

Make Room

for family worship



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WHAT IS FAMILY WORSHIP?

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Colossians 3:16

We believe the heart of family worship connects people living in close proximity with one another in the active praise of Jesus Christ. That may be a literal family living in the same home, a community of roommates, a connection of neighbors, colleagues or any gathering of people you have the opportunity to engage in community with.

When we join in family worship, we invite those around us to center their thoughts and minds on the Lord intentionally pursue Jesus and praise Him for all He has done for us and is doing for us.

Here are a few ways that you and the people you call family can worship together in light of Colossians 3:16:

1 Establish Rhythms of Blessing

Before you leave your house, take time to bless each other as you each step into your day through simple and profound prayer. Place your hand on the person's shoulder you are blessing and pray something like this: *"May you be blessed to find and take opportunities to encourage someone today. May you experience the joy of God's provision this day. May Christ make Himself known to you in surprising ways and may you turn and share the joy of Jesus with people you meet."*

Parents, as your child starts a new year of school, this is a great opportunity to pour out blessing over your children. A meaningful moment to say, *"I bless you to find the joy of learning, to build new friendships, to see how the Lord is shaping your mind, etc."* are powerful prayers that extend the heart of worship beyond your front door.

If you are driving your kids to school, transform your car into a sanctuary and invite your kids to join you in thanking Jesus for the day that's ahead and praying out loud for their classmates, but first, ask if there are any specific prayer needs their classmates might have. Ask your children if there are any specific needs they have that you can pray about throughout the day, and invite them to be a blessing to someone at some point during the day. You can do the same as you drive to school or work and pray for your classmates or coworkers. In other words, let even your time in the car become an opportunity to worship.

2 Prayer Walks

Go on walks with the people closest to you and actively pray over the houses and businesses you see. Ask God to bless the people who live and work there, and ask for the opportunity to be a blessing to those around you.

3 Worship Walks

Try this in nature. Keep your eyes open for the ways you encounter the beauty of creation. Name them to each other and thank God for the way He puts His glory on display through the objects that stand out to you.

4 Table Discussion

When you have a meal together, encourage each other by taking turns and asking one person these questions:

1. What was the best part of your day?
2. What was the worst part of your day?
3. What is something you are grateful for?
4. How did you help someone today?
5. End with a random fun question because worship should be joyful! (Ex. would you rather go scuba diving or sky diving?)

Then, when that person answers all 5 questions, they get to pick the next person to answer the questions while adding their own random fun question in addition to the first 5. Keep repeating this until all people have answered each question.

5 Worship Session

Build a regular worship gathering into your rhythm with your family. Try following an order like this:

- Pray - acknowledging God's presence and ask Holy Spirit to lead you in this time.
- Read a psalm out loud.
- Pause for reflection.
- Invite family members to share what stands out about the Psalm. What could God be saying both in scripture and to you through this scripture?
- Thank God for speaking with you (maybe you heard His voice. Maybe you felt it. Maybe God chose to speak simply in reading the scripture out loud).
- Close with a spoken blessing over each other.

FAMILY WORSHIP RESOURCES

scan the code for a
direct link to these
resources!



Preschool Resources

- [The Biggest Story ABC by Kevin DeYoung](#)
- [Found: Psalm 23 by Sally Lloyd-Jones](#)
- [The Garden, The Curtain, and the Cross Board Book: The True Story of Why Jesus Died and Rose Again by Carl Laferton](#)

Children's Bibles & Story Bibles

- [The Big Picture Story Bible \(David Helm\)](#)
- [The Jesus Storybook Bible \(Sally Lloyd-Jones\)](#)
- [God's Very Good Idea \(Trillia Newbell\)](#)
- [Mighty Acts of God \(Starr Meade\)](#)
- [Thoughts to Make Your Heart Sing \(Sally Lloyd-Jones\)](#)
- [ESV Seek and Find Bible](#)
- [ESV Big Picture Bible](#)

District 56 & Student Resources

- [Exploring the Bible: A Bible Reading Plan for Kids by David Murray](#)
- [God's Bible Timeline: The Big Book of Biblical History by Linda Finlayson](#)
- [The History Lives Series by Mindy and Brandon Withrow](#)
- [Christian Beliefs: Twenty Basics Every Christian Should Know by Wayne Grudem](#)
- [Preparing for Adolescence: How to Survive the Coming Years of Change by James Dobson](#)
- [This Changes Everything: How the Gospel Transforms the Teen Years by Jaquelle Crow](#)
- [Thoughts for Young Men: An Exhortation Directed to Those in the Prime of Life by J.C. Ryle](#)

Adult & College Resources

- [Family Worship: In the Bible, in History & in Your Home \(Donald Whitney\)](#)
- [Family Worship Bible Guide by Joel Beeke](#)
- [Holiness Day by Day: Transformational Thoughts for Your Spiritual Journey by Jerry Bridges](#)
- [How Do You Do Family Worship? \(Video by Donald Whitney\)](#)

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