

# FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE



August 18, 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:** Father in heaven, we praise you for all your perfections. You are infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in your being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth. We give thanks for your creation, which, though perfect when you made it, is now subject to futility as we await the redemption of our bodies. Now, Father, as we read your Word, we ask that you would impress it upon our hearts and minds that we would be transformed into the image of Christ, our Lord, to the glory of God the Father. We pray all these things in the name of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

**Reading:** Mark 2:1–12

**Children's Catechism Q61:**

*Q: What does it mean to believe in Christ?*

*A: To trust in Christ alone for my salvation.*

**Westminster Shorter Catechism Q61:**

*Q: What is forbidden in the fourth commandment?*

*A: The fourth commandment forbiddeth the omission or careless performance of the duties required, and the profaning the day by idleness, or doing that which is in itself sinful, or by unnecessary thoughts, words or works, about our worldly employments or recreations.*

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

# DAY 2

**Opening Prayer:** Our Father, King of heaven and earth and Creator of all things, we praise your name this day, acknowledging that you are sovereign over all things and that you reign in perfect power and glory for the good of your creatures and to the end that you would be glorified. We give thanks for your provision in all things and your watch-care throughout each day. Be present with us by your Spirit as we read your Word. Grant that we would receive with meekness the implanted Word which is able to save our souls. We pray in the name of our great Shepherd, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

**Reading:** Mark 2:13–22

**Children's Catechism Q62:**

*Q: Can you repent and believe in Christ by your own power?*

*A: No. I cannot repent and believe unless the Holy Spirit changes my heart.*

### Westminster Shorter Catechism Q62:

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

*A: The reasons annexed to the fourth commandment are, God's allowing us six days of the week for our own employments, his challenging a special propriety in the seventh, his own example, and his blessing the sabbath day.*

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

## DAY 3

**Opening Prayer:** Father, we lift our voices this day to praise your holy name. You are worthy of our praise and our obedience in all things. We give thanks for your holy Word, by which we are assured of your great salvation and in which we find all of the promises you have made to your people. Grant us understanding and growth in grace today as your Spirit illuminates our hearts in the reading of your Word. We pray these things in the name of the Bread of Life, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

**Reading:** Mark 2:23–28

### Children's Catechism Q63:

*Q: How can you get the help of the Holy Spirit?*

*A: God has told us to pray for the Holy Spirit's help.*

### Westminster Shorter Catechism Q63:

*Q: Which is the fifth commandment?*

*A: The fifth commandment is, Honor thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.*

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

## DAY 4

**Opening Prayer:** We pray to you now, our Father and God, Creator of the heavens and the earth, coming into your presence praising your name for all that you are, the perfect judge of the world and the one who establishes peace in our hearts today and peace in this world on the last day. We thank you that you have loved us and made us your own, adopting us as sons and daughters and therefore heirs together with Christ. Now open our eyes and our ears that we may hear your Word. Grant that it would penetrate to the flesh and cut out our rebellious nature. We pray these things in the name of our great Prophet, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

**Reading:** Mark 3:1–12

**Children’s Catechism Q64:**

*Q: How long ago did Christ die?*

*A: About two thousand years ago.*

**Westminster Shorter Catechism Q64:**

*Q: What is required in the fifth commandment?*

*A: The fifth commandment requireth the preserving the honor, and performing the duties, belonging to every one in their several places and relations, as superiors, inferiors or equals.*

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

## DAY 5

**Opening Prayer:** Father, we praise your holy name this day as we gather to read your Word and, in that Word, find instruction unto wisdom. We proclaim your perfection in all things and acknowledge your lordship in every area of our lives. You are worthy of our time and our attention. We come to you now, pursuing a deeper knowledge of you; the kind which transforms the one who hears. By your Spirit, break through our ears which can be so hard of hearing, and give us understanding. We pray all of these things in the name of our great King, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

**Reading:** Mark 3:13–21

**Children’s Catechism Q65:**

*Q: How were sinners saved before Christ came?*

*A: By believing in the promised Messiah.*

**Westminster Shorter Catechism Q65:**

*Q: What is forbidden in the fifth commandment?*

*A: The fifth commandment forbiddeth the neglecting of, or doing anything against, the honor and duty which belongeth to every one in their several places and relations.*

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

## DAY 6

**Opening Prayer:** Heavenly Father, we are eager to hear from you in your Word. We give you praise for your power and glory and majesty. You are faithful and steadfast toward us. You uphold us and sustain us. We give you thanks for all the ways that you have revealed yourself to us, both in the works of creation and by your Word. We ask that as we read your Word we would have ears that hear clearly, hearts that are ready to receive your Word, and eyes that perceive truth. We pray, Lord, that your Son, Jesus Christ, would fill us richly and the Holy Spirit would lead us into all joy and truth. *Amen.*

**Reading:** Mark 3:22–35

**Children’s Catechism Q66:**

*Q: Before Christ came, how did believers show their faith?*

*A: By offering the sacrifices God required.*

**Westminster Shorter Catechism Q66:**

*A: What is the reason annexed to the fifth commandment?*

*A: The reason annexed to the fifth commandment is a promise of long life and prosperity (as far as it shall serve for God’s glory and their own good) to all such as keep this commandment.*

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

## DAY 7

**Opening Prayer:** Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name. We proclaim with all creation, “How awe- some are your deeds!” We now come to your Word eager to read and see what you have done. We are eager to know you are near—comforting and steadfast. We thank you that there is no place in all the earth we can flee from your presence, for you are there. We thank you that your Word teaches us of your care for our good. Help us now to rest in the work of your Son, Jesus, for our salvation and the presence of the Spirit in us, who attends the reading of the Word and the worship of his people. Lead us in truth and transform us. *Amen.*

**Reading:** Mark 4:1–20

**Children’s Catechism Q67:**

*Q: What did these sacrifices represent?*

*A: Christ, the Lamb of God, who would come to die for sinners.*

**Westminster Shorter Catechism Q67:**

*Q: Which is the sixth commandment?*

*A: The sixth commandment is, Thou shalt not kill.*

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

## DAY 8

**Opening Prayer:** Hear our prayer, O Lord. We come into your presence to hear from your Word. We seek to know your power, your glory, and your Son. You are enthroned over all the earth. You rule and reign with perfect justice, goodness, and faithfulness. Draw us into your presence by the things that we hear now. May your spirit fill us and lead us in understanding. And may Christ Jesus be our joy and salvation. *Amen.*

**Reading:** Mark 4:21–34

**Children's Catechism Q68:**

*Q: How many offices does Christ fulfill as the promised Messiah?*

*A: Christ fulfills three offices.*

**Westminster Shorter Catechism Q68:**

*Q: What is required in the sixth commandment?*

*A: The sixth commandment requireth all lawful endeavors to preserve our own life, and the life of others.*

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

## DAY 9

**Opening Prayer:** Heavenly Father, the whole world rejoices at your provision and power. The birds of the air find their food and the sun rises and sets on its course by your hand. The grass is watered as you send the rains. May we know, as your creation does, of your presence. May we be reminded, as we pick up the Word now, that you are speaking to us as your people. May the Word penetrate our hearts and enliven us and draw us into your presence. May your Son, Jesus, be magnified, and may the Spirit guide us in truth. Set before us now a living hope in Jesus' name. *Amen.*

**Reading:** Mark 4:35–41

**Children's Catechism Q69:**

Q: *What are they?*

A: The offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king.

**Westminster Shorter Catechism Q69:**

Q: *What is forbidden in the sixth commandment?*

A: The sixth commandment forbiddeth the taking away of our own life, or the life of our neighbor unjustly, or whatsoever tendeth thereunto.

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

## DAY 10

**Opening Prayer:** Maker and Creator of all things, Rock of our salvation, delight of our eyes as the Founder and Perfecter of our faith. With eagerness, we come to you this day to worship. We seek to know you better, hear your voice, and be transformed into the likeness of Jesus Christ. We pray that you would be our delight as we read your Word. We pray that you would settle our minds, reign in our hearts, and focus our wills on the truth that is proclaimed in our passage today. Reveal Christ Jesus to us. It is in his name that we pray. *Amen.*

**Reading:** Mark 5:1–20

**Children's Catechism Q70:**

Q: *How is Christ your prophet?*

A: Christ teaches me the will of God.

**Westminster Shorter Catechism Q70:**

Q: *Which is the seventh commandment?*

A: The seventh commandment is, Thou shalt not commit adultery.

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