

Household Worship Guide Sept 13 – Sept 19, '26

This household worship guide is designed to complement our Lord's Day sermons. Its purpose is to help focus your heart, mind, and life on the preached Word throughout the week, seamlessly connecting your household worship with our church's gathered worship.

We aim to enhance your thoughtful hearing of God's Word and encourage its deep meditation, so that it might truly take root in your lives. Therefore, during the early part of the week, this guide will help you reflect on the truths proclaimed on the Lord's Day just past. This reflection helps to solidify the Word's spiritual impact. Then, as the week progresses, we will turn our attention to the upcoming Lord's Day, preparing our hearts and minds. In this rhythm, we celebrate each Lord's Day as the pinnacle of our week.

Corporate worship is vital. It prepares us for the week ahead and offers a precious foretaste of our heavenly fellowship. Yet, our worship extends beyond the church gathering. This guide also encourages regular worship of God, both as families and as individuals, throughout the week.

FAITH BIBLE CHURCH (OPC)

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Prepare your heart for worship: Take a few moments of quiet before the service. Pray that the Lord would open your ears to hear His Word, soften your heart to receive it, and strengthen your will to obey it.

AM Sermon	Matthew 16:5–12 - <i>What is Shaping You</i>										
PM Sermon	Jeremiah 31:31–34 - <i>The Law That Gets Inside</i>										
Read the sermon text(s), then discuss one or more of these questions	1. What is the main idea of the sermon(s)? 2. In one sentence how did the sermon(s) impact you? 3. Which of the following did you find in the sermon(s)?<table><tr><td>A sin to confess</td><td>An example to follow</td></tr><tr><td>An error to avoid</td><td>A command to obey</td></tr><tr><td>A promise to claim</td><td>A prayer to pray</td></tr><tr><td>A blessing to enjoy</td><td>A warning to heed</td></tr><tr><td>A fault to abandon</td><td>A principle to live</td></tr></table>Something new (to you) about God, Christ, or yourself?	A sin to confess	An example to follow	An error to avoid	A command to obey	A promise to claim	A prayer to pray	A blessing to enjoy	A warning to heed	A fault to abandon	A principle to live
A sin to confess	An example to follow										
An error to avoid	A command to obey										
A promise to claim	A prayer to pray										
A blessing to enjoy	A warning to heed										
A fault to abandon	A principle to live										
• Is there something that ‘shines’ from the text—whatever impacts most, or draws attention? • Is there something you don’t understand, or a question the text raises in your mind? • Is there a personal application to your life? • Is there something you plan to share with someone else—and who will you share it with? • How do ideas in the text interrelate? Or with other passages in this book—or in the whole Bible? • How do you see Jesus Christ in the text?											
Praise	Psalms 84:1-4 (longing for God's courts)										
Pray	1. Pray that you would hide the word read and preached in your hearts, and bring forth its fruit in your lives. 2. Pray for a member of our church, for your family, and for a non-Christian friend/family member.										

Reading	Exodus 24:3-8 - The blood of the covenant secures our communion with God, replacing outward rituals with transforming grace.
Keys	• God initiates the covenant by His sheer sovereign grace. • The sprinkled blood demands our absolute, undivided consecration. • External ceremonies must permanently yield to inward, spiritual devotion.
Questions	1. Where do we trust outward religious rituals over inward transforming grace? 2. How does the blood of the covenant utterly expose our self-reliance? 3. Why do we consistently resist full submission to God's holy standard?
Notes	God formally ratifies His covenant with blood, externally sprinkling the people to consecrate them for fellowship. This prefigures the profound inward reality we witness in Christ, where the bread of life and the internalized law replace outward ceremonies with grace. We mistakenly trust our regular church attendance, forgetting that mere external obedience leaves the conscience uncleansed. The shed blood shatters our arrogant illusion that our moral efforts could ever satisfy divine justice. We rebel against God's standard because our fallen nature despises holy demands, though we share this same bitter struggle against the flesh daily. We often harbor deep spiritual complacency, resting lazily in our religious routines rather than true communion. Yet, since our merciful High Priest sympathizes completely with our weakness, cast yourselves entirely on the finished work of Christ for true cleansing.
Praise	Psalms 50:1-6 (God summons His covenant people)
Pray	1. Lord, cleanse our consciences by Your covenant blood. 2. Pray for a specific application or give thanks for change in you from last Lord's Day's sermons. 3. Father, grant [Name] grace to trust the covenant, and open the blind eyes of [Name] to see salvation.

Reading	Deuteronomy 30:6 - God alone can perform the inward spiritual surgery necessary to produce genuine, enduring love for Him.
Keys	• Self-righteousness acts as a deadly, pervasive leaven in our hearts. • Circumcision of the heart is a sovereign, divine prerogative. • True love for God flows only from a regenerated spirit.
Questions	1. What hidden leaven of spiritual pride currently infects our daily motives? 2. How does the promise of a circumcised heart completely destroy self-righteousness? 3. Where do we fake spiritual devotion while our affections remain freezing cold?
Notes	Moses promises that God will circumcise hearts, pointing directly to the spiritual renewal promised in the new covenant. This answers the deadly leaven of self-righteousness, proving that only God can perform the inward surgery necessary for genuine, enduring love. Our subtle spiritual pride constantly pollutes our good works, making us believe we deserve divine favor. God's promise to cut away our deadness destroys our boasting, proving that salvation relies solely on His sovereign grace. We masquerade as devoted saints while harboring cold affections, a painful hypocrisy we all battle in our quiet moments. Our hearts naturally drift toward the idol of moral self-sufficiency, trusting our own strength rather than divine intervention. Because our faithful Shepherd gently binds up our wandering and bruised souls, He presses us now to plead for the Spirit's cutting, cleansing work this very day.
Praise	Psalm 143:8-10 (teach me to do Your will)
Pray	1. Lord, surgically remove the leaven of pride and circumcise our stubborn hearts to love You. 2. Pray for a specific application or give thanks for change in you from last Lord's Day's sermons (make it unique from yesterday). 3. Lord, soften the heart of [Name] to obey, and pierce the stony heart of [Name] with gospel truth.

Reading	Hebrews 8:6-13 - The glorious fulfillment of the new covenant secures our total forgiveness and inward transformation.
Keys	• The new covenant eclipses the law's obsolete shadows. • God writes His holy character directly upon our renewed affections. • Total forgiveness forms the bedrock of our present spiritual peace.
Questions	1. In what specific ways do our hearts stubbornly cling to dead legalism? 2. Which hidden areas of our outward religion expose a lack of inward grace? 3. What prevents our guilty consciences from fully resting in God's absolute pardon?
Notes	Hebrews confirms Jeremiah's superior new covenant, where inward grace replaces dead outward ceremonies, permanently writing God's holy law upon our once-rebellious hearts. In our flesh, we constantly prefer manageable checklists of moral performance over messy, intimate communion with a sovereign Lord. Such outward posturing reveals a terrifying hollowness in our daily devotion, an exhausting hypocrisy we all lament in quiet moments. The sheer weight of our lingering guilt makes us doubt His staggering promise of total forgiveness. How prone our hearts are to build idols of self-atonement, desperately attempting to pay for sins already pardoned. Yet, since our merciful High Priest tenderly embraces our bruised and weary spirits, cast yourselves entirely upon the substitutionary atonement of our King.
Praise	Psalm 25:8-10 (the Lord teaches His covenant paths)
Pray	1. O God of all comfort, shatter our legalistic pride and melt our hearts with Your total pardon. 2. Confess one area where you still relate to God on old-covenant terms of performance, and ask for grace to rest in Christ's mediation instead. 3. Sovereign Spirit, establish the weary soul of [Name], and awaken the dead heart of [Name] to salvation.

Household Worship Guide

Thu Sept 17

Reading	Matthew 16:13-16 - True confession of Christ as the living Son of God anchors our faith securely forever.
Keys	• Jesus demands a personal, unwavering confession of His divine identity. • Public opinion tragically dilutes the glorious majesty of the true Messiah. • True spiritual sight requires a supernatural gift of grace from the Father.
Questions	1. When are we most tempted to shrink back from boldly proclaiming Christ to neighbors? 2. Which of our daily anxieties betray a functional belief that Jesus is merely human? 3. What hidden fears of man govern our tongues in the public square?
Notes	Jesus demands a personal confession of His divine identity, establishing the foundational rock of the church. This magnificent confession of the incarnate Son perfectly anchors our faith, securing the inward transformation of our hearts against all external opposition. The fear of human rejection frequently silences our witness, revealing a cowardly desire for earthly approval over divine commendation. In our frantic worrying, our actions demonstrate a practical atheism that strips the King of His sovereign power. We tremble before mortal men, a shameful weakness our fragile frames constantly exhibit. This cowardice exposes our persistent idol of worldly respectability, preferring the applause of society over the offense of the cross. How sweet is the truth that our gracious King pardons fearful saints. Come to Him now, and let your own mouth confess what only grace can teach you to say.
Praise	Psalm 118:19-24 (The stone rejected becomes the cornerstone)
Pray	1. Glorious King, embolden our tongues to confess Your divine majesty without fear of man. 2. Pray for the preparation for preaching God's word this Sunday. 3. Sovereign Lord, fortify the faith of [Name], and shatter the spiritual blindness of [Name].

Household Worship Guide

Fri Sept 18

Reading	Matthew 16:17-20 - The unstoppable church will storm the defensive gates of hell through bold gospel preaching.
Keys	• The keys of the kingdom operate strictly through faithful gospel proclamation. • Hell's defensive gates cannot withstand the offensive march of the militant church. • Christ alone is the sovereign architect and invincible builder of His flock.
Questions	1. How often do we rely on worldly pragmatism rather than the simple preached Word? 2. In what specific ways do we practically despair over the future of the church? 3. Where do our hearts secretly trust human traditions to unlock the kingdom of heaven?
Notes	Christ promises that His gathered body will storm the defensive gates of hell, advancing the kingdom through authoritative gospel proclamation. This majestic victory over darkness relies entirely upon the internal, regenerating work of the Spirit illuminating darkened minds. The allure of pragmatic methods constantly tempts our congregations to abandon the ordinary means of grace for flashy entertainment. When viewing the culture's decay, a paralyzing pessimism grips our souls, exposing our lack of faith in His promises. We foolishly elevate human experts, a tragic error we collectively confess. Our pragmatic scheming reveals a deep idol of self-reliance, treating the kingdom of God like a mere human enterprise. Yet, our triumphant Savior intimately pities our little faith. Cast all confidence on Him who alone builds and keeps His church.
Praise	Psalms 87:1-3 (The glorious foundation of Zion)
Pray	1. Almighty Defender, strip away our worldly pragmatism and arm us with the pure gospel. 2. Pray for the hearing of God's word preached this Sunday. 3. Majestic God, establish [Name] in unwavering hope, and unlock the prison of [Name] today.

Household Worship Guide

Sat Sept 19

Reading	2 Samuel 7:12-16 - God's eternal covenant with David anticipates the invincible, everlasting kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Keys	• God builds His kingdom apart from human merit. • The Messiah's steadfast throne provides our only lasting security. • Fatherly discipline confirms our adoption as God's beloved children.
Questions	1. What earthly kingdoms are we desperately trying to build for our own glory? 2. Why do our souls bitterly resist the loving, corrective rod of our heavenly Father? 3. Which fleeting comforts blind us to the eternal permanence of Christ's majestic reign?
Notes	God covenants with David to establish an eternal throne, perfectly anticipating the invincible kingdom of the promised Messiah. This rich historical guarantee secures our hope, assuring us that the Lord permanently plants His righteous rule within our renewed affections. Driven by pride, our hands relentlessly construct fragile monuments to our own success, ignoring the eternal realities of the heavenly city. Our stubborn flesh despises correction, leading us to chafe under the firm but loving rod of discipline. The temporary pleasures of this world easily enchant our easily distracted minds. We persistently worship the idol of earthly ease, demanding immediate comfort rather than submitting to the eternal Builder. Since the Man of Sorrows bore the ultimate rod of justice for us, cast yourselves entirely upon the shed blood of the Lamb. Lay down every self-appointed throne tonight, and rest your whole household in the King whose kingdom truly has no end.
Praise	Psalms 132:11-18 (The Lord's oath to David)
Pray	1. Eternal Father, dismantle our fragile earthly kingdoms and anchor our hearts in Your reign. 2. Pray for the reading and preaching of God's word tomorrow. 3. O God of grace, comfort [Name] under discipline, and bring [Name] to joyful repentance.