

Household Worship Guide Oct 18 – Oct 24, '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 17:24–27 - <i>One Debt He Never Owed</i>										
PM Sermon	Exodus 30:11-16 - <i>What God Says You're Worth</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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• 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 111:4-9 (Proclaiming the Lord's covenant redemption)										
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	2 Samuel 24:1-25 - David's proud census reveals the peril of self-reliance, driving contrite souls to God's altar of atonement.
Keys	• Carnal census counting replaces humble trust in the sovereign Yahweh. • Sin provokes divine wrath, demanding a costly ransom. • Christ willingly endures judgment to redeem a free people.
Questions	1. Where do we seek security when national or personal strength seems to falter? 2. What hidden pride prompts us to measure our worth by earthly resources? 3. In what ways do we resist yielding full submission to God's sovereign demands?
Notes	David's foolish census exposes human self-reliance, yet God provided an altar to turn away divine wrath. This historical judgment underscores Christ's voluntary submission in paying the temple tax, where the innocent King endured payment to liberate indebted covenant sons. We constantly lean upon creaturely strength when world troubles brew. Earthly prosperity blinds us, prompting vain pride in numerical assets. Rather than yielding to divine sovereignty, our hearts foolishly assert independence from God's holy law. Though our pride warrants severe chastisement, Christ entered our misery and bore the holy curse that hung over us. Self-righteous efforts will never satisfy God's justice or cleanse a stained conscience. Because our compassionate High Priest paid our full redemption price through the shed blood of the Lamb, abandon all self-reliance and cling wholly to His mercy today.
Praise	Psalms 130:1-6 (Hope waits for mercy)
Pray	1. Sovereign Spirit, shatter our self-reliant pride and fix our souls upon Christ's voluntary substitutionary debt-payment. 2. Heavenly Father, we bless You for sending Your Son to pay the tax debt He never owed to redeem us. 3. Fortify [Name] with gospel assurance today, and awaken [Name] to seek Christ's saving grace before judgment comes.

Reading	Numbers 3:44-51 - Divine redemption requires an exact ransom, pointing to the satisfaction Christ provided for His people.
Keys	• Divine law demands exact redemption money for every single covenant firstborn. • Christ claims sovereign royal exemption yet condescends to pay our debt. • Creation obeys the Son, supplying the ransom fish for helpless sinners.
Questions	1. Which daily habits reveal that we treat God's miraculous grace as commonplace? 2. When are we most tempted to claim exemption from humble service to others? 3. What reveals our subtle belief that God owes us special favor or standing?
Notes	God required exact redemption money for Israel's firstborn, revealing that every soul belongs to Yahweh. In Matthew, Christ proved His absolute divine kingship through the fish's coin, demonstrating that while sons are free, He pays our ransom to prevent spiritual offense. Our ungrateful hearts routinely overlook daily providences as mere coincidence. Pride convinces us that we deserve privilege, making us shrink from humble service toward others. Entitlement deceives us into thinking God owes us special favor. Yet, despite our persistent coldness, the Savior condescended to pay what He never owed to ransom us. Complacency in the Christian life grieves the Holy Spirit and hardens the soul. Resting in the truth that Christ has secured our everlasting freedom by the all-sufficient merits of our Mediator, turn away from self-exaltation and flee to His open arms.
Praise	Psalm 49:5-12 (No man can ransom)
Pray	1. Covenant God, kindle humble faith in Christ's sufficient and personal provision for His people. 2. Turn Sunday's sermon into thankful obedience, not mere remembered words. 3. Uphold [Name] in faith; bring [Name] from self-salvation to Christ's ransom.

Reading	Romans 13:1-7 - God ordains civil authorities to execute earthly order, calling believers to render submission, taxes, and honor due.
Keys	• Civil rulers possess divine authority to exact taxes from citizens. • Spiritual liberty in Christ never cancels earthly civic duty and obedience. • Rich and poor require equal ransom before God.
Questions	1. How do our financial priorities demonstrate our submission to God's ordained authorities? 2. What unmortified greed prevents us from viewing our possessions as belonging to God? 3. In what areas do we refuse to render honor to whom honor is due?
Notes	Paul instructs believers to pay taxes and render honor to civil magistrates who govern under God's providence. This earthly duty mirrors the sanctuary ransom of Exodus, where every soul stood on equal footing before God, receiving redemption through a fixed price. Financial anxiety exposes our reluctance to trust God's sovereign care in paying taxes. Covetousness whispers that our wealth belongs to us rather than to the Lord. Pride resists honoring authorities whose faults annoy us. Nevertheless, our tender Redeemer loved us while we were rebellious, washing us in His own precious blood. Indifference toward civil righteousness betrays a heart ungrateful for heavenly pardon. How sweet is the truth that our complete acceptance rests in the perfect righteousness of the Redeemer; therefore, cast aside all worldly greed and serve Him with single-minded devotion.
Praise	Psalms 82:1-8 (Judge of all rulers)
Pray	1. Righteous Governor, subdue our rebellious hearts to submit joyfully to all lawfully ordained human authorities. 2. Gracious Father, write upon our consciences that all believers stand equally redeemed through the ransom of Christ's blood. 3. Anchor [Name] in Your steadfast truth, and illumine the darkened mind of [Name] with saving light.

Household Worship Guide

Thu Oct 22

Reading	Matthew 18:1-6 - True kingdom greatness belongs not to the self-exalting, but to those who humble themselves like little children before God.
Keys	• Carnal ambition craves position, but Christ demands child-like spiritual lowliness. • True kingdom greatness consists in humble dependence rather than self-exaltation. • Causing Christ's little ones to stumble invites divine wrath.
Questions	1. What secret ambition for earthly status hinders true child-like humility in our hearts? 2. Which subtle offenses in our speech cause weaker believers to stumble in faith? 3. Why do we cling to spiritual pride rather than embracing kingdom lowliness?
Notes	Christ turns worldly ambition upside down by placing a child in the disciples' midst as the model of kingdom entry. True greatness before God requires complete stripping of self-importance, matching the contrite heart described in Isaiah where God dwells with the lowly. Secret longing for human applause poisons our desire for kingdom humility. Careless speech frequently stumbles young believers who observe our hypocrisy. Self-reliance drives us to boast in achievements instead of resting in grace. How wondrous that Jesus welcomed spiritual bankrupts, wrapping us in His own gentle love when we were helpless. Spiritual arrogance blinds the conscience and cuts off fellowship with the Father. Since our standing is grounded entirely upon the spotless obedience of the Son, lay down all vainglory and bow your heart before the King of glory.
Praise	Psalm 131:1-3 (Cultivating a quiet, child-like spirit)
Pray	1. Exalted Shepherd, vivify our souls with genuine, child-like lowliness before Your majesty. 2. Sovereign Lord, fortify our pastor with divine unction as he prepares to herald Your truth this Lord's Day. 3. Preserve [Name] in humble faith, and awaken [Name] from spiritual slumber to behold the Lamb.

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Fri Oct 23

Reading	Matthew 18:7-10 - Believers must radically sever every stumbling block of sin to guard their walk and treasure Christ's little ones.
Keys	• Worldly offenses are inevitable, yet personal temptation demands ruthless mortification. • Sins of hand, foot, and eye require drastic spiritual severing daily. • The Father eternally guards and values the humblest of His saints.
Questions	1. What cherished idols must we ruthlessly cut off to protect our spiritual walking? 2. When do we minimize the deadly danger of lingering near worldly temptations? 3. In what moments do private thoughts betray a lack of reverence for Christ's little ones?
Notes	Jesus warns against causing stumbling and commands the immediate cutting off of hands, feet, or eyes. Mortification of sin demands total severity, matching Isaiah's call to clear the obstacle-strewn highway so humble souls may draw near to God's presence. Cherished lusts and hidden compromise hinder our daily communion with God. We foolishly flirt with worldly temptations, underestimating sin's blinding power. Harsh judgments toward weaker brethren reveal a haughty spirit that despises Christ's redeemed ones. Yet, our merciful Savior bore our transgressions, shielding us from the eternal fire we justly deserved. Treating persistent sin lightly brings spiritual decay and grieves the Holy Comforter. Upheld by the sovereign mercy of our Covenant Head, wage unsparing war against lingering idols and entrust your soul to His keeping.
Praise	Psalms 101:1-5 (Walking in integrity and mortifying sin)
Pray	1. Holy Father, purify our desires and grant us grace to mortify every stumbling block of sin. 2. O God of truth, prepare our hearts to hear Your Word preached this Sunday with humble submissiveness. 3. Comfort [Name] in trial today, and grant [Name] repentance unto life through Your holy Word.

Household Worship Guide

Sat Oct 24

Reading	2 Chronicles 7:14 - Genuine covenant restoration flows from heart-felt humility, earnest prayer, and turning from wicked ways before the Lord.
Keys	• True revival requires deep humbling before God's holy face. • Earnest prayer seeking God's face must precede divine healing and restoration. • Repentance turns decisively from wicked ways to receive covenant mercy.
Questions	1. Which worldly comforts keep us from humbling ourselves in urgent, prevailing prayer? 2. What unconfessed wicked ways currently blunt our spiritual appetite for holy communion? 3. Where have we settled for superficial repentance instead of true heart-broken contrition?
Notes	God promises to hear, forgive, and heal His people when they humble themselves, pray, and turn from wicked ways. This ancient covenant promise aligns with Isaiah's invitation to contrite hearts, assuring us that God revives the humble who seek His face. Sensual ease and earthly busyness make our prayer lives cold and formal. Secret unconfessed sins dull our spiritual appetite for holy preaching and Sabbath worship. Superficial remorse often substitutes for deep sorrow over our offenses against God. Even so, our High Priest continuously intercedes for us, pleading His righteousness on our behalf. Formal religion without repentance leaves the soul barren and vulnerable. Since our High Priest's intercession secures grace for the contrite, rend your heart and prepare for His holy sanctuary.
Praise	Psalm 85:6-13 (Pleading for revival and holy restoration)
Pray	1. O God of all grace, ready our household to seek Your face with repentance, expectancy, and faith. 2. Gracious King, empower the reading and preaching of Your Word tomorrow across both sacred assemblies. 3. Uplift [Name] with holy joy, and draw [Name] into saving union with Christ this Sabbath.