

March 21-27, 2021

Family Worship Project: Decalogue, Lord's Prayer, Apostles' Creed

In 2021 we are working through the Ten Commandments (the Decalogue), the Lord's Prayer, and the Apostles' Creed. We will focus on one portion every two weeks. It would be a good idea to periodically review what you have already learned and put it all together to get the big picture. The goal is that these particular lessons will enrich your prayer life and deepen your closeness with God, both individually and as a family. If you would like a copy of the entire year by way of overview, please email Pastor Rick: rick.witmer@sunvalleychurch.org



"You shall not murder." Exodus 20:13

[Family Prayer \(here is some room for prayer items\)](#)

Throughout Scripture, we see God's chosen people leading their families in worship. Abraham led his children in the LORD (*Gen 18:17-19*), Joshua vowed to lead his family in worship (*Josh 24:15*), and we see Job do the same (*Job 1:5*). Family worship is also a command of God given in Deuteronomy 6:4-7 and Ephesians 6:4. Family worship is simple, with three elements: (1) read the Bible, (2) pray, and (3) sing to God. Our family worship liturgies are intended more as a toolbox than a tightrope – as a help rather than a hindrance. Select elements that will be helpful as you lead your family in simple Bible reading, prayer, and singing to God for 10 minutes or so each day. *Soli Deo Gloria!* (**Bold portions are for reading aloud corporately.**)

Call to Worship

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear
though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved
into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.**

Singing the Doxology

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

**The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
He utters His voice, the earth melts.
The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our Fortress."**

Psalm 46:1-7

Each week in Sunday Seminars, your children are sent home with a parent handout that walks through the main ideas from the Bible lesson. At some point in family worship, or perhaps around the dinner table, it would be a good idea to spend a few minutes talking with your kids about the truths they have learned, in the spirit of Deuteronomy 6:4-9.

Prayers of Adoration

Song of Adoration: "Be Thou My Vision"

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping Thy Presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom and Thou my true word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one

Be Thou my battle-shield, sword for my fight
Be Thou my dignity, Thou my delight
Thou my soul's shelter, Thou my high tower
Raise Thou me heavenward, O power of my power

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance now and always
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art

High King of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun
Heart of my own heart whatever befall
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

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Call to Confession (also this week's Fighter Verse)

"so that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father." Philippians 2:10-11

Confession of Sin

When you confess sin together as individuals and as a family, here are some different ways you could come before God:

- Someone can lead in a prayer of confession while others reflect that prayer in their hearts.
- With a few moments of silence, each person can pray in his or her heart secretly to God.
- Everyone can take turns, as they feel comfortable, confessing sin out loud. This helps us come before God in common as sinners in need of His mercy.

Or here is a corporate confession of prayer that those who are willing could pray out loud together:

Jesus Christ, You are Lord of heaven and earth, to the glory of God the Father. Your Spirit has given us the New Birth and set us on the path of life in the forgiveness of our sins, yet we have preferred the ways of death. We have refused to show Your lordship in our thoughts, words, attitudes, and actions, and we pray for Your mercy. Make us new and help us to live with You as our Master and God.

Gospel Promise

"Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His Name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.'" Luke 24:46-47

Song of Response

Bible Reading (up to one chapter/day is a good guide)