

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE



August 8, 2020

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to All Saints' Family Worship Guide!

We're so glad you and your spouse or family are committed to regular time together in God's Word! In this booklet are ten family worship sessions to help guide you in your time together. Each session will include an opening prayer, Scripture reading, catechism questions, and a prompt for closing prayer.

Opening Prayer: We've provided an opening prayer. You can have a member of the family open with this prayer, or someone can open in free prayer.

Scripture: We've provided a passage of Scripture for you to read as well. We've kept the readings brief. If you feel comfortable doing so, you might consider discussing the reading before you move to the next portion.

Catechism: We've provided a question from the Children's Catechism for those who have little ones and a question from the Westminster Shorter Catechism for everyone else. You can choose to read one of them or both—whichever you think is best suited for your family.

Closing Prayer: To close your time together each day, we've provided a brief prompt for free prayer. Someone in the family should pray aloud, feeling free to use the prompt if they wish.

We hope and pray these guides will be a blessing to you and your family as you go to the Lord and his Word in prayer together!

Pastor Matt

DAY 1

Opening Prayer: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting, you are God. Teach us to number our days, Lord, that we may get a heart of wisdom. Now, as we read your Word, grant that we would see and hear the truth and that by your Spirit we would be conformed to that truth. We pray these things in the powerful name of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

Children’s Catechism Q51:

Q: For whom did Christ obey and suffer?

A: For all whom God the Father gave to Christ.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q51:

Q: What is forbidden in the second commandment?

A: The second commandment forbiddeth the worshiping of God by images, or any other way not appointed in his word.

Closing Prayer: *Please close in prayer, focusing on thanksgiving for all of God’s rich blessings.*

DAY 2

Opening Prayer: Heavenly Father, you are our covenant God. You have promised to be our God and not forsake us. You have declared that you will save your people and give us an inheritance. You have gathered us as your sheep and watch over us faithfully. You always lead us to the good waters and green pastures. We pray now as we approach your Word that we will be drawn into your presence. Lead us in truth, Holy Spirit, that we may delight in the God of our salvation. And we thank you, Lord Jesus, that you are the author and perfecter of our faith. We thank you for your gracious work of salvation on the cross and your promise to return for your people. It is in your strong name, Jesus, that we pray. *Amen.*

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:12–28

Children’s Catechism Q52:

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

A: A life of obedience, service and suffering.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q52:

Q: *What are the reasons annexed to the second commandment?*

A: The reasons annexed to the second commandment are, God's sovereignty over us, his propriety in us, and the zeal he hath to his own worship.

Closing Prayer: *Please close in prayer, focusing on confession of sin.*

DAY 3

Opening Prayer: Lord, it is good to give thanks to you, to sing praises to your name, O Most High, and declare your steadfast love in the morning and your faithfulness by night. For you, O Lord, have made us glad by your work, and at the work of your hands, we sing for joy. As we turn to your Word, now, we rejoice and give thanks that you have spoken to us by your Son. We know that he is the only one who has the words of life. Now fill us with that life that is ours by the work of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us richly. Prepare us for the great wedding supper of the Lamb, we pray, in Jesus' name. *Amen.*

Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1–12

Children's Catechism Q53:

Q: *What kind of death did Jesus die?*

A: The painful and shameful death of the cross.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q53:

Q: *Which is the third commandment?*

A: The third commandment is, Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Closing Prayer: *Please close in prayer, focusing on petition, asking God to meet our daily needs.*

DAY 4

Opening Prayer: Our gracious God and Father, we thank you that we may approach you in prayer. We give thanks for your Word which leads us into your presence. As we come to our Scripture reading today, we ask that you would be the mediation of our hearts. Help us to put aside all distractions and hindrances that we may delight in what we read. We pray that you will seal it in our hearts and that we may recall it often. We pray that your Spirit would guide us in understanding and action. We pray

that our faith would never waver from trusting in Jesus as our Lord and Savior. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1–12

Children’s Catechism Q54:

Q: What is meant by the atonement?

A: Christ satisfied God’s justice by his suffering and death as a substitute for sinners.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q54:

Q: What is required in the third commandment?

A: The third commandment requireth the holy and reverent use of God’s names, titles, attributes, ordinances, word and works.

Closing Prayer: *Please close in prayer, praising God and adoring him for his many perfections.*

DAY 5

Opening Prayer: Lord, we sing to you a new song and bless your name. May we tell of your salvation from day to day and declare your glory among the nations—your marvelous works among all the peoples! For you are great and greatly to be praised—a God to be feared above all gods. You made the heavens, and splendor and majesty are before you. Now, by your life-giving Spirit, speak your Word into our hearts, we pray, that we would know you more and love you as we ought. We pray these things in the name of our once-humbled Lord, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:13–17

Children’s Catechism Q55:

Q: What does God the Father guarantee in the covenant of grace?

A: To justify and sanctify all those for whom Christ died.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q55:

Q: What is forbidden in the third commandment?

A: The third commandment forbiddeth all profaning or abusing of anything whereby God maketh himself known.

Closing Prayer: *Please close in prayer, focusing on petition, asking God to meet our daily needs.*

DAY 6

Opening Prayer: Our Father in heaven, we come to you today in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. His name is above every name in heaven and on earth. We thank you that in all the earth everything falls under your dominion and power. You rule and reign, bringing everything to completion for your glory. We pray that your Son would fill us with the joy of our salvation as we consider his completed work on the cross and his resurrection. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may lack nothing as we read your Word and contemplate its truth. We pray all things in the name of Jesus. *Amen.*

Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:1–18

Children's Catechism Q56:

Q: How does God justify you?

A: God forgives all my sins and accepts me as righteous through Christ.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q56:

A: What is the reason annexed to the third commandment?

A: The reason annexed to the third commandment is that however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord our God will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.

Closing Prayer: *Please close in prayer, focusing on confession of sin.*

DAY 7

Opening Prayer: Lord, you reign, and we rejoice and are glad! The heavens proclaim your righteousness, and all the peoples see your glory. We hear and are glad because of your judgments, O Lord, for you are most high over all the earth and exalted above all supposed gods. Satisfy us now with your Word. Calm our hearts and our minds and fill us with the confidence of your coming. Restore our weak hearts, which are so prone to wander, with the rich and glorious truth of our salvation in Jesus Christ. We pray all of this in Jesus' name. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 1:1–11

Children's Catechism Q57:

Q: How does God sanctify you?

A: God makes me more and more holy in heart and conduct.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q57:

Q: Which is the fourth commandment?

A: The fourth commandment is, Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Closing Prayer: *Please close in prayer, focusing on thanksgiving for all of God's rich blessings.*

DAY 8

Opening Prayer: Our heavenly Father, creator of all things, ruler of all things, we come with reverence into your presence to seek your face. You know our needs, our concerns, our thoughts, and the intentions of our hearts. We pray that as we read your Word it would conform us to the likeness of your son, Jesus. We pray that our lives would be filled with the contemplation of your character, your law, and your faithfulness. Fill us with your Spirit, and cause us to know your truth. We pray this in the strong name of Jesus. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 1:12–20

Children's Catechism Q58:

Q: What must you do to be saved?

A: I must repent of my sin and believe in Christ as my Savior.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q58:

Q: What is required in the fourth commandment?

A: The fourth commandment requireth the keeping holy to God such set times as he hath appointed in his word; expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy sabbath to himself.

Closing Prayer: *Please close in prayer, focusing on petition, asking God to meet our daily needs.*

DAY 9

Opening Prayer: Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name you give glory for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness. Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?" You are in the heavens and you do all that pleases you! We trust in you, O Lord, for you are our help and our

shield. Now, as we read your Word, Father, teach us to rejoice always in you and to recognize in every circumstance that you are good to us and know what is best for us. Build us up, and make us ready for the day of Christ Jesus, in whose name we pray. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 1:21–34

Children’s Catechism Q59:

Q: How do you repent of your sin?

A: I must be sorry for my sin, and hate and forsake it.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q59:

Q: Which day of the seven hath God appointed to be the weekly sabbath?

A: From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, God appointed the seventh day of the week to be the weekly sabbath; and the first day of the week ever since, to continue to the end of the world, which is the Christian sabbath.

Closing Prayer: *Please close in prayer, focusing on thanksgiving for all of God’s rich blessings.*

DAY 10

Opening Prayer: Lord of lords and King of kings, we come to you in the precious name of Jesus Christ. His name is more precious to us than all the treasures of the earth. We bow before you, confessing him as our Lord and Savior. We seek to glorify you and magnify you as we hear your Word read aloud. By your Spirit, may it have its way in us as the very bread of life. Give us ears to hear and bring us to action in faith. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 1:35–45

Children’s Catechism Q60:

Q: Why must you hate and forsake your sin?

A: Because sin displeases God.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q60:

Q: How is the sabbath to be sanctified?

A: The sabbath is to be sanctified by a holy resting all that day, even from such worldly employments and recreations as are lawful on other days; and spending the whole time in the public and private exercises of God’s worship, except so much as is to be taken up in the works of necessity and mercy.

Closing Prayer: *Please close in prayer, praising God and adoring him for his many perfections.*