that includes a few more things. Maybe you have enjoyed the time of worship at Sovereign King Church, but you have wondered why we do certain things. Or perhaps your children have been asking why we do what we do. I thought it would be helpful to walk you through a typical service and explain what each part of our service means.

Introduction to our Liturgy

Believe it or not, there has been a lot of thought in church history to what worship should look like. Some churches have argued that Christians are free to include in their worship anything that is not strictly forbidden by God in the Bible. This view is the view of the Roman Catholic, Lutherans, and many modern evangelical and Baptist churches.

During the reformation, the reformed church saw abuses going on in the Roman churches such as bowing to statues, prayers to saints and Mary, and many other inventions of man, and therefore sought a change. The reformers saw in scripture a principle which is that God determines how he is to be worshipped. He gives us what we are to do in worship and thus if God has not told us to do something in worship, we should not do it. Within the reformed church there has been some debate on some of the application of this principle but there is general agreement upon the principle.

We at Sovereign King Church seek to honor this reformation commitment in how we order our worship. We have sought to pattern our liturgy (a word often used to mean order of worship) from the word of God. The Bible does not have a chapter with an order of worship printed on it, but it does give us principles, patterns, examples, and commands that we are to follow. We have done our best to follow this in establishing our order of worship. We do not believe that one must follow our exact liturgy to be a church, but we do believe it is a better way than many have tasted in our day. This is because, rather than seeking to be trendy or culturally driven, we see worship as transcending time and space. God has always glorified Himself. There is a sanctuary in heaven upon which all Christian worship is patterned. This transcendent worship is culture-changing, and therefore always relevant to any age or time.

We do not recite scripture, confess sin, and sing simply out of tradition. We do it because God has told us this is how he wants us to approach him. We seek to include the simple few acts that the first Christians in Acts 2:42 followed as put into a logical and orderly progression. We approach God on his terms, not our own. Yet we must do so not only in truth but in Spirit. It is each individual's responsibility to come before God out of love rather than duty. As you meditate and as you follow together the liturgy, think about the words you say and sing and do not say or sing them unless you believe and delight in Christ. Continued on next page

Why Do We Do That?

Walk through the Liturgy

With this in mind, let's walk through our order of worship. We begin each Sunday with a short scripture salutation, and we end each week with a benediction or blessing from scripture. Scripture is the very word of God and therefore we want the first and last words we hear to be God's. In the salutation, the pastor as God's representative greets us in the triune name of God with the word of God. After this greeting, we often have announcements and are encouraged to be mindful of what we have gathered to do, which is to worship God. We then prepare our hearts in silence just as scripture says "Be still and know that I am the Lord." Then we pray asking God to inhabit the praises of his people.

Call to Worship

Up until this point, we have only been in preparation for worship because no one walks into the throne room of a king without first being invited. And no one may come before God without his invitation. We do not get to come into his presence on our own volition. Worship thankfully is a command of God and a gift from God. Therefore, the time of worship formally begins with a Call to Worship from scripture. God calls his people before him and we respond to that call. This is why most weeks the call to worship includes the congregation speaking together. This reminds us that we have been called to worship together with the church. Public worship is not you as an individual coming before God but rather you as a part of God's people coming before him. This is why we often have times when we speak prayers together or say scriptural phrases together like when the pastor says, "lift up your heart" and we respond together "we lift up our hearts to the Lord." These words come from Ps. 25:1; 86:4; 143:8; and Lam. 3:41. As we speak together, we are reminded that the Lord calls us and we through Christ are drawn up together in worship to the heavenlies. That is when we worship with God's people in Christ Jesus, we are spiritually brought into the throne room of heaven and are spiritually united with the worship that continues eternally there. In public worship therefore, we are called out of the world and into the presence of God. We gather with God's people in a building on Sunday and yet are spiritually united with the saints all throughout history and the world. Though you can't see them there are angels in the architecture.

The Response to the Call

In scripture, there are several responses that happen when one is drawn near to God. When Isaiah was drawn near to God and given a vision of the throne room, he was moved by what he saw to trembling. Isaiah 6 describes this vision. There are angels and creatures singing "Holy Holy Holy." Adoration and falling on your face are the right response to God. Thus, after we have the call of worship, we immediately sing a song of Adoration or praise. The scriptures command us to sing and they assume we will. Music is the right response to God because music can convey truth, emotion, and beauty at one time. When you come to worship, you should come with melody in your heart and music in your lungs. The call of the Lord should overwhelm us and move us to sing.

Why Do We Do That?

If you come to worship with the church and you do not join in the song, why? Are you thinking about yourself or are you reflecting on God? God commands us to sing, and we should be so moved by the joy and glory of God that singing should just be natural. Isn't it great that God commands us to do what we should just naturally do anyway? Fathers sing loud and your family will follow along. And even if you are not sure of the song, maybe it is a new one, you can pick it up quickly if you try. Don't be those who come and stand awkwardly when its time to sing, give yourself to it.

Reading from the Law and Prayer of Repentance.

The ultimate response of Isaiah was to recognize his unworthiness. As we enter into the presence of the Lord, we are overwhelmed with his glory music will come forth but also, we will be overwhelmed with his glory in another way. His greatness, majesty, and glory immediately make us aware of our smallness, our sinfulness, and our unworthiness. Furthermore, when the Lord speaks, his word convicts us of our sin. Therefore, having just sung a song we hear from his law and are called to repentance.

Each week, we read through some portion of the law of God. The Book of Proverbs is in some ways an extended commentary on the ten commandments therefore we often read and hear an exhortation from it. Because God's law reminds us of our sin and because the response to coming before God is to acknowledge our unworthiness, we pray on our knees together, asking God to forgive us.

Assurance of God's Pardon.

Then immediately following the prayer of repentance comes a very sweet time in our corporate worship. We are reminded that our God is a merciful God. He has forgiven our sins by the blood of Jesus and therefore he has made us clean. The elder having just prayed reads to us a passage of scripture which reassures us of the promises of God found in the gospel. He announces to us the truth that our sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. The triune God has worked for our salvation. The Father sent the Son, the Son obeyed the Father, and the Holy Ghost has applied the work of the Son into our lives. Because of this good news we respond with joy. Singing again is the appropriate response.

Professing the Faith

Having then been called into the throne room of God, having been convicted of our sins and yet assured of the promises of God, the church together responds to this message by professing its faith together. Each week we publicly confess that Jesus is Lord having believed in our hearts that God has raised him from the dead. In unity with the church throughout history, we recite together the apostles' or Nicene creed which is a summary of our faith. God has commanded us to speak his truths to each other and this is one way we do so.

Continued on the next page

Why Do We Do That?

Teaching the Faith

Speaking of teaching the faith, we acknowledge that God has called in his church some to be teachers and preachers which means that teaching and preaching are an important part of the public worship. During this time of our worship, we teach the faith through the reading of scripture. Each week we read a chapter of the bible together. The church has long understood the importance of reading God's word. In fact, for the first years of the church when there was no printing press and many people could not read, the only time they heard the bible was at church. The books of the Bible were written with the intention of being read aloud. At Sovereign King Church, we carry on this important work by reading a chapter of scripture each week.

Another thing we see in scripture especially in the New Testament letters was that the Apostles' addressed both the adults and the children in their letters. Children have always been an important part of the worship. When one reads throughout the bible and sees times of public worship, these times were meant to include all of God's people including the children. At Sovereign King Church, we take the time to teach the faith to the children through catechism and scriptural memorization. This is not a time for the kids to show off or for the congregation to be focused on the cuteness of kids but rather this is part of the corporate teaching of the church.

Prayer

The Lord Jesus said that his house was to be a house of prayer. In one sense the entire time of worship is meant to be a prayer. This is why we pray often throughout the service. This is why when we read scripture, we respond to it with a brief prayer of thanksgiving "This is the word of the Lord-Thanks be to God." Worship is time with God and prayer is the vehicle of communication. The Apostles in their letters remind us of the importance of prayer and that we are to pray upon behalf of all people. We are called a nation of priests by the Apostle Peter. This reminds us what we go before God in prayer for all people. Each week at Sovereign King Church, we intentionally pray for churches and their pastors, those serving in various ministries, and those in authority. We also follow the model prayer of our Lord Jesus which teaches us the kingdom focus of our prayer.

Tithes and Offerings

The Apostle Paul spoke of Sundays as days to gather resources for the work of ministry. It was on the first day of the week, that early Christians pooled their finances so that they could support the work of the gospel. In doing this, they were following the Old Testament pattern of giving instituted by God. At Sovereign King Church, we worship the Lord with our hearts, our minds, and our strength (Deuteronomy 6). The word for strength in Deuteronomy 6 included one's belongings. We come to worship bringing all of who we are, therefore, we give of our finances to the work of the Lord. The Lord loves a cheerful giver, and we ought to be willing to at least give what was required under the law, ten percent, and do so cheerfully. We give to the Lord because He first gave it to us. It is all his to begin with because He is the one from whom all blessings flow.

Why Do We Do That?

He deserves all of us and therefore as we give, we also sing, and we also raise our hands to him. He gets all of us because He gives us all.

Proclamation of the Word

God has determined to use the preaching of His word to convict sinners, stir up faith in his children, and to teach us how to live. God ordains men to proclaim his message. To the world this may seem foolish, but it is the wisdom and power of God. The sermon is not something meant for our entertainment but is ordained by God to grow us as his children. We must listen to the preaching attentively and apply the truths of scripture to our lives. Receiving with faith the week in and week out preaching of God's word is lifechanging. It is through preaching that God is pleased to work in worship. In public worship, preaching is the speaking of God to those gathered, therefore it is central to worship.

Visible Sign of the Word.

Having heard the word proclaimed with our ears, the Lord Jesus has also established that we may see, touch, and taste the word proclaimed. He does this through what is called sacraments. The two sacraments instituted by Jesus are baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism is a one-time sacrament given to believers and their children as a sign of his covenant and initiation into the church. It is a visible picture of the promise of the gospel that God will be our God. It is a picture of the promises of God that through Jesus he will wash away our sins and give us new life. Anytime at Sovereign King Church when someone is baptized, all those in attendance who have been baptized before are again reminded of the promises of God which were visibly shown to them when they were first baptized.

Baptisms do not happen every week, but the second sacrament does. The Lord's Supper is a visible proclamation of the gospel. In the Lord's supper we see, touch, and taste a sign of the promises of Jesus, that his body was broken for us and his blood spilt for us. We are reminded of his death and are given a picture of what we will experience one day in heaven when we see Jesus' face to face and share in a meal with him and all the saints. In the Lord's supper, when we receive it by faith and with a clean conscience, we get to spiritually enjoy a meal with the Lord. His presence is with us as we eat together with the church. Therefore, the Lord's supper is a visible, physical proclamation of the word about Jesus. Those who receive it in a worthy manner enjoy its benefits while the rest are warned of the judgements of God against unrepentant sinners and those who would bring division into the church.

Commission and Benediction

Having been called into worship, having confessed our sins, been assured of the grace of God, professed our faith, been taught from the word, heard the proclamation of the word in both preaching the sacraments, and having enjoyed fellowship with God and his people, the Church is now sent out on mission. Continued on next page

Why Do We Do That?

God calls us to him so that he may send us out. And therefore, we end our time of worship by being sent out with a song and a benediction (blessing.) We go forth with the praise of God on our tongues and the blessing of God upon our bodies.

Conclusion

I hope you have found this walk through of our liturgy helpful. There is more that could be said about each element of worship. We want our worship to follow the biblical pattern of worship, and to be obedient to the commands of God for worship. We want to honor our unity with the history of the church without devolving into the inventions of man and idolatry. We want to worship God with all of our hearts, minds, souls, and strength. We do not want to come into his presence out of rote tradition with our hearts far from him. Rather we want to enter into his gates with thanksgiving and joy. Now that you know the flow of our worship, you can teach your children about it on the way to and from church. You can help them understand why we do what we do.

The Resurrection

Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also. For I am the least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me. Whether then *it was* I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain. Moreover we are even found *to be* false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.

But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. For since by a man *came* death, by a man also *came* the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming, then *comes* the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be abolished is death. For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET. But when He says, "All things are put in subjection," it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all.

1 Corinthians 15:1-28

He is Risen!



7 THINGS TO PRAY FOR YOUR PASTOR

Pastoral ministry is a business unlike any other. It is a dangerous business. A sacred business. Here's how you can pray...

SPIRITUAL PROTECTION

Father, please protect my pastor from the attacks of Satan. Give him the strength to endure temptation.

A CLEAN HEART

Father, please protect my pastor from the deceitfulness of sin that we all are so prone to. Guard him from sin.

SPIRITUAL ENCOURAGEMENT

Father, please encourage my pastor by the power of your Spirit. Let his soul be refreshed with the love of Christ.

WISDOM

Father, please give my pastor your wisdom. Help him know the way to go even when the way is not clear.

DOCTRINAL FAITHFULNESS

Father, I pray for my pastor that you would help him hold fast to Scripture, even when everyone else tells him to let go.

HEALTH

Father, please give my pastoral supernatural strength. Protect him from sickness and disease.

STRONG MARRIAGE

Father, please give my pastor a supernaturally healthy marriage. Strengthen the bonds between him and his wife. Encourage them both in ministry.