

# Family Worship



# Family Worship

Devotions

Family  
Prayer

Scripture

Memorization

Bible

Catechism

Reading

Terminology



# WBC Core Value Family Focused

The family unit was ordained by God as the building block for all human society. We believe the primary environment for biblical instruction is the home, so we support the family by encouraging, protecting, and instructing its member(s) in how to fulfill their role.



# Family Worship

“Eighty-five percent of parents with children under age 13 believe they have primary responsibility for teaching their children about religious beliefs and spiritual matter. However, a majority of parents don’t spend any time during



# Family Worship

A typical week discussing religious matters or studying religious materials with their children... Parents generally rely upon their church to do all of the religious training their children will receive.” –Barna Research Group



# Why Family Worship?

1. We glorify God when we worship Him everyday in our homes
  - A. Gen. 18:17-19
  - B. Deut. 6:4-7
  - C. Joshua 24:15



# Why Family Worship?

2. We glorify God when we proclaim His goodness to the next generation.

A. Psalm 78:1-8

B. Prov. 22:6

C. Ephesians 6:4



# Why Family Worship?

“They pray together, they worship together, they fast together; instructing one another, encouraging one another, strengthening one another... Psalms and hymns they sing to one another, striving to see which one of them will chant more beautifully the praises of their Lord. Hearing and seeing this, Christ rejoices.” - Tertullian (c. 160-225AD)



# Why Family Worship?

“every house should be church, and every head of a family a spiritual shepherd, remembering the account he must give even for his children.”

-John Chrysostom (c.349-407)



# Why Family Worship?

“Brethren, ye are ordained of God to rule your own houses in true fear, and according to his word... And therefore, I say, ye must make them partakers in reading, exhorting, and in making common prayers, which I would in every house were used once a day at least.” -John Knox (1514-1572)



# Why Family Worship?

“Compare in all your towns, cities, and villages, the families that read the Scriptures, pray, and praise God, with those that do not, and see the difference;”

-Richard Baxter (1615-1651)



# Why Family Worship?

“If therefore our houses be houses of the Lord, we shall for that reason love home, reckoning our daily devotion the sweetest of our daily delights; and our family worship the most valuable of our family comforts. A Church in the house will be a good legacy, nay, it will be a good inheritance, to be left to your children after you.”

-Matthew Henry (1662-1714)



# Why Family Worship?

“Consider family religion not merely as a duty imposed by authority, but as your greatest privilege granted by divine grace.”

- Samuel Davies (1724-1761)



# Why Family Worship?

“If we want to bring up a godly family, who shall be a seed to serve God when our heads are under the clods of the valley, let us seek to train them up in the feat of God by meeting together as a family for worship.”

- Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)



# Why Family Worship?

“When you have two or three pre-school-age children, for instance, you are up early and exhausted by evening. Still, we have tried to follow a set pattern. Quite apart from grace at meals, and quite apart from individual times for prayer and Bible reading, as a family we daily seek God’s face.” - Don Carson (b.1946)



# Why Family Worship?

1. To glorify God in a reverent exercise of our faith.
2. To glorify God in daily worship in our homes.
3. To glorify God, as those who have gone before us, by proclaiming God's goodness to the next generation.





**+ BE TRANSFORMED**  
**+ BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND**



The background is a dark blue gradient. On the left, there is a large, dark silhouette of a human head in profile, facing right. Inside the head, several interlocking gears of different sizes are visible. The entire background is decorated with faint, light blue patterns of gears and binary code (0s and 1s).

# Some Simple [Baby] Steps for Family Devotions



# 1. Read the Bible

- Where should you start?
  - The Gospel of John
  - Genesis
  - Proverbs
  - Any NT epistle
- Try a chapter per day



## 2. Ask Questions

- Was there anything that stood out to you?
- Was there anything you didn't understand?
- Look for Who/What/Where/When/Why
- Take turns asking “Why...?” questions



### 3. Look for One Thing

- Pick one thing you can focus on throughout the day
  - An important truth
  - A promise
  - A certain verse
- Index cards; txt msg; whiteboard



## 4. Pray for One Another

- Major events / celebrations / challenges
- Ask for opportunities to understand / use your one thing
- Ask for opportunities to share Jesus



## 5. Sing Together

- Use a hymnal
- Make a song sheet with family favorites
- Youtube, etc.



# Hint: Set a Firm Time

- What works best for you?
  - A meal?
  - First thing in the morning?
  - Last thing before bed?
- Set it and don't fudge



# Hint: Set a Firm Time

- “Yeah, but... we don’t *have* time”
- You always have time for what’s important to you

# Hint: Ask Your Kids

- Ask your kids for questions they have
  - About God
  - About the Bible
  - About life
- Look for answers in God's Word together
  - Maybe say "I don't know - let's find out"



# So What?

- If you are not doing anything, do something
- Anything worth doing is worth doing poorly
- We are here to help