

Household Worship Guide Oct 25 – Oct 31, '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 18:1-10 - <i>Stop Chasing Greatness</i>										
PM Sermon	Isaiah 57:14-21 - <i>He Restores the Crushed</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										
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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 113:1-9 (praising Yahweh who exalts the humble)										
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	Psalm 138:6 - Yahweh regards the lowly with favor while keeping distance from the proud.
Keys	• Pride craves prestige in Christ's kingdom. • Jesus sets a helpless child before ambitious hearts as true majesty. • True conversion demands radical humbling of self before Yahweh's throne.
Questions	1. In what specific ways do we measure spiritual greatness against our brethren? 2. What hidden pride prevents us from receiving God's kingdom like a child? 3. Which of our daily habits reveal a stubborn resistance to humble dependence?
Notes	Matthew 18:1-4 confronts our innate craving for self-exaltation by establishing child-like dependence as the required standard into Christ's kingdom. This truth mirrors our Lord's Day exposition, where Yahweh exalts the lowly and restores those crushed by pride. We measure our status against others whenever spiritual privileges become grounds for comparison rather than thanksgiving. Hidden pride tempts us to trust in religious achievements, blinding us to our total insufficiency before the Holy One. Our relentless self-reliance in daily duties betrays a heart that resists simple, prayerful dependence upon our Heavenly Father. Yet, as needy children, our merciful God does not cast off His weak offspring when we confess our arrogant stumblings. Mortifying this subtle self-righteousness, let us flee daily to the perfect righteousness of the Redeemer, finding our entire acceptance in Him alone.
Praise	Psalm 131:1-3 (resting quietly in divine humility)
Pray	1. Sovereign Father, humble our haughty hearts and grant us the gentle, trusting spirit of little children before Thy throne. 2. Heavenly King, cause the truths of Sunday's sermon to take deep root, putting to death our foolish desire for prominence. 3. Holy Spirit, grant humble faith to [Name] and awaken unbelieving [Name] to their deep spiritual poverty today.

Reading	Proverbs 3:34 - Yahweh scorns the arrogant yet bestows bountiful grace upon the humble.
Keys	• Offending Christ's humble disciples incurs severe covenant judgment from Almighty God. • Radical mortification of personal sin remains essential for true kingdom life. • Heavenly angels constantly watch over the smallest believers before Yahweh's face.
Questions	1. When are we most tempted to cause a weaker believer to stumble spiritually? 2. Where in our hearts do we cherish sins that desperately require drastic mortification? 3. What subtle rationalizations excuse our indifference toward the vulnerable in our assembly?
Notes	Matthew 18:5-10 warns against causing Yahweh's little ones to stumble, demanding the ruthless mortification of personal sin. This divine solemnity matches our Sunday text, where Yahweh revives the humble while warning that there is no peace for the wicked who persist in pride. Indifference to our brother's spiritual welfare frequently betrays a self-absorbed heart that devalues those whom Christ bought. Sinful compromise in private thoughts subtly spreads temptation and scandal throughout the entire covenant community. Excusing our spiritual apathy only proves how severely we underestimate God's fiery jealousy for His blood-bought flock. Though our residual corruption grieves the Holy Spirit, Jesus tenderly guards His vulnerable sheep with almighty power. Cutting off cherished idols, we must cast our trembling souls entirely upon the all-sufficient merits of our Mediator.
Praise	Psalm 101:1-8 (walking with integrity in Yahweh's house)
Pray	1. Gracious King, purge our hearts of all spiritual arrogance and cause us to guard our brethren with holy watchfulness. 2. Covenant Lord, seal the warning of Lord's Day preaching upon us, that we may relentlessly mortify secret transgressions. 3. Sovereign God, preserve struggling [Name] in holiness and draw lost [Name] to flee wrath through gospel grace.

Reading	James 4:6-10 - Yahweh resists the proud but gives abundant grace to the humble.
Keys	• The high and holy Yahweh dwells with contrite spirits. • Stubborn rebellion provokes divine anger and removes the comfort of peace. • True revival comes only when we abandon self-reliance and mourn our sin.
Questions	1. Where do we stubbornly resist God's will? 2. Where do we secretly rely on human strength rather than mourning our spiritual bankruptcy? 3. Which daily habits expose a heart craving worldly comfort over holy communion with Yahweh?
Notes	Isaiah 57:14-21 reveals that the transcendent God chooses the contrite heart as His dwelling place, healing those He strikes. This profound truth mirrors our Lord's Day evening message, emphasizing that Yahweh revives the humble and restores the crushed. We stubbornly clutch our earthly ambitions whenever trials expose our lack of control. Self-reliance deceptively masks our deep spiritual poverty, blinding us to the urgent necessity of daily repentance. Though our wandering affections chase fleeting distractions, the Lord tenderly pities our foolish attempts to find peace apart from Him. How deeply reassuring is the promise that the High and Lofty One descends to bind up our self-inflicted wounds. Abandoning every foolish boast in human merit, lean entirely upon the sin-bearing substitute who freely secures our eternal peace and healing.
Praise	Psalms 147:1-6 (healing the deeply broken in heart)
Pray	1. O God of all comfort, shatter our stubborn pride and grant us a deeply contrite spirit. 2. Covenant Lord, apply the truths preached last Lord's Day, that we might rest in your restoring grace. 3. Sovereign Spirit, fortify afflicted [Name] in faith and awaken rebellious [Name] to seek your mercy today.

Household Worship Guide

Thu Oct 29

Reading	Matthew 18:12-14 - Yahweh relentlessly seeks every wandering sheep to bring them safely home.
Keys	• Yahweh actively searches for every straying sheep within His covenant fold. • Divine joy overflows when one lost believer is reclaimed from danger. • Heavenly Father decree guarantees that no true disciple will ever perish.
Questions	1. What subtle wandering in our hearts currently separates us from intimate communion with God? 2. When have we diminished Yahweh's intense, personal joy over the recovery of lost sinners? 3. Which straying sheep in our midst have we neglected to seek with Christ-like compassion?
Notes	Matthew 18:12-14 reveals the Shepherd's relentless pursuit of the single wandering sheep, assuring us that Yahweh will not the eternal destruction of any little one. This previews our upcoming Lord's Day theme of Yahweh Himself shepherding and tenderly restoring His scattered flock. Prone to wander, our foolish hearts easily stray into the dangerous pastures of worldly indulgence. Blinded by self-congratulation, we often view straying brethren with cold judgment rather than grieving over their peril. Our slowness to seek the wandering betrays how poorly we comprehend the Shepherd's passionate heart for the lost. Since our Chief Shepherd pursued us when we were helpless rebels, He will never abandon His weak, straying sheep. Abandoning our self-satisfied apathy, let us trust completely in the spotless obedience of Christ, our faithful Overseer.
Praise	Psalm 107:1-9 (delivering lost wanderers from distress and hunger)
Pray	1. Loving Shepherd, awaken our hearts to any secret wandering and grant us grace to restore straying brethren. 2. Almighty Father, prepare our pastor to preach your Word with holy power and tender affection this coming Lord's Day. 3. Sovereign Lord, comfort weary believer [Name] and seek out wandering [Name] by Thy converting grace today.

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Fri Oct 30

Reading	Matthew 18:15-20 - Christ grants holy authority and His abiding presence to His reconciled church.
Keys	• Private confrontation in love preserves brotherly unity and restores straying souls. • Church discipline carries solemn divine authority ratified in heaven above. • Reconciled believers exercise Christ's delegated authority to bind and loose.
Questions	1. In what ways do we harbor unbrotherly resentment rather than pursuing private, loving reconciliation? 2. Where have we substituted proud gossip for the sacred duty of personal admonition? 3. How does our neglect of church discipline dishonor Christ's holy presence in our assembly?
Notes	Matthew 18:15-20 lays down Christ's divine rule for lovingly restoring offending brothers, promising His potent presence wherever two or three gather in His name. This passage connects directly with our upcoming Lord's Day sermon on Christ shepherding His flock through holy order and gospel discipline. Harboring bitter grievances against an offending brother directly violates Christ's command to pursue quiet, restorative reconciliation. Self-righteous pride tempts us to broadcast another's faults publicly rather than winning their soul in private. Disregarding these solemn biblical steps treats Christ's authority in His church with dangerous contempt. Yet, what heavenly comfort belongs to us, knowing that our exalted King walks intimately among His gathered, repentant people. Casting aside all malice and self-justification, we must lean entirely upon the divine authority of the King of Glory.
Praise	Psalms 130:1-8 (waiting for Yahweh with abundant redemption)
Pray	1. Lord Jesus, grant us meekness to resolve offenses privately and preserve the sacred purity of Thy blood-bought flock. 2. Gracious God, tune our ears and prepare our hearts to hear Thy Word proclaimed with reverent faith this Sabbath. 3. Covenant Lord, grant peace to distressed [Name] and break the hardened heart of unconverted [Name] this coming Sabbath.

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Sat Oct 31

Reading	Jeremiah 23:1-6 - Yahweh condemns false shepherds and promises to raise up the righteous King of David.
Keys	• Woe rests upon self-serving shepherds who scatter and destroy Yahweh's sheep. • Yahweh promises to gather the scattered remnant and grant them true rest. • The Branch reigns wisely as Yahweh Our Righteousness forever.
Questions	1. What selfish motives cause spiritual leaders to feed themselves rather than Yahweh's flock? 2. Which false comforts do we embrace when earthly undershepherds fail us in ministry? 3. When do we fail to rejoice in Yahweh's promise of righteous Davidic Shepherds?
Notes	Jeremiah 23:1-6 pronounces terrible woe upon unfaithful shepherds who scatter Yahweh's flock, promising that Yahweh Himself will gather the remnant and raise up the righteous Branch of David. This anticipates our Sabbath evening text where Yahweh rescues and restores His wounded sheep. Relying on unfaithful human leadership rather than God's Word exposes our foolish preference for comfortable lies over disturbing truth. Idolatrous devotion to fallible men causes us to scatter and faint whenever spiritual leaders falter. Doubting Yahweh's sovereign covenant care betrays our wicked unbelief in the face of His explicit promises. How gloriously marvelous is the truth that Yahweh Our Righteousness has come to shepherd His weary heritage forever. Casting off all creaturely confidences, we must anchor our souls solely upon the substitutionary sacrifice of Jesus.
Praise	Psalms 80:1-7 (calling the Shepherd to shine forth and restore)
Pray	1. Sovereign King, raise up faithful undershepherds for your church and protect your flock from hirelings and wolves. 2. Lord of the Sabbath, clothe your ministers with righteousness and empower tomorrow's preaching. 3. Good Shepherd, sanctify believer [Name] and gather lost [Name] into your saving fold during tomorrow's holy assembly.