

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE



September 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: O Lord, you are our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear? You are the stronghold of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid? One thing we ask this day and seek after: that we may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and inquire in his temple. Today, we approach you boldly by faith and in repentance, inquiring of your Word by your Spirit. Speak to us in this Word, and shape us as clay on the potter's wheel, that we may be used for the good of the Kingdom. We offer up this prayer of praise and petition in the name of Jesus Christ, our King. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 8:22–9:1

Children's Catechism Q81:

Q: Who is your neighbor?

A: Everybody is my neighbor.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q81:

Q: What is forbidden in the tenth commandment?

A: The tenth commandment forbiddeth all discontentment with our own estate, envying or grieving at the good of our neighbor, and all inordinate motions and affections to anything that is his.

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

DAY 2

Opening Prayer: Heavenly Father, we seek your face. We give thanks that you are near and attentive to our needs. We thank you that you ask us to seek and knock, and you will answer. We come to your Word today with the expectation that you will teach us. Help us as we seek to know what your Word teaches about you and how it instructs us in the way we should live. We ask that the Spirit would lead us in all truth. In the name of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 9:2–13

Children's Catechism Q82:

Q: Is God pleased with those who love and obey him?

A: Yes. God says, "I love them that love me." (KJV)

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q82:

Q: Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?

A: No mere man since the fall is able in this life perfectly to keep the commandments of God, but doth daily break them in thought, word and deed.

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

DAY 3

Opening Prayer: We wait patiently for you this day, O Lord. Incline to us and hear our cry. Put a new song in our mouths, Father; a song of praise to our God! May many see and fear and put their trust in the Lord. Do not restrain your mercy from us! May your steadfast love and faithfulness ever preserve us! As we seek you today, may we rejoice and be glad in you. May we who love your salvation say continually, “Great is the Lord!” You are our helper and our deliverer. Now sing over us, in your Word and by your Spirit, the words of life and peace that we may ever after sing your praise. We pray these things in the matchless name of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 9:14–32

Children’s Catechism Q83:

Q: Is God displeased with those who do not love and obey him?

A: Yes. “God is angry with the wicked every day.” (KJV)

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q83:

Q: Are all transgressions of the law equally heinous?

A: Some sins in themselves, and by reason of several aggravations, are more heinous in the sight of God than others.

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

DAY 4

Opening Prayer: How awesome is your power, God. The earth is yours and the fullness thereof. You set the boundaries of the water and the heights of the heaven. What is man that you consider him? We come in prayer this morning, knowing that you Word says that neither height nor depth nor anything in all the earth can separate us from your love. We pray that your Word would instruct our hearts today and that you would plant us firmly in the Word, like a tree that is planted by the waters. Help us to trust your promises, endure in the faith, and take joy in the salvation that is ours in Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 9:33–50

Children’s Catechism Q84:

Q: What is the first commandment?

A: The first commandment is “You shall have no other gods before Me.” (NKJV)

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q84:

Q: What doth every sin deserve?

A: Every sin deserveth God’s wrath and curse, both in this life, and that which is to come.

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

DAY 5

Opening Prayer: O God, we have heard with our ears, and your Word tells us, what deeds you have performed in history, in the days of old. You are our King and you have ordained salvation for us! May we never put our confidence in our own power, but boast only in you continually and give thanks to your name forever. May our hearts never turn back, nor our steps depart from your way in the day of our trouble. You have risen up. You have come to our help. You have redeemed us for the sake of your steadfast love. Now teach us your way as we read your Word. Make it to sink deeply into our hearts and minds, we pray, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 10:1–16

Children’s Catechism Q85:

Q: What does the first commandment teach you?

A: To worship the true God, and him only.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q85:

Q: What doth God require of us that we may escape his wrath and curse due to us for sin?

A: To escape the wrath and curse of God due to us for sin, God requireth of us faith in Jesus Christ, repentance unto life, with the diligent use of all the outward means whereby Christ communicateth to us the benefits of redemption.

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

DAY 6

Opening Prayer: God, we come in prayer, giving praise to you, acknowledging your power and wisdom. We ascribe to you the glory that is due your name. As we approach your Word we pray that you would seat its application and power in our minds and hearts. We pray that we would be more than hearers of the Word, but also doers. Draw us up into your presence and meet us now by your Spirit as we long for fellowship with you. We ask this in the name of your Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 10:17–31

Children’s Catechism Q86:

Q: What is the second commandment?

A: The second commandment is “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—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; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.” (NKJV)

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q86:

A: What is faith in Jesus Christ?

A: Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation, as he is offered to us in the gospel.

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

DAY 7

Opening Prayer: Our hearts overflow with a pleasing theme and we address our praise to you, our King. Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness. The splendor of your perfect righteousness draws praise from our mouths. The salvation that is ours because of that righteousness inspires our thanksgiving. May we ever love you, our King, for the sake of your righteousness and perfection more than we love the gifts that you give. And may the promises of this world and its counterfeit beauty ring false in our ears as we pursue hard after Christ, whom we love. Prepare us even now as we read your Word, we pray, in the name of our bridegroom, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 10:32–52

Children’s Catechism Q87:

Q: What does the second commandment teach you?

A: To worship God only as he commands, and not to worship God by using statues or pictures.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q87:

Q: What is repentance unto life?

A: Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.

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

DAY 8

Opening Prayer: Heavenly Father, we come to you this day in prayer because we depend on you. We live and move and have our being in you. Your words to us are sweeter than honey and sustenance for life. Let your Word be our daily bread for it is better than food. Let it fill up our day with its consideration and application. We pray it would have its full effect in us. May it enliven our souls and call us to action. We pray this in his matchless name. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 11:1–11

Children’s Catechism Q88:

Q: What is the third commandment?

A: The third commandment is “You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.” (NKJV)

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q88:

Q: What are the outward and ordinary means whereby Christ communicateth to us the benefits of redemption?

A: The outward and ordinary means whereby Christ communicateth to us the benefits of redemption, are his ordinances, especially the word, sacraments, and prayer; all which are made effectual to the elect for salvation.

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

DAY 9

Opening Prayer: Great are you, O Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God! The city which you are establishing will last forever and ever. You are making a people for yourself, to be your bride, and we look forward to the day that we sit at the wedding supper of the Lamb, Jesus Christ! May the news of this city and this wedding be on our lips. May we tell it to our children! And may our children know the voice of their Shepherd, Jesus Christ, forever and ever. Now guide us this day and forever by your Word as we take up and read. May your Spirit that lives in us open our hearts and minds to the grace and mercy that are ours in Christ Jesus, in whose name we pray. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 11:12–26

Children's Catechism Q89:

Q: What does the third commandment teach you?

A: To treat God's name, word and works with reverence.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q89:

Q: How is the word made effectual to salvation?

A: The Spirit of God maketh the reading, but especially the preaching, of the word, an effectual means of convincing and converting sinners, and of building them up in holiness and comfort, through faith, unto salvation.

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

DAY 10

Opening Prayer: We come to you, our God, seeking knowledge. We see your great power and majesty in your works of creation. For in it, you execute perfect wisdom, goodness, and power. Man is without excuse as he observes the created order. For in it is the revelation of your providence. We seek this day to know you beyond what can be seen in creation, but also by what is known specifically concerning faith and life in your Word. Reveal your mercy and grace to us. Show us the way of obedience and faith. Help us to see the scope of your saving work and the perfection of your Son, Jesus, who is ours by faith in his saving work. Sustain us by your Spirit that we may delight in all that you will teach us now. We ask this in the name of Jesus. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 11:27–33

Children’s Catechism Q90:

Q: What is the fourth commandment?

A: The fourth commandment is “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.” (NKJV)

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q90:

Q: How is the word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation?

A: That the word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation and prayer; receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts, and practice it in our lives.

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