

Household Worship Guide Sept 6 – Sept 12, '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)

307 Mantoloking Rd.

Brick, NJ 08723

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 15:29 - 16:4 - <i>You're Reading the Wrong Signs</i>										
PM Sermon	Jonah 1:1–2:10 - <i>Down Into the Deep</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										
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A promise to claim	A prayer to pray										
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• 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 95:1-6 (Reverence before the great King)										
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	Isaiah 55:10-11 - God's sovereign Word accomplishes its precise redemptive purpose in our stubborn hearts.
Keys	• God sends His Word to powerfully break our hardened, unbelieving hearts. • The Lord never fails to achieve His exact eternal, saving purposes. • We must humbly receive the Word rather than demanding visible proof.
Questions	1. Do we doubt the ordinary means of grace while craving spectacular signs? 2. Where are we resisting the clear commands of Scripture to justify our cherished sins? 3. How does our demand for immediate results expose a profound lack of faith?
Notes	The prophet Isaiah assures us that the Lord's declarations never return void. This illuminates our morning study of Christ miraculously feeding the Gentiles, proving He is the true bread, while we often mirror Jonah in fleeing God's clear voice. We persistently crave dazzling signs to validate our faith, entirely neglecting the feast Christ provides in the preached Word. We harbor secret rebellions, twisting the Scriptures to accommodate our worldliness rather than submitting to their authority. This restless impatience for visible proof lays bare our spiritual poverty and deep-seated unbelief. Beloved, Christ has not changed, and His compassion for weary, hungry sheep is not exhausted by our present need. Do not let your soul starve while sitting at a table already spread before you. Cast every anxious calculation upon Him and receive what only His hand can multiply.
Praise	Psalms 119:89-93 (The enduring perfection of Scripture)
Pray	1. Ask the Lord to make His Word fruitful in our souls. 2. Pray for a specific application or give thanks for change in you from last Lord's Day's sermons. 3. Lord, sustain [Name] in faith, and graciously open the blind eyes of [Name] to the gospel.

Reading	Exodus 34:6-7 - Our covenant God overflows with steadfast love while remaining perfectly just toward unrepentant sinners.
Keys	• God reveals Himself abundantly through His steadfast love and perfect justice. • The Lord forgives iniquity but by no means clears the guilty. • We must rest in His revealed character, rejecting our subjective demands.
Questions	1. Do we presume upon covenant grace while casually tolerating secret sins in our homes? 2. How does our refusal to trust God's character mirror the Pharisees' wicked unbelief? 3. In what ways do we try to manipulate God into serving our earthly agendas?
Notes	God's self-revelation to Moses anchors our faith in His covenant sovereignty. Just as Jesus condemned the Pharisees for demanding signs while ignoring His grace, and just as Jonah forgot God's mercy in the storm, we must cling to Scripture. We boldly abuse the grace of God when we treat our daily transgressions as trivial matters of no consequence. Our stubborn refusal to trust His promises reveals a pharisaical heart that demands God prove Himself on our terms. We constantly attempt to harness the Almighty as a servant for our worldly ambitions. Our hearts are veritable factories of idols, churning out self-righteous demands day after day. Yet our sympathetic High Priest intimately knows our frail frame, tenderly covering our filthy rags with His perfect righteousness. Therefore, let us turn from the empty wisdom of this age, and cast ourselves entirely upon His bleeding mercy today.
Praise	Psalms 103:8-12 (God's abundant, fatherly compassion)
Pray	1. Plead for a deeper reverence for God's holy and merciful character. 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. Father, grant [Name] deep assurance, and mercifully draw [Name] out of the darkness of unbelief.

Reading	Psalm 107:23-32 - God sovereignly commands the terrifying storms of life to bring His rebellious children to desperate reliance.
Keys	• The Lord sends tempests to shatter our illusions of absolute control. • True deliverance comes only when we cry out in total helplessness. • He rescues us from the deep to cultivate our unending gratitude.
Questions	1. What specific storms are we actively resenting instead of seeing God's severe mercy? 2. Are we sleeping in the hull of apathy while a spiritually lost world perishes? 3. How does our pride prevent us from crying out to Christ in genuine desperation?
Notes	The Psalmist's depiction of sailors crying out in the tempest vividly illustrates our evening text regarding Jonah's descent into the deep. Like the sign-seeking Pharisees, Jonah was blinded by pride until God's severe mercy broke him through the storm. We bitterly complain about our providential trials instead of recognizing them as the loving discipline of a holy God. We remain comfortably asleep in our spiritual privilege while our neighbors face eternal destruction. Our stubborn self-reliance forms a thick wall of pride that keeps us from falling helplessly at the feet of our Savior. We are prone to run from our calling, yet the Lord chases us into the deep to save us from ourselves. Surrender your illusion of control, and lean entirely on the anchor of Christ's finished, redemptive work.
Praise	Psalm 130:1-8 (Out of the depths I cry to You)
Pray	1. Ask for the grace to see God's loving hand in our afflictions. 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, comfort [Name] in current trials, and awaken the dead soul of [Name] to salvation.

Household Worship Guide

Thu Sept 10

Reading	Matthew 16:5-10 - We must carefully guard our minds against insidious false teaching by remembering God's past faithfulness.
Keys	• False teaching operates invisibly like leaven to corrupt our fragile faith. • We easily forget the Lord's abundant provision when facing minor inconveniences. • Spiritual discernment requires active reflection on Christ's past mighty works.
Questions	1. What modern subjective philosophies have we allowed to subtly leaven our biblical worldview? 2. Why do we panic over daily provisions when Christ has already conquered the grave? 3. How does our spiritual amnesia rob us of bold confidence in the gospel?
Notes	Jesus warns His disciples about the invisible, pervasive yeast of false doctrine. This connects directly to the Pharisees' wicked demand for signs, and reminds us that, much like Jonah, we easily forget God's miraculous provisions when facing new trials. We foolishly absorb the relativistic culture around us, trusting our own inner feelings over the objective truth of Scripture. We fret endlessly over our material needs because we have lost sight of the cross. This chronic forgetfulness paralyzes our faith, leaving us completely vulnerable to the deceptive anxieties of this passing age. We often act like spiritual orphans grasping for worldly crumbs, yet our compassionate King has already spread a glorious feast before us. He graciously pities our forgetful wanderings, tenderly sustaining our fragile faith in the barren wilderness. Therefore, cast away the toxic yeast of cultural compromise, and feed exclusively upon the bread of life today.
Praise	Psalms 78:1-7 (Remembering the glorious deeds)
Pray	1. Beg the Lord for sharp discernment against the subtle errors of our day. 2. Pray for the preparation for preaching God's word this Sunday. 3. Grant [Name] a steadfast mind, and expose the deceitful lies binding the heart of [Name].

Household Worship Guide

Fri Sept 11

Reading	Matthew 16:11-12 - True spiritual maturity demands that we look beyond temporal needs to discern the dangerous doctrines surrounding us.
Keys	• We often reduce Christ's cosmic truth to merely solving our earthly problems. • The Lord patiently repeats His warnings to heal our stubborn ignorance. • Discernment is a vital grace we must actively cultivate through the Word.
Questions	1. Are we treating Jesus as a mere supplier of bread rather than our sovereign Lord? 2. Where are we relying on our own subjective feelings instead of objective biblical truth? 3. How does our lack of spiritual vigilance invite the world's corruption into our homes?
Notes	The disciples finally realize Jesus is confronting the corrupting doctrine of the religious leaders. This underscores our morning focus on rejecting spiritual blindness, while reminding us that, like Jonah, we must be jolted awake from our natural lethargy. We grossly diminish the glory of Christ when we view Him merely as a divine therapist for our earthly troubles. We arrogantly elevate our personal experiences and desires above the immutable decrees of God's holy law. Our lazy indifference to theology opens the front door of our hearts to the most destructive falsehoods of society. We are easily distracted sheep wandering into toxic pastures, but our gracious Shepherd patiently redirects our gaze to His truth. Mortify your reliance on inward feelings, and rest securely on the unshakeable foundation of the completed atonement.
Praise	Psalms 119:97-105 (God's Word as a guiding lamp)
Pray	1. Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to illuminate our minds. 2. Pray for the hearing of God's word preached this Sunday. 3. Deepen the theological roots of [Name], and powerfully pierce the conscience of [Name] unto repentance.

Household Worship Guide

Sat Sept 12

Reading	Psalm 51:10-12 - Only the supernatural work of God can create a clean heart and restore our shattered joy.
Keys	• Sin defiles the deepest affections of our hearts, requiring divine recreation. • We cannot renew our own spirits but must plead for God's sustaining grace. • The joy of salvation is the only true antidote to our rebellious wandering.
Questions	1. Have we allowed unconfessed sin to quietly drain the spiritual vitality from our worship? 2. Why do we attempt to clean our own hearts instead of pleading for divine intervention? 3. Does the joy of our salvation still animate our daily obedience to Christ?
Notes	David's desperate plea for inward renewal perfectly prepares us for our upcoming Lord's Day. It remedies the pharisaical hypocrisy we see in Matthew, and it reflects the profound repentance Jonah experienced when swallowed by the depths of God's judgment. We harbor hidden iniquities that slowly suffocate our joy and leave our worship feeling dry, hollow, and utterly lifeless. We stubbornly rely on our own moral efforts to achieve righteousness, acting as if the Holy Spirit's regenerating power is unnecessary. Our cold obedience reveals a heart that has forgotten the astonishing thrill of unmerited pardon. We are hopelessly contaminated by the fall and incapable of washing ourselves, yet the Savior's blood provides complete purification. Abandon your pathetic attempts at self-reformation, cast your ruined soul upon the cleansing mercy of Christ.
Praise	Psalm 32:1-5 (The blessedness of true confession)
Pray	1. Beseech the Father to grant us clean hearts for Lord's Day worship. 2. Pray for the reading and preaching of God's word tomorrow. 3. Restore the spiritual joy of [Name], and shatter the hard, unyielding heart of [Name] today.