

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE



September 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: Mighty One, God the Lord, you speak and summon the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, you shine forth! We pray to you this day because you have called us your own and taught us to call out to you. We rejoice to be your people and to know you by name, because you have first known and loved us. Now open our ears as we read your Word. May your Spirit fill our hearts with wisdom and insight and turn our desires to you. We pray these things in the mighty name of our matchless King, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 12:1–12

Children’s Catechism Q91:

Q: What does the fourth commandment teach you?

A: To work six days and keep the Sabbath day holy.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q91:

Q: How do the sacraments become effectual means of salvation?

A: The sacraments become effectual means of salvation, not from any virtue in them, or in him that doth administer them; but only by the blessing of Christ, and the working of his Spirit in them that by faith receive them.

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

DAY 2

Opening Prayer: Heavenly Father, we give thanks for all of your good gifts. You have given this day to us to take pleasure in your creation. All of your works are wonderful. All creation reminds us of your power, providence, and sovereignty. We pray that your Word would lead us now in knowing you as our Lord. We pray that it would lead us to enjoy your presence with us and the gift of your Son, Jesus. We pray that the Spirit would give us insight into your Word and into our own need for you. We pray this in the strong name of Jesus. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 12:13–27

Children’s Catechism Q92:

Q: What day of the week is the Christian Sabbath?

A: The first day of the week, called the Lord’s Day.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q92:

Q: *What is a sacrament?*

A: A sacrament is an holy ordinance instituted by Christ; wherein, by sensible signs, Christ, and the benefits of the new covenant, are represented, sealed, and applied to believers.

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

DAY 3

Opening Prayer: For you alone our souls wait in silence, O God. From you comes our salvation. You alone are our rock and our salvation, our fortress. We shall not be greatly shaken. Our hope is in you and you alone. Now speak to us by your Word and Spirit. Otherwise, where will we go? Only you have the words of life. Shape us today by your Word as we sit under the reading of it, and grant that we would be not only hearers of the Word but doers as well. We lift up our voices to you in the name of Jesus Christ, our merciful King. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 12:28–44

Children's Catechism Q93:

Q: *Why is it called the Lord's Day?*

A: Because on that day the Lord Jesus Christ rose from the dead.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q93:

Q: *Which are the sacraments of the New Testament?*

A: The sacraments of the New Testament are baptism and the Lord's supper.

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

DAY 4

Opening Prayer: Abba, Father, we come now in worship and prayer to approach you through your Word. We pray that your Word would be a light unto our path and lead us in the way of salvation. We pray that you would instruct us on how we should live and what we should believe. Plant us like a tree by the waters that is nourished by your Word. Teach us of your love and of the glorious nature of your Son, Jesus. Give us faith as we read and pray, and fill us with the Holy Spirit. We ask all this in the name of Jesus. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 13:1–23

Children’s Catechism Q94:

Q: How should you keep the Lord’s Day?

A: I should rest from my daily work and faithfully worship God.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q94:

Q: What is baptism?

A: Baptism is a sacrament, wherein the washing with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, doth signify and seal our ingrafting into Christ, and partaking of the benefits of the covenant of grace, and our engagement to be the Lord’s.

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

DAY 5

Opening Prayer: Oh God, you are our God. Earnestly we seek you. Our souls thirst for you. Our flesh faints for you as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. Because your steadfast love is better than life, our lips will praise you. So we will bless you as long as we live and in your name we will lift up our hands. Now may our souls be satisfied by your Word as with rich food and our mouths praise you with joyful lips. Feed us, this day, Father of Lights, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 13:24–37

Children’s Catechism Q95:

Q: What is the fifth commandment?

A: The fifth commandment is “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.” (NKJV)

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q95:

Q: To whom is baptism to be administered?

A: Baptism is not to be administered to any that are out of the visible church, till they profess their faith in Christ, and obedience to him; but the infants of such as are members of the visible church are to be baptized.

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

DAY 6

Opening Prayer: Heavenly Father, you are the Good Shepherd. You watch over us and protect us. You lead us in the way that is good. You take us to the waters and nourish our souls. We pray that you would lead us now as we feed upon your Word. We pray that it would sustain us and satisfy us. Would you give us a constant desire for your holy Word? You are the giver of life, so we ask that you would strengthen our faith as we study together and that we would be hearers and doers of your Word. We pray that Jesus would be made known to us and that your Spirit would lead us to truth. We ask this in the matchless name of Jesus. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 14:1–11

Children’s Catechism Q96:

Q: What does the fifth commandment teach you?

A: To love and obey my parents and all others that God appoints over me.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q96:

A: What is the Lord’s supper?

A: The Lord’s supper is a sacrament, wherein, by giving and receiving bread and wine according to Christ’s appointment, his death is showed forth; and the worthy receivers are, not after a corporal and carnal manner, but by faith, made partakers of his body and blood, with all his benefits, to their spiritual nourishment and growth in grace.

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

DAY 7

Opening Prayer: We shout for joy to you, O God! We sing the glory of your name! We give to you glorious praise! How awesome are your deeds! All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name. You have delivered your people from bondage, and you have answered our prayers. Answer our prayer this morning as we come to you for wisdom and encouragement. Soften our hearts to your Word as we read. Make us like Christ—ready to obey you always. Grant us repentance when we fail in obedience. And do all this for your name’s sake, we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 14:12–31

Children's Catechism Q97:

Q: *What is the sixth commandment?*

A: The sixth commandment is "You shall not murder." (NKJV)

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q97:

Q: *What is required to the worthy receiving of the Lord's supper?*

A: It is required of them that would worthily partake of the Lord's supper, that they examine themselves of their knowledge to discern the Lord's body, of their faith to feed upon him, of their repentance, love, and new obedience; lest, coming unworthily, they eat and drink judgment to themselves.

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

DAY 8

Opening Prayer: Heavenly Father, we are your people, and you are our God. We submit to you as does all the earth. We pray that our hearts would leap for joy at the reading of your Word and that we would be drawn up into worship and praise. We pray that we would be drawn to your voice since it is the way of salvation. We pray that we would trust in your son, Jesus, as our salvation. And we thank you that your Spirit is present in us and with us as we worship now. Bless us, we pray, in the name of Jesus. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 14:32–52

Children's Catechism Q98:

Q: *What does the sixth commandment teach you?*

A: Not to take anyone's life unjustly and not to sin when I am angry.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q98:

Q: *What is prayer?*

A: Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.

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

DAY 9

Opening Prayer: God, be gracious to us, and bless us, and make your face to shine upon us that your way may be known on the earth and your saving power among all nations. We praise you, O God! Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon the earth. We serve an awesome God! Now, Father, grant that we would have ears to hear as we come to your Word to be instructed in the great salvation that you have purchased for us by your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 14:53–65

Children’s Catechism Q99:

Q: What is the seventh commandment?

A: The seventh commandment is “You shall not commit adultery.” (NKJV)

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q99:

Q: What rule hath God given for our direction in prayer?

A: The whole word of God is of use to direct us in prayer; but the special rule of direction is that form of prayer which Christ taught his disciples, commonly called the Lord’s prayer.

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

DAY 10

Opening Prayer: Our God, give us ears that hear and hearts that respond as we read your Word. We see in your Word the expression of your sovereignty, power, and love. We thank you that you have always desired relationship with us and for the precious promises you have given to us. Remind us of your love for us now, and show us the ultimate expression of that love in Jesus Christ. We thank you, Jesus, for your faithfulness to redeem us, pray for us, and sustain us. We thank you that you have sent the helper, the Holy Spirit, to indwell us and lead us. Keep us, Lord Jesus, and it is in your name we pray. *Amen.*

Reading: Mark 14:66–72

Children’s Catechism Q100:

Q: What does the seventh commandment teach you?

A: To be pure in heart, language and conduct, and to be faithful in marriage.

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q100:

Q: What doth the preface of the Lord's prayer teach us?

A: The preface of the Lord's prayer, which is, Our Father which art in heaven, teacheth us to draw near to God with all holy reverence and confidence, as children to a father able and ready to help us; and that we should pray with and for others.

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