

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

DEUTERONOMY 6:4-7

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

"Every Christian family ought to be, as it were, a little church, consecrated to Christ, and wholly influenced and governed by his rules. And family education and order are some of the chief means of grace... If these are duly maintained, all the means of grace will be likely to prosper and be successful."

- JONATHAN EDWARDS

There is no greater inheritance that you could ever give your children than in leading them to taste and experience the glorious riches of God. The primary discipleship of our children belongs to us as parents. One of the ways we do this is by leading our family in family worship. The Bible is clear that God deserves to be worshipped in our homes whether we have children or not. ^{Gen 18:17-19, 22:6-7; Deut 6:4-7; Josh 24:15; Ps 78:1-8; Eph 5:25-26, 6:4; 1 Tim 3:4-5; 1 Pet 3:7}

This family worship guide is a simple tool to help your family do this daily. Each day has a different theme for prayer. The catechism at the end will help instill deep biblical truths in our families. There is a public playlist for the hymns that are on the following pages on the Spotify app titled "*Family Worship - 2023*". Designate a time and location for your family to meet. Keep the format simple: *sing, pray,* and *read.* If you have children—especially if you have younger children—keep the time succinct to increase the chances of getting into a good daily rhythm. Have grace and patience as you begin. Your time *will* be interrupted. Donald Whitney's short book, *Family Worship*, is an excellent guide. So is his short video, *How do you do Family Worship*?. May God's presence shine upon you as you and your family come together to worship Him.

MILESTONES FOR 2023

TRUTHS ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

- 34. For whom did Christ obey the law and suffer the anger and judgment of God? Christ obeyed and suffered for those whom the Father had given him. *John 10:11*
- 35. What kind of life did Christ live on earth? Christ lived a life of perfect obedience to the law of God. 1Per 222
- 36. What kind of death did Christ die? Christ experienced the painful and shameful death of the cross. P. 22:16-18
- 37. How can you be saved? If you repent of your sin and believe in Christ, you will be saved. Rom 10:9
- 38. What does it mean to repent? To be sorry for sin, and to hate and reject it because it is displeasing to God.²
- 39. What does it mean to believe or have faith in Christ? A person who believes in Christ trusts in Him alone for salvation. Acts 16:31 □

TRUTHS ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

- 40. Can you repent and believe in Christ by your own power? No. I can do nothing good without God's Holy Spirit. ^{1 Cor 2:14}
- 41. How can you receive the Holy Spirit? God has told us that we must pray to Him for the Holy Spirit, but the evidence of His presence is seen most clearly in our trusting and loving the Lord Jesus Christ. *Epb* 1:13-14
- 42. How does the Holy Spirit baptize believers? He puts them into the body of Christ by making them a living part of all those who truly believe in Him. ^{1 Cor 12:13}□
- 43. How does the Holy Spirit seal believers? He comes to live within them to guarantee that they will receive the riches God has promised those who love Him. 2 Cor 1:21-22

TRUTHS ABOUT GOD'S GIFT OF SALVATION

- 44. What is a change of heart called? Regeneration is a change of heart that leads to true repentance and faith. ^{Gal}
- 45. Who can change a sinner's heart? Only the Holy Spirit can change a sinner's heart. Jer 31:31-34
- 46. What is God's righteousness? God's righteousness means that God always does what is right and is the final standard of what is right. *Deut 32-4*
- 47. Can anyone be saved by his own righteousness? No. No one is good enough before God. Rom 3:23
- 48. What is a covenant? A covenant is an agreement between two or more people. Gen 17:1-2
- 49. What is the covenant of grace? The agreement God made with his elect people to save them from their sins.
- 50. What did Christ undertake in the covenant of grace? To keep the whole law for His people and to suffer the punishment due for their sins. *Heb* 9:15
- 51. What did God the Father undertake in the covenant of grace? To justify and sanctify those for whom Christ should die. ^{Rom &3-4}□
- 52. Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever commit the least sin? No. He was holy and without sin. ^{1John 3:5}
- 53. How could the Son of God suffer? Christ, the Son of God, became man that he might obey and suffer as a man. Phil 2:58 □
- 54. What is election? It is God's goodness revealed in his grace by choosing certain sinners for salvation. Epb 1:34
- 55. What is adoption? It is God's goodness in bringing repentant sinners into his own family and treating them as his beloved children. ^{John 1:12}□
- 56. How do you know that you are God's child? The Holy Spirit assures me and enables me to love God and other people. ^{Rom &:16}□
- 57. What is the atonement? Christ satisfying divine justice, by his sufferings and death in the place of sinners. $^{1Pat 328}\Box$
- 58. What is justification? It is God forgiving sinners and viewing them as righteous because they are in Christ. ^{2Car,521}
- 59. How can we be justified? Only by trusting in Christ to take away our sins. Rom 10:10 \Box
- 60. What is sanctification? It is God making sinners holy in heart and conduct so that they will demonstrate his goodness in their lives. *Epb 2:10*

This resource and other similar resources can be found here: https://www.declaringthepraises.com/resources CHILDREN'S

CATECHISM

"A Catechism & Scripture Memory Program" (Clifton Baptist Church (adapted from Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Washington, DC), November 15, 2007).

TRUTHS ABOUT GOD

- 1. Who made you? God made me. Gen 1:27
- 2. What else did God make? God made all things. Gen 1:1
- 3. Why did God make you and all things? God made me and all things for His own glory. Rom 11:36
- 4. How can you glorify God? I can glorify God by loving him and doing what he commands. $Exc 12:13 \square$
- 5. Why should you glorify God? I should glorify God because He made me and takes care of me. Rev4:11
- 6. Is there more than one God? There is only one God. $D_{eut 6:4}$
- 7. In how many persons does this one God exist? God exists in three persons. John 15:26
- 8. Who are they? The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. $M_{att 28:19}$
- 9. What is God? God is a Spirit, and has not a body like men. John 4:24
- 10. Where is God? God is everywhere. Jer 23:23-24
- 11. **Can you see God?** No. I cannot see God, but he always sees me. ^{John 1:18}
- 12. **Does God know all things?** Yes. Nothing can be hidden from God. $Prov 15:3 \square$
- 13. Can God do all things? Yes. God can do all his holy will. Jer 32:17

TRUTHS ABOUT SCRIPTURE

- 14. Where do you learn how to love and obey God? We learn to love and obey God from the Bible alone. *Iblm*:245a
- 15. Who wrote the Bible? Holy men who were taught by the Holy Spirit. ^{2 Pet 1:21} \Box

TRUTHS ABOUT CREATION

- 16. Who were our first parents? Adam and Eve were our first parents. $^{1 Tim 2:13} \square$
- 17. **Of what were our first parents made?** God made the body of Adam from the dust of the ground, and formed Eve from the body of Adam. *Gen 2:7, 21-22* □
- 18. What did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies? He gave them souls that could never die. $Eac 12.7 \square$
- 19. Do you have a soul as well as a body? Yes. I have a soul that can never die. $Matt 10:28 \square$
- 20. What is your soul? My soul includes all of me that should know and love God. Matt 22:37
- 21. In what condition did God make Adam and Eve? God made Adam and Eve holy and happy. Gen 1:28

TRUTHS ABOUT SIN

- 22. Did Adam and Eve stay holy and happy? No. They sinned against God. Rom 5:12
- 23. What was the sin of our first parents? They sinned against God by eating the forbidden fruit. Gen 2:16-17
- 24. Why did they eat the forbidden fruit? Because they did not believe what God had said. Gen 3:6
- 25. Who tempted them to this sin? Satan tempted Eve, and she gave the fruit to Adam. Gen 3:1
- 26. What happened to our first parents when they sinned? Instead of being holy and happy, they became sinful and miserable. ^{Gen 3:19}
- 27. What effect did the sin of Adam have on all people? All people are born in a state of sin and misery. Rom 5.1 At
- 28. What do we inherit from Adam as a result of original sin? A sinful nature. Ecc 9.36 \Box
- 29. What is sin? Sin is failing to do what God commands. ^{1John 3:4} \Box
- 30. In what ways do we sin? We sin in thought, word and deed. $^{Matt 15:18-20}$
- 31. What does every sin deserve? The anger and punishment of God. $Rom 1:18 \square$
- 32. Do we know what God requires of us? Yes. He has given us His law both in our hearts and in writing. *Pr119.11*
- 33. Can anyone go to heaven with this sinful nature? No. Our hearts must be changed before we can be fit for heaven. John 3:3, 5 □

Henry Van Dyke (1907)

Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You, Op'ning to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day!

Always giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest, Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest! Loving Father, Christ our Brother, Let Your light upon us shine; Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine.

CHURCH, CHURCH LEADERS, AND AUTHORITIES

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds." ^{Hebrews 10:24}

I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS

Simon K. Mark

I have decided to follow Jesus; I have decided to follow Jesus; I have decided to follow Jesus; no turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, I still will follow; though none go with me, I still will follow; though none go with me, I still will follow; no turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me; the world behind me, the cross before me, the world behind me, the cross before me; no turning back, no turning back.

PRAYERS FOR OUR OWN CONFORMITY TO CHRIST'S LIKENESS

"It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master." Matthew 10:25

THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS

H. W. Baker (1868)

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never. I nothing lack if I am his, and He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul He leadeth; and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me; and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

And so through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never;Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

prayers of **THANKSGIVING**

"Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!" Psalm 95:2

FRIDAY ALMOST HOME

Matt Boswell, Matt Papa (2021)

Don't drop a single anchor, we're almost home, Through every toil and danger, we're almost home, How many pilgrim saints have before us gone? No stopping now, we're almost home.

This life is just a vapor, we're almost home, That sun is setting yonder, we're almost home,

Take courage for this darkness shall break to dawn, Oh, lift your eyes, we're almost home. *(refrain)* Almost home, we're almost home, So press on toward that blessed shore, O praise the Lord, we're almost home.

PRAY FOR MISSIONARIES AND THE MISSION

"Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." Revelation 5:9-10

MY WORTH IS NOT IN WHAT I OWN

Graham Kendrick, Keith and Kristyn Getty (2014)

My worth is not in what I own, Not in the strength of flesh and bone, But in the costly wounds of love at the cross.

My worth is not in skill or name, In win or lose, in pride or shame, But in the blood of Christ that flowed at the cross

Two wonders here that I confess, My worth and my unworthiness, My value fixed, my ransom paid at the cross.

(refrain) I rejoice in my Redeemer, greatest Treasure, Wellspring of my soul. I will trust in Him, no other. My soul is satisfied in Him alone.

PRAYERS FOR THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF **INDIVIDUAL FAMILY MEMBERS**

"And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise." ^{Deuteronomy6:6-7} What a fellowship, what a joy divine, Leaning on the everlasting arms; What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, Leaning on the everlasting arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day, Leaning on the everlasting arms What have I to dread? What have I to fear? Leaning on the everlasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

(refrain) Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

PRAYERS FOR MY EXTENDED FAMILY AND FRIENDS

"... that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." Ephesians 3:17-19

ALL GLORY BE TO CHRIST

Dustin Kensrue and Kings Kaleidoscope, 2012

Should nothing of our efforts stand, no legacy survive, Unless the Lord does raise the house, In vain its builders strive.

To you who boast tomorrow's gain, Tell me what is your life? A mist that vanishes at dawn, All glory be to Christ!

Let living water satisfy the thirsty without price! We'll take a cup of kindness yet, All glory be to Christ!

> *(refrain)* All glory be to Christ our king! All glory be to Christ! His rule and reign we'll ever sing, All glory be to Christ!

PRAYERS FOR EVANGELISM AND LOST LOVED ONES

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."^{1 Peter 2:9}