

3...... What is Family Worship

4...... First and Second Week of February

5...... Third and Forth Week of February

6...... Note from the Pastor



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.

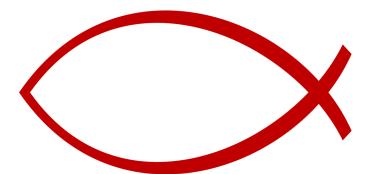
Family worship is simply taking time as a family to worship God at home in a family setting. When a family gathers together at home for prayer, Bible reading, and turning their hearts to the Lord - that is family worship. It is also called family devotions. Unfortunately, few Christian adults today grew 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.

# Feb 7-13th

#### Bible Passage for the Week

Matthew 7:15-23
Isaiah 36

#### **Verse to Memorize**

Matthew 7:1-14

#### **Catechism Questions**

Q. 21. In what condition did God make Adam and Eve? A. He made them holy and happy.

Q. 22. What is a covenant? A. An agreement between two or more persons.

Q. 23. What covenant did God make with Adam? A. The covenant of works.

## **People to Pray for:**

<u>Church:</u> Church of the King (Texas)
Pastor Ron Smith

**Ministry:** Jason Storms New OSA Director

**Magistrate:** US House of Representatives

# **Song Suggestion**

The Lord Is My Shepherd
Rejoice the Lord is King

## Feb 14-20th

#### **Bible Passage for the Week**

Matthew 7:24-29 Isaiah 37

#### **Verse to Memorize**

Matthew 7:1-20

#### **Catechism Questions:**

Q. 24. What was Adam bound to do by the covenant of works?A. To obey God perfectly.

Q. 25. What did God promise in the covenant of works? A. To reward Adam with life if he obeyed him.

Q. 26. What did God threaten in the covenant of works? A. To punish Adam with death if he disobeyed.

# People to Pray for:

<u>Church:</u> Trinity Reformed Church
Pastor Tim Bayly

**Ministry:** Warhorn Media

Magistrate: US Senate

# Song Suggestion

The Wise Man Built His House Upon the Rock
Psalm 1 Night and Day

## Feb 21-27th

#### Bible Passage for the Week

Matthew 8:1-17

Isaiah 38

#### **Verse to Memorize**

Matthew 7

#### **Catechism Questions**

Q. 27. Did Adam keep the covenant of works? A. No; he sinned against God.

Q. 28. What is Sin? A. Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of the law of God.

Q. 29. What is meant by want of conformity?A. Not being or doing what God requires.

Q. 30. What is meant by transgression? A. Doing what God forbids.

# **People to Pray for:**

<u>Church:</u> Reformed Church of the Holy Trinity Pastor James Brown Jr.

**Ministry:** Rusty Thomas (Retiring from OSA)

**Magistrate:** Gov Eric Holcomb

# Song Suggestion\*

Psalm 4 In You I trust Oh The Deep Deep Love

# Feb 28- March 6

#### Bible Passage for the Week

Matthew 8:18-22 Isaiah 39

#### **Verse to Memorize**

Psalm 8:1

#### **Catechism Questions:**

Q. 31. What was the sin of our first parents? A. Eating the forbidden fruit.

Q. 32. Who tempted them to this sin?A. The devil tempted Eve, and she gave the fruit to Adam.

Q. 33. What befell our first parents when they had sinned? A. Instead of being holy and happy, they became sinful and miserable.

## **People to Pray for:**

<u>Church:</u> Clearnote Church Pastor David Abu-Sara

<u>Ministry:</u> Reformation Frontlines Ministry

Magistrate: Gov Andy Basheer

# Song Suggestion\*

Psalm 8 Majesty
O the Wonderful Cross

# 7 Prayers for our Children

"I hope we seldom bow the knee without praying for our children."- Charles Spurgeon

1. That Jesus will call them and no one will hinder them from coming.

Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." And he laid his hands on them and went away. (Matthew 19:13–15)

# 2. That they will respond in faith to Jesus's faithful, persistent call.

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. (2 Peter 3:9)

# 3. That they will experience sanctification through the transforming work of the Holy Spirit and will increasingly desire to fulfill the greatest commandments.

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37–39)

# 4. That they will not be unequally yoked in intimate relationships, especially marriage.

Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? (2 Corinthians 6:14)

#### 5. That their thoughts will be pure.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. (Philippians 4:8)

# 6. That their hearts will be stirred to give generously to the Lord's work.

All the men and women, the people of Israel, whose heart moved them to bring anything for the work that the Lord had commanded by Moses to be done brought it as a freewill offering to the Lord. (Exodus 35:29)

#### 7. That when the time is right, they will GO!

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18–20)

