

Household Worship Guide Oct 4 – Oct 10, '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 17:1-8 - <i>Glory Before the Hard Road</i>										
PM Sermon	2 Peter 1:16–21 - <i>When the Feeling Is Gone</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 99:1-5 (The LORD reigns, holy is He)										
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 34:29-35 - The glory that veiled Moses' face is now unveiled in Christ; do not trade that boldness for shame's borrowed veil.
Keys	• Moses reflected a borrowed glory that was destined to fade away. • Sinners cannot endure unveiled divine holiness without a perfect mediator. • Christ alone possesses inherent, eternal glory that outshines the law.
Questions	1. In what specific ways do we prefer temporary spiritual highs over enduring faithfulness? 2. When are we most tempted to trust our own works rather than Christ? 3. What hidden fears prevent us from drawing near to a holy God?
Notes	The radiant face of Moses frightened the Israelites, revealing the terrors of the law apart from grace. This veiled glory ultimately prepared God's people for the mountain of transfiguration, where the true Light of the World revealed His majesty. Earthly spiritual peaks often leave us restless when the emotion fades, yet our sympathetic Savior understands our fleeting affections and anchors us in His steadfast love. Because He draws near, our frantic efforts to justify ourselves are silenced. Our profound terror of divine justice melts away in the warm embrace of our covenant Head. Banish the lingering self-righteousness that seeks to earn divine favor through moral exertion. Since the Lord Jesus has met every demand of the law on our behalf, cast your trembling soul entirely upon the perfect righteousness of the Redeemer.
Praise	Psalms 27:1-4 (Gazing upon the Lord's beauty)
Pray	1. Sovereign King, shatter our reliance on fading earthly triumphs and fix our eyes upon Jesus. 2. Grant us profound gratitude for the piercing truths preached to our hearts this past Lord's Day. 3. Save [Name] from the blinding darkness, and grant [Name] the comfort of your glorious presence.

Reading	1 Kings 19:8-18 - God sustains exhausted prophets through His quiet voice, not merely spectacular displays.
Keys	• Despair often blinds us to the gentle provisions of our faithful Lord. • The overwhelming terror of God's presence humbles the most zealous servants. • Divine comfort frequently arrives in a whisper rather than a raging storm.
Questions	1. Which of our daily habits actively tune out the gentle whisper of God? 2. Where do we wrongly demand spectacular signs instead of resting in ordinary grace? 3. How often do we let physical exhaustion distort our view of divine sovereignty?
Notes	Elijah fled to the mountain in absolute despair, only to learn that the Lord speaks most powerfully in a low whisper. Similarly, the terrified disciples on Mount Tabor needed the gentle touch and reassuring voice of Jesus Himself. Constant digital noise deafens our ears to the quiet consolations of the Spirit, though our tender Shepherd persistently pursues us in our distraction. We arrogantly demand flashy miracles, ignoring the steady nourishment He provides in ordinary providence. Bodily weariness twists our spiritual perception, but the God who fed Elijah sustains our weary frames. Mortify the restless anxiety that constantly demands new proof of divine love. How sweet is the truth that He intimately knows our weakness, so rest your exhausted spirit fully upon the all-sufficient merits of our Mediator today.
Praise	Psalm 46:8-11 (Be still before the Almighty)
Pray	1. O God of all comfort, quiet our anxious souls to hear your gentle, life-giving promises. 2. Melt our hard hearts to apply the specific warnings of Sunday's text to our secret sins. 3. Rescue [Name] from noisy worldly distractions, and encourage [Name] with the deep peace of Christ.

Reading	Daniel 7:9-14 - The eternal dominion of the Son of Man guarantees the final triumph of His suffering church.
Keys	• Human empires crumble to dust before the fiery throne of the Ancient of Days. • The Son of Man received an everlasting kingdom that cannot be shaken. • Prophetic visions confirm that history is marching toward a glorious, sovereign culmination.
Questions	1. To what earthly institutions do we look for the security only Christ can provide? 2. What specific anxieties reveal our lingering doubt concerning the final victory of the Son? 3. Why is it so difficult for us to trust the prophetic promises in dark times?
Notes	Daniel beheld the Ancient of Days giving indestructible dominion to the Son of Man. This apocalyptic vision anchors Peter's testimony, confirming that the majestic glory witnessed on the holy mountain guarantees the immovable truth of the prophetic word. Political salvation becomes our functional idol when we forget the heavenly throne room, yet our sovereign Lord pities our shortsightedness and holds us fast. Deep-seated fears about the future expose our unbelief regarding His cosmic victory. The present darkness obscures the impending dawn, but our triumphant King walks with us through the gloom. Crush the political idolatry that seeks refuge in the fading empires of mere men. Knowing that our names are written in heaven, abandon your fears and lean entirely upon the shed blood of the Lamb for ultimate security.
Praise	Psalm 93:1-5 (The Lord reigns in majesty)
Pray	1. Ancient of Days, fortify our trembling faith with the assurance of your unshakeable eternal kingdom. 2. Deepen our joy in the sure promises expounded during our recent evening worship gathering. 3. Open the blind eyes of [Name], and grant [Name] unshakeable confidence in your coming kingdom.

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Thu Oct 8

Reading	Matthew 17:9-13 - The promised forerunner has already come and suffered, charting the path of rejection for the Messiah.
Keys	• God fulfills His covenant promises in ways that deeply confound human expectations. • True biblical restoration often comes through profound suffering and public humiliation. • Spiritual blindness prevents the religious elite from recognizing the Lord's chosen instruments.
Questions	1. Whom do we wrongfully despise because they do not fit our refined cultural expectations? 2. What specific sufferings are we desperately trying to avoid on the path of Christian discipleship? 3. In what ways do our assumptions blind us to the plain truth of Scripture?
Notes	Christ explains that John the Baptist fulfilled the prophecy of Elijah, suffering at the hands of wicked men. This sobering reality prepares the disciples for the impending cross, bridging the glory of the mountain with the agony of Calvary. We casually dismiss fellow believers who lack worldly polish, though the Man of Sorrows tenderly welcomes our own fractured lives. A deep aversion to pain causes us to flee the fellowship of suffering. Clinging to comfortable traditions makes us deaf to radical grace, but the Spirit patiently opens our eyes to behold the truth. Put to death the pride that demands a crown without enduring the painful splintered cross. Since He walked the road of sorrow for our sake, cast your weary, resistant heart upon the substitutionary suffering of the Great High Priest.
Praise	Psalm 22:22-26 (Praising God in the congregation)
Pray	1. Gracious King, open our eyes to behold the beauty of your suffering and rejected forerunner. 2. Empower our pastor with spiritual unction and clarity as he prepares to preach the Word. 3. Grant [Name] the gift of repentance, and help [Name] to embrace the fellowship of suffering.

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Fri Oct 9

Reading	Matthew 17:14-23 - The desperate failure of the disciples exposes their weak faith and highlights the absolute necessity of Christ.
Keys	• Human inability is most glaringly exposed when confronting the deep ravages of demonic oppression. • Even a microscopic seed of genuine faith can uproot the most formidable spiritual mountains. • The looming shadow of the betrayal constantly accompanied the Savior's miraculous works of mercy.
Questions	1. Where do we repeatedly rely on our own spiritual competence instead of desperate, agonizing prayer? 2. What massive obstacle in your life currently exposes a fundamental lack of trust in God? 3. By what subtle means do we forget the approaching betrayal and death of the Lord?
Notes	The disciples could not cast out the demon, revealing that spiritual power flows only from dependent faith. Jesus rebukes their unbelief while predicting His own death, contrasting our profound impotence with His resolute march toward the substitutionary cross. Self-reliance masquerades as spiritual maturity until a severe crisis shatters our facade, yet our gentle Master never abandons us in our failure. Giant afflictions lay bare our unbelief and drive us to our knees. We easily lose sight of the cross, but the bleeding Savior perpetually intercedes for our dull and forgetful minds. Repent of the prayerless independence that treats spiritual warfare as a matter of human technique. Finding refuge in the One who wept for our unbelief, trust your impossible burdens wholly to the prevailing intercession of our risen Champion.
Praise	Psalms 121:1-5 (Looking to the hills for our help)
Pray	1. Merciful Father, awaken our sluggish hearts to desperate prayer and shatter our self-reliant spiritual pride. 2. Prepare the soil of our hearts to receive the preached Word with meekness this Sunday. 3. Deliver [Name] from the bondage of darkness, and strengthen [Name] to move mountains by faith.

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Sat Oct 10

Reading	Psalm 30:1-5 - The weeping of the night gives way to the brilliant, explosive joy of divine morning deliverance.
Keys	• The Lord frequently rescues His saints from the very brink of the dark, silent grave. • Divine anger is momentary, but His covenant favor stretches into the endless ages of eternity. • Nighttime tears are the necessary prelude to the triumphant shouts of resurrection morning joy.
Questions	1. Which current sorrows are blinding us to the promise of the coming morning of joy? 2. How do we misinterpret God's temporary discipline as an eternal withdrawal of His fatherly love? 3. What prevents us from singing praises when we recall His past deliverances from the pit?
Notes	David praises God for lifting him from despair, declaring that divine favor outlasts temporary discipline. This song of deliverance echoes the Shunamite woman's impending joy, reminding us that the darkest nights merely set the stage for resurrection life. Heavy grief obscures the horizon, making us feel as though the dawn will never break, yet the Man of Sorrows holds our tears in His bottle. We foolishly confuse fatherly chastisement with judicial wrath. Forgetfulness robs our lips of thanksgiving, but the Spirit faithfully reminds our weary souls of His past covenant faithfulness. Forsake the bitter despair that accuses God of cruelty during the dark watches of the night. Because the empty tomb guarantees our final deliverance, rest your weeping soul completely upon the victorious resurrection of the Lord of Life.
Praise	Psalm 116:1-9 (Delivered from the pit of death)
Pray	1. Eternal God, lift our downcast eyes to anticipate the brilliant morning of your promised salvation. 2. Pour out your Spirit upon the reading and preaching of your holy Word tomorrow. 3. Draw [Name] out of the pit of despair, and fill [Name] with songs of deliverance.