

# 5 STEPS TO BEGIN LEADING IN FAMILY WORSHIP

1

## PERSONAL DEVOTION

Begin your day with a time of personal devotion, reading the Word of God

## PLAN A TIME

Set aside a time to gather with your family later in the day, perhaps at dinner or bedtime

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3

## READ GOD'S WORD

Read a passage of the Bible from your morning devotion with your family

## DISCUSS GOD'S WORD

Discuss the Bible passage by asking a few questions about the Scripture you read

4

5

## PRAY TOGETHER

Ask each family member to share a prayer request or praise & close with a time of family prayer & praise

[GOSPELFAMILY.ORG](http://GOSPELFAMILY.ORG)

# HOW TO LEAD FAMILY WORSHIP

GOSPEL FAMILY MINISTRIES

# WHAT IS FAMILY WORSHIP?

Family Worship takes place when the members of a household come together to teach and enjoy the Word of God, to pray with and for one another, and to offer praises to the Lord. Families gather to pray and teach God's Word throughout Scripture, providing us biblical examples of Family Worship.



These passages show us God's heart for families and call us to bring His Word into our homes. Our prayer is that family worship will be woven into the natural rhythms of your week as you intentionally lead your family to Jesus Christ. We believe family worship will bless your home with grace and joy.

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 6:6-7**

# SAMPLE FAMILY WORSHIP OUTLINE

## **FAMILY TIME IN THE WORD OF GOD:**

- Psalm 23:1-6

## **FAMILY TEACHING:**

With the Lord as our Shepherd (v. 1), we lack nothing. We are never left wanting. The closer we draw to the Lord, the more satisfied we become. He leads and feeds (v. 2), guides and provides (v. 3). He restores my soul, refreshing me even in seasons of dryness. In verse 4, David moves from talking about the Lord to talking to the Lord. We are reminded that the Lord is with us in our darkest hours, so we do not need to be afraid. He prepares all that we need (v. 5). A life with the Lord is a life filled with His goodness and mercy (v. 6). The Psalm ends with some of the most joyful and hopeful words we can imagine. David writes that he will dwell with the Lord forever (v. 6). This is an unending joy

## **FAMILY DISCUSSION:**

How has the Lord provided for our family? Do you trust that the Lord is with you even in your darkest hour? What do you think about when you read that the Lord is our Shepherd? Who will dwell with God forever?

## **FAMILY PRAYER:**

Ask your family members to share prayer requests and praises and then close today's devotion with a time of prayer.



# HOW TO LEAD FAMILY WORSHIP

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## CHOOSE A FAMILY DEVOTIONAL PLAN

Whether you use resources on the Gospel Family website, read through a book of the Bible together, or purchase a Family Devotion Bible, choose a plan for your time in the Word together. With this plan, you will know where to start each devotion.

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## ENDURE THE GROWING PAINS AS YOU BEGIN

Family Worship is new for many families. As you begin leading your household you may encounter growing pains. You may feel unprepared, children may seem disinterested, & it may not go how you imagined. Persevere. Don't give up. It will become more natural as you go.

6

## STAY CONSISTENT AND RESTART WHEN YOU DRIFT

Consistency is important as we demonstrate the essential nature of family worship. Children grow accustomed to sharing prayers, parents grow in their leadership, & it becomes an important and sweet family habit. When you do drift, gather the family, recast the vision, restart the rhythms, and rediscover the joy of Family Worship.

# FAMILY WORSHIP IN THE BIBLE

## TEACHING OUR CHILDREN THE WAY OF THE LORD:

- Genesis 18:19

## SERVING THE LORD AS A FAMILY

- Joshua 24:15

## TEACHING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HOMES:

- Deuteronomy 6:4-9

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORKS TO THE NEXT GENERATION

- Psalm 78:1-8

## EXAMPLES OF FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- 2 Timothy 1:5, 3:15; Ephesians 6:4

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**



# ELEMENTS OF FAMILY WORSHIP

## **FAMILY TIME IN THE WORD**

One of the most important aspects of Family Worship is simply enjoying the Word of God together. We seek to know the Lord more as we read the Bible in our homes. Begin family devotion by reading a Bible passage.

## **FAMILY TEACHING AND DISCUSSION**

After we read a passage of Scripture together, parents in the home can teach the Scripture to the rest of the family. Commentaries, study Bibles, and some online resources can help us as we teach the Word of God. We desire all family members to actively participate in family worship and for us to talk about Scripture together. We can ask questions about the Bible passage and discuss the Word together.

## **FAMILY PRAYER AND PRAISE REQUESTS**

We long to know the hearts of our family members and to bring all burdens to the Lord in prayer. Give each family member an opportunity to share prayer requests that are weighing on their hearts. Just as families share many needs, they also share many blessings. Ask each family member to share a praise so that the family can worship the Lord together for the blessings enjoyed in your home.

## **FAMILY PRAYER**

Now that you have shared prayer requests and praises, lift these up together in joint family prayer. You can have one person pray or everyone can pray as you seek the Lord together, trusting everything in His hands.

3

# HOW TO LEAD FAMILY WORSHIP

1

## **SHARE THE VISION WITH YOUR FAMILY**

Our prayer is that you are excited about the many ways the Lord can use Family Worship in your home even if you have never practiced it before. To start this new journey, gather the family and share this vision so that they can be excited too.

2

## **ADD INTENTIONALITY TO CURRENT RHYTHMS**

Deuteronomy 6:7 calls parents to teach God's Word to their children, "when you sit in your house, walk by the way, lie down, and when you rise." We do not have to add anything extra to our schedules, we just need to add intentionality to the rhythms of our days.

3

## **CHOOSE TIME AND PLACES FOR FAMILY WORSHIP**

Think through your weeks and family commitments and then choose the best times & places for Family Worship. Many families find opportunity for family worship around the table at dinner time, bedtime, in car-ride conversations, and weekend mornings.

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