

Household Worship Guide Sept 27 – Oct 3, '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 16:21-28 - <i>The Life You Can't Keep</i>										
PM Sermon	Genesis 32:22-32 - <i>Blessed With a Limp</i>										
Read the sermon text(s), then discuss one or more of these questions	- What is the main idea of the sermon(s)? - In one sentence how did the sermon(s) impact you? - 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										
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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 16:5-11 (Delighting in the secure inheritance)										
Pray	- Pray that you would hide the word read and preached in your hearts, and bring forth its fruit in your lives. - Pray for a member of our church, for your family, and for a non-Christian friend/family member.										

Reading	Isaiah 53:5-6 - The Servant's substitutionary suffering exposes our deep rebellion and secures our total healing.
Keys	• Christ secures redemption strictly through the agony of the cross. • Our stubborn hearts despise the scandal of a suffering Savior. • True discipleship demands mortifying self-rule and embracing daily crosses.
Questions	1. What hidden comforts do we cherish more than obeying a crucified Lord? 2. In what specific ways are we rejecting God's painful but necessary providences? 3. When are we most tempted to demand glory before enduring affliction?
Notes	Isaiah prophesied the substitutionary torment of the Messiah, which Jesus directly applies to Himself before His stunned disciples. This substitution undergirds the call to lose our lives, demonstrating that suffering precedes glory in God's redemptive kingdom. We constantly elevate worldly ease above the rough path of obedience. Our complaints against bitter providences expose a deep aversion to the refining fire of affliction. Though we foolishly crave crowns without thorns, the Man of Sorrows intimately understands our frail resistance. He walks beside us, gently bearing our weakest steps toward obedience. Flee the deadly idol of self-preservation that promises life but delivers ruin. Knowing our Mediator was crushed for our iniquities, surrender your will to Him entirely. Cast yourselves wholly upon the perfect righteousness of the Redeemer.
Praise	Psalm 119:65-72 (Affliction yielding sweet obedience)
Pray	1. Sovereign Spirit, shatter our love of ease and grant us joy in cross-bearing. 2. Gracious Father, we bless You for yesterday's proclamation of truth, praying the preached Word bears much fruit in our home. 3. Strengthen [Name] to endure current trials, and awaken [Name] to the urgent need for a crucified Savior.

Reading	Psalm 22:1-3 - The terrible forsakenness of the Son purchased our eternal acceptance before the Holy One.
Keys	• The Son of Man will return with absolute sovereign judgment. • Worldly gains vanish utterly at the dawn of eternal majesty. • True life is only found in union with the King.
Questions	1. Which of our daily habits reveal a heart captivated by temporary treasures? 2. Into what worldly pursuits are we pouring our highest affections and energy? 3. Where is spiritual pride secretly blinding us to our desperate need for grace?
Notes	The psalmist's cry of dereliction points to the cross, contrasting sharply with the promised return of Christ in glory. This trajectory from agony to exaltation frames our own journey, reminding us that temporal losses yield eternal dividends. Obsessively hoarding earthly wealth and endlessly consuming trivial distractions betray a soul entranced by perishing dust rather than lasting joy. Chasing career accolades as our supreme affection proves believers often live as functional atheists, dangerously ignoring the approaching footsteps of our righteous Judge. Blinded by perceived self-sufficiency, mortals fail to recognize their deep spiritual poverty, although our merciful High Priest continually invites exhausted pilgrims to find sweet rest in His merit. Mortify the deceitful allure of worldly ambition that chokes out spiritual vitality. Since the returning King is also our gentle Shepherd, gladly lay down your earthly treasures. Rest completely in the unblemished obedience of the Second Adam.
Praise	Psalm 50:1-6 (God the righteous judge)
Pray	1. O King of Glory, melt our earthly affections and fix our eyes upon Your return. 2. Holy God, write the warnings of the sermon upon our consciences so we do not squander our days. 3. Remind [Name] of their eternal inheritance, and open the blind eyes of [Name] to coming judgment.

Reading	Genesis 27:1-41 - Human deception and grasping ambition always leave spiritual wreckage in their wake.
Keys	• God sovereignly cripples our self-reliance to bless us with Himself. • Scheming for worldly advantage destroys family harmony and peace. • True strength is discovered only in desperate, clinging weakness.
Questions	1. What manipulative strategies are we employing to secure our own desired outcomes? 2. Whom have we wounded in our restless pursuit of control and success? 3. At what point will we stop wrestling God and finally submit to His will?
Notes	Jacob's earlier history of deception sets the stage for his midnight wrestling match at the Jabbok. Here we see that the Lord must break our deceptive, grasping nature to grant the limp that signifies genuine covenant blessing. Controlling behaviors expose a faithless heart attempting to steal what God graciously provides in His timing. Our relentless ambition leaves behind fractured relationships and deep hurts. We stubbornly fight divine providence, yet our faithful Covenant Lord mercifully disables our pride so we might discover the safety of His arms. Repent of the fleshly scheming that seeks to manipulate the sovereign decrees of heaven. Because He wounds only to heal, willingly embrace the painful dislocations of life. Cling desperately to the victorious mediation of God's Son.
Praise	Psalms 147:1-6 (The Lord heals the brokenhearted)
Pray	1. Lord of Hosts, dislocate our proud self-reliance and teach us to lean on You. 2. Father of mercies, deepen our gratitude for the wounds of discipline preached to us this past Sunday evening. 3. Grant [Name] a peaceful submission to Your providence, and graciously break the stubborn pride of [Name].

Household Worship Guide

Thu Oct 1

Reading	Matthew 17:1-3 - The unveiled glory of the Son eclipses all earthly splendor and silences our fears.
Keys	• Christ temporarily pulls back the veil to reveal His divine majesty. • The law and prophets entirely point to and culminate in Jesus. • Divine glory rightly produces holy terror in sinful, frail humanity.
Questions	1. Is our vision of the Savior too small and dangerously domesticated? 2. To what earthly authorities are we looking instead of the glorified Christ? 3. Why do we so easily lose sight of heavenly realities amidst daily trivialities?
Notes	This glimpse of Transfiguration glory answers the sobering call to cross-bearing, confirming that the suffering Servant is indeed the exalted King. It foreshadows the sure, prophetic word we will hear explored in the upcoming evening exposition. We frequently shrink the Lord of glory down to a manageable, non-threatening companion. Our hearts foolishly elevate human wisdom over the blinding purity of the Word made flesh. Earthly cares quickly obscure our eternal hope, but our sympathetic High Priest stoops down to lift our trembling frames from the dust. Cast down the pathetic, miniature gods you have crafted in your own image. How sweet is the truth that His majesty is clothed in mercy for sinners. Hide yourselves continually in the spotless obedience of our Immanuel.
Praise	Psalms 97:1-6 (The terrifying majesty of God)
Pray	1. O Radiant King, consume our trivial pursuits with a stunning vision of Your divine glory. 2. Sovereign Lord, fiercely guard our pastor's study time, illuminating his mind to faithfully prepare this week's exposition. 3. Comfort [Name] with glimpses of coming glory, and reveal the majesty of Christ to [Name].

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Fri Oct 2

Reading	Matthew 17:4-8 - The Father commands our absolute submission to His beloved Son who alone removes our dread.
Keys	• We often speak foolishly when overwhelmed by the Lord's terrifying presence. • The Father's voice isolates Jesus as the supreme, final revelation. • Christ speaks peace to those paralyzed by the terror of divine holiness.
Questions	1. Into what areas of our lives is the Father commanding us to simply listen? 2. What hasty words do we offer God when quiet reverence is required? 3. Could our spiritual exhaustion stem from trying to build tabernacles on earth?
Notes	Peter's blundering attempt to memorialize the moment is interrupted by the Father's absolute endorsement of the Son. This text perfectly anticipates Sunday's call to heed the prophetic word, reminding us that suffering gives way to eternal joy. Our restless activism frequently drowns out the quiet, authoritative voice of the Almighty. We babble nervously in prayer when silent awe should capture our tongues. Building earthly kingdoms drains our spiritual vitality, yet the tender Savior touches our terrified shoulders, telling His beloved sheep to rise and fear not. Abandon the foolish endeavor of attempting to manage or contain the glory of God. Since His perfect love casts out our paralyzing dread, quiet your anxious souls before Him. Trust exclusively in the substitutionary atonement of the God-Man.
Praise	Psalms 85:8-13 (peace through righteousness)
Pray	1. Father of Lights, silence our foolish words and incline our ears to hear Your Son alone. 2. Gracious God, plow the hardened soil of our hearts so we might eagerly receive the preached Word on the approaching Sabbath as a means of grace. 3. Lift the fears paralyzing [Name], and grant [Name] the grace to finally hear the gospel call.

Household Worship Guide

Sat Oct 3

Reading	Hebrews 1:1-3 - Christ radiates the exact imprint of God's nature, upholding the entire cosmos by His word.
Keys	• Jesus is the ultimate, definitive word spoken to a rebellious creation. • He purged our sins before taking His seat in unapproachable majesty. • The universe continues to exist solely by His sustaining power.
Questions	1. Does the reality of Christ upholding our very breath humble our proud autonomy? 2. In what ways do we seek fresh revelations while neglecting the finality of Jesus? 3. Where are we failing to adore the One who purged our vile iniquities?
Notes	The author of Hebrews echoes Peter's testimony of Christ's majesty, demonstrating that the prophetic word culminates in the Son. As we prepare for tomorrow's sermons, we are reminded that our suffering Savior now reigns in unrivaled supremacy. Our illusion of independence shatters when we realize we cannot draw a single breath without His sustaining command. Chasing novel spiritual experiences betrays a heart unsatisfied with the supreme revelation of the Savior. We grossly underestimate our sinfulness, though our merciful High Priest, having finished His purifying work, now intercedes for our wayward souls. Turn away from the empty cisterns of worldly philosophy that offer no lasting purification. Because the exalted Lord stoops to sustain the bruised reed, bring your shattered lives to Him. Rest your eternal hope upon the finished work of Christ.
Praise	Psalm 110:1-5 (The sovereign rule of the eternal Priest-King)
Pray	1. Upholding Lord, humble our independent spirits and cause us to marvel at Your cosmic sovereignty. 2. Holy Spirit, unction our minister with power tomorrow and give the congregation hungry ears to devour the Scriptures. 3. Sustain the weary soul of [Name] today, and powerfully draw [Name] to the cleansing fountain of grace.