

January 10-16, 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 make for yourself a carved image,  
or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above,  
or that is in the earth beneath,  
or that is in the water under the earth.  
You shall not bow down to them or serve them,  
for I the LORD your God am a jealous God,  
visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children  
to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate Me,  
but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love Me and keep My  
commandments." Exodus 20:4-6

Family Prayer (here is some room for prayer items)

### Singing the Doxology

*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.*



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

"I love the LORD, because He has heard my voice and my please for mercy.

**Because He inclined His ear to me,  
therefore I will call on Him as long as I live....**

Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.  
The LORD preserves the simple;  
when I was brought low, He saved me.

**Return, O my soul, to your rest;  
for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you."**

Psalm 116:1-2, 5-7

### Prayers of Adoration

### Song of Adoration: "Fairest Lord Jesus"

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O Thou of God and man, the Son  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor Thou my soul's Glory, Joy, and Crown

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands  
Robed in the blooming garb of spring  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, Who makes the woeful heart to sing

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight and all the twinkling starry host  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels heav'n can boast

All fairest beauty, heavenly and earthly, wondrously Jesus is found in Thee  
None can be nearer, fairer, or dearer than Thou, my Savior, art to me

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of man  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration now and forevermore be Thine

*August Heinrich Hoffmann von Fallersleben, Joseph August Seiss  
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### Call to Confession (also this week's Fighter Verse)

"Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you,  
but to fear the LORD your God,  
to walk in all His ways,  
to love Him,  
to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,  
and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD,  
which I am commanding you today for your good?"  
Deuteronomy 10:12-13

### 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:

**Holy God, You have loved us and called us to love You. You gave us Your love in Your Son, Jesus Christ, and have made us new through His Gospel by the Holy Spirit. Yet we have so often walked in love for ourselves and failed to do the things that love does. Please forgive us for our self-centered pride, our fickle affections, and our love of the world. Purify our hearts, O God. Amen.**

### Gospel Promise

"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is." 1 John 3:1-2

### Song of Rejoicing

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