

January 24-30, 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 take the Name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His Name in vain." Exodus 20:7

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

"Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into His Presence with singing!

**Know that the LORD, He is God!
It is He Who made us, and we are His;
we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.**

Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!
Give thanks to Him; bless His Name!

**For the LORD is good;
His steadfast love endures forever,
and His faithfulness to all generations."**

Psalm 100

Prayers of Adoration

Song of Adoration: "All People That On Earth Do Dwell"

All People that on earth do dwell
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Serve Him with joy, His praises tell,
Come now before Him and rejoice

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
He formed us all without our aid.
We are the flock He surely feeds,
The sheep who by His hand were made.

O enter then His gates with joy,
Within His courts His praise proclaim!
Let thankful songs your tongues employ,
O bless and magnify His Name!

Because the Lord our God is good,
His mercy is forever sure;
His faithfulness at all times stood
And shall from age to age endure.

*Words and Music by William Keithe, Louis Bourgeois
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Call to Confession

"Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.
Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.
Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.
Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."
Romans 12:9-12

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:

We have put the fear of the Lord far away from us.
We have suppressed inclinations to pray.
We have not called on Your Name,
and have not stirred ourselves up to take hold of You.
We have heard You words, while all the time our hearts
have been filled with distracting thoughts
about the pleasures of this world.
We have often clung to evil and let go of the good,
and we need Your grace.
Have mercy on us for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son,
and help us to honor You through Him,
by Your Holy Spirit. Help us to serve You with gladness. Amen.

Gospel Promise (also this week's Fighter Verse)

"Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!
'For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been His counselor?'
'Or who has given a gift to Him that He might be repaid?'
For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.
To Him be glory forever. Amen."
Romans 11:33-36

Song of Rejoicing

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