

*And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But **as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.***” Joshua 24:15

The 2019 Book of Common Prayer is uniquely positioned to enable us to live into this scripture.

- ✦ It does not have the rubric that stating “all that is necessary for full incorporation into the Christian life is baptism.”
- ✦ The 2019 BCP provides sufficient tools, combined with Holy Scripture, that will guide toward sanctification of the individual and the family.

Family Applications:

- ✦ **Family daily devotions are important:**
 - To draw the family closer to God through a deeper spiritual life as a unit and individual members
 - Regular Morning, Mid-day, Evening Prayer and Compline can be difficult to gather the family around.
 - Solution are Family Prayers:
 - Follows the basic structure of the Daily Office of the Church
 - The Reading and Collect may be read by one person, and the rest said in unison.
 - Appropriate Opening Sentences, Psalms, Readings and Collects are provided for in each service, but these may be expanded by following the rubric on page 66.
 - A concluding sentence from Morning and Evening Prayer may be used at the end of any of these devotions and may become a repeating theme with your family.
- ✦ Let’s look at one of the services which could be the beginning of a devotional discipline for your family:
- ✦ At The Close of The Day, p. 73
 - Utilize prayers from page 76-78
- ✦ Once the pattern is established prayers for morning, midday and early evening are more easily added to the daily devotions.
- ✦ **Reaffirmation of baptismal vows.** P161
 - A candle is given at each Baptism – on the anniversary of the baptism each year the candle should be lit.

- The baptismal covenant should be restated
- ✦ **Anniversary of Marriages:**
 - Utilize the vows from the ceremony to restate your commitment to one another – p201
- ✦ **Death of a loved one.** Utilize the prayers in the Burial Office. P249

Suggestions:

- ✦ Have multiple BCP's easily acceptable in the home for easy reference and use.
- ✦ Give BCP to your spouse children, grandchildren and friends as gifts.
- ✦ Teach your children by involving them in the liturgies of the church and home.
- ✦ Below is the information for ordering:

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Now Jesus was **praying** in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said **to him**, “**Lord, teach us to pray**, as John taught his disciples.” Luke 11:1

- ✦ There are times when our hearts are so filled with joy, sorrow or our we are overcome by the enormity of the burden. In those times the BCP can be a source of reference as to how we may put our feelings into words as we speak to our Lord.
- ✦ When distraught or troubled and we are tempted to be angry.... let us pray.

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How to Utilize the Index:

- ✠ Set aside time to pray, even if it is short
- ✠ Utilize the Index to focus your prayer, first in preparation and secondly a particular need
- ✠ Utilize these prayers for family prayer time applying those to needs within the family
- ✠ When distant pray, when close pray, when in doubt pray, when joyful pray, whenWell you get the picture.
- ✠ With the 2019 BCP there is ample tools to go before our Lord in prayer.