Household Worship Guide Nov 29 – Dec 5, '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

Lord's Day
Nov 29

Household Worship Guide

Nov 29 - Dec 5

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 20:1-16 - *When Grace Feels Unfair*
PM Sermon	Jonah 4:1-11 - *Angry That God Is Kind*
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)? 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 Something new (to you) about God, Christ, or yourself?

- 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	Psalm 103:8-13 (Yahweh pities his frail children)
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.

Sermon Txt
Matt. 20:1-10

Household Worship Guide

Mon Nov 30

Reading	Deuteronomy 7:7-8 - Yahweh sets his eternal affection upon the weakest sinners entirely by sovereign grace.
Keys	• God seeks idle sinners who contribute nothing to their own rescue. • His generous covenant overrides our legalistic expectations of strict spiritual merit. • Early laborers resent grace extended to latecomers.
Questions	1. Where do our hearts secretly demand wages instead of begging for unmerited mercy? 2. In what specific ways do we calculate our spiritual worth against others? 3. Which daily habits expose a festering entitlement before the throne of our Creator?
Notes	Moses reminds us that Yahweh chooses his people not for their strength but from sheer love, matching our morning text where the master hires useless idlers. Both passages demolish human boasting and exalt the sheer freedom of divine mercy. Our proud flesh constantly desires a wage for obedience, secretly despising the scandalous grace given to those we consider miserable. Measuring our religious performance against the failures of others only feeds the venom of spiritual superiority. Entitlement reveals itself whenever bitter complaints rise in our throats regarding the trials attending our pilgrimage. Knowing our tender Savior walked this cursed earth to bear our darkest offenses, let us mourn our wretched pride together. Mortify this legalistic spirit immediately. Cast your bankrupt soul entirely upon the bleeding wounds of the incarnate Son.
Praise	Psalm 136:1-4 (His steadfast love endures forever)
Pray	1. Gracious King, shatter our deep-seated reliance on personal merit and awaken a joyful contentment in your free justification. 2. 2. Give thanks that the Holy Spirit convicted us of secret legalism during the morning exposition of the Word. 3. 3. Save [Name] by sheer grace, and keep [Name] resting in your kindness.

Sermon Txt
Matt. 20:11-16

Household Worship Guide

Tue Dec 1

Reading	Exodus 34:6-7 - Yahweh reveals his essential glory by abounding in steadfast love toward the rebellious.
Keys	• Human nature deeply resents the sovereign distribution of divine generosity. • The master establishes his absolute right to give grace as he pleases. • The last shall be first, overturning every system of religious prestige.
Questions	1. What hidden resentments boil within us when God blesses those we consider unworthy? 2. When are we most tempted to accuse our Maker of dealing unfairly with us? 3. Whom have we secretly deemed too far gone for the intervention of divine kindness?
Notes	As the vineyard owner rebukes the grumbling workers, Yahweh proclaims his name to Moses as the God who freely forgives iniquity. Both scriptures expose the darkness of human jealousy when confronted by the blinding light of unconstrained divine favor. Resentment festers whenever our Lord pours abundant blessing upon those who have visibly squandered their lives. Difficult providences tempt our fickle minds to question his goodness, whispering that our perceived faithfulness deserves a much smoother path. We routinely, tragically doubt the power of the gospel to resurrect neighbors trapped in severe moral decay. Since our compassionate High Priest intimately understands the profound weakness of our earthly frames, we can safely confess this ugly envy. Mortify that bitter root without delay. Rest your weary conscience fully upon the flawless active obedience of Christ.
Praise	Psalm 145:7-10 (Yahweh is gracious and merciful)
Pray	1. Sovereign Spirit, melt our cold jealousy and expand our narrow hearts to rejoice in your scandalous generosity toward sinners. 2. Apply the medicine of the gospel from the Lord's Day to heal our persistent spiritual pride. 3. Reveal your mercy to [Name], and humble the proud heart of [Name].

Sermon Txt
Jonah 4:1-11

Household Worship Guide

Wed Dec 2

Reading	Luke 15:25-32 - The elder brother stands outside the feast, and we join him whenever we resent the Father's welcome of sinners.
Keys	• Jonah covets personal mercy but resents grace shown to enemies. • A withered plant exposes his deeply misplaced affections. • The older brother mirrors Jonah, demanding strict justice rather than celebrating.
Questions	1. Under what circumstances do we withhold compassion from those outside the covenant community? 2. Which earthly comforts evoke more tears from us than the damnation of the lost? 3. Do our hearts currently harbor any secret fury that God pardons our bitter enemies?
Notes	Jonah pouting under the fading booth perfectly parallels the older brother refusing to enter the celebration. Our evening text warns that those who have tasted redemptive grace can shockingly devolve into despising the expansion of that very same grace. Comfort within the visible church often lulls us into viewing the perishing world with cold indifference rather than weeping pity. The loss of trivial earthly conveniences frequently stirs more intense emotional grief than the eternal ruin of human souls. Secret fury burns when our offenders receive pardon instead of the swift vengeance we crave. Yet our faithful Shepherd pursues our wayward souls even when we stubbornly wander into the barren wilderness of resentment. Renounce this pharisaical hardness of heart immediately. Take refuge anew under the substitutionary atonement of the crucified Lord of glory.
Praise	Psalm 86:13-17 (Great is his steadfast love)
Pray	1. O God of all comfort, uproot our tribalism and fill our breasts with a burning zeal for the salvation of the perishing. 2. Grant that Sunday's warnings against spiritual callousness would drive us to plead for a harvest among our neighbors. 3. Give [Name] a broken heart for the lost, and rescue [Name] from wrath.

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Thu Dec 3

Reading	Matthew 20:17-19 - Jesus purposefully marches toward the agony of the cross to purchase his chosen bride.
Keys	• Christ predicts his brutal mockery and crucifixion with staggering, sovereign clarity. • The Redeemer embraces the horrors of the curse for our benefit. • Resurrection glory is promised, but accessed exclusively through bloody suffering.
Questions	1. How frequently do we minimize the agonizing cost our Savior paid to secure pardon? 2. By what subtle methods do we attempt to bypass suffering appointed for our sanctification? 3. Can our souls endure the world's hatred when we meditate on the cross?
Notes	Our upcoming morning passage reveals Jesus firmly setting his face toward Jerusalem, anticipating the prophecies of Isaiah 53. The divine Son knowingly walks into the jaws of condemnation so that the guilty sheep might go utterly and eternally free. Familiarity with the gospel narrative dangerously dulls our horror at the physical and spiritual torment he endured. We frantically maneuver to avoid persecution, treating the normal afflictions of the Christian life as strange intrusions upon our personal peace. Facing the world's mockery feels impossible until we gaze upon the supreme humiliation of our Master. How sweet is the truth that this bruised reed was crushed so we might never be broken by God's wrath. Embrace his appointed cross today. Hide your trembling conscience within the infinite merits of our victorious Mediator.
Praise	Psalm 40:6-10 (He delights to do the Father's will)
Pray	1. Blessed Redeemer, pierce our dullness and cause us to weep with profound gratitude over the bitter cup you drank for us. 2. Prepare the mind and mouth of our pastor to herald the glories of the cross with unction this coming Lord's Day. 3. Anchor [Name] in the suffering of Christ, and awaken [Name] to the reality of sin.

Household Worship Guide

Fri Dec 4

Reading	Matthew 20:20-28 - True greatness in the kingdom requires drinking the cup of sacrificial, self-emptying servitude.
Keys	• The disciples foolishly seek thrones while ignoring the necessary path of suffering. • Jesus redefines authority as laying down one's life for the lowly. • The Son of Man serves as the ransom, purchasing captives from death.
Questions	1. Where are we currently demanding to be served rather than looking for feet to wash? 2. What selfish ambitions blind us to the quiet, unnoticed needs of our local church? 3. Are there ways we manipulate spiritual language to secure earthly status and human applause?
Notes	While Jesus explains his impending ransom, the disciples squabble over heavenly real estate. This morning text links tightly to the evening preview of the suffering servant, showing that covenant leadership always flows through the valley of total self-abnegation. Domestic life constantly exposes our wicked desire to be waited upon instead of emptying ourselves for our family. Pious-sounding goals often mask a ravenous appetite for personal recognition within the fellowship of the saints. Pushing others down to elevate our own reputation fundamentally denies the central ethic of the kingdom we claim to inherit. Because the Lord of glory stooped to wash the filth from our souls, there is grace for our grasping ambition. Put to death your selfish striving. Trust entirely in the substitutionary ransom paid by our great High Priest.
Praise	Psalm 116:12-19 (Offering the sacrifice of thanksgiving)
Pray	1. Father of mercies, crucify our lust for prominence and shape us into humble basin-bearers for the brethren. 2. Open the ears of the congregation this Sunday to receive the preached Word with meekness and ready obedience. 3. Make [Name] a quiet servant in the church, and show [Name] the humility of Jesus.

Household Worship Guide

Sat Dec 5

Reading	Psalm 22:1-31 - The forsaken king descends into the dust of death before rising to global triumph.
Keys	• The psalmist cries out in dereliction, previewing the spiritual isolation of Calvary. • Mockers surround the righteous sufferer, fulfilling what Isaiah and the Gospels describe. • Lament transforms into global praise as Yahweh vindicates his suffering servant.
Questions	1. Why do we despair in brief trials when our Savior endured absolute divine abandonment? 2. Whom among the afflicted do we pass by, imitating the mockers rather than the comforter? 3. Will the coming generations hear of Yahweh's saving deeds through our daily household testimony?
Notes	This prophetic lament vividly colors our evening preparation for Isaiah 53. The agonizing cries of the forsaken king point directly to the cross, where the Father poured out unmitigated wrath upon the Son to secure a redeemed international congregation. Deep suffering quickly drives us to accuse God of deafening silence, forgetting that Christ drank the cup of ultimate isolation in our place. Distraction makes us callous toward the groaning of the afflicted within our own neighborhoods. We rob our children of hope when we fail to recount the mighty deliverances of the Lord. Knowing that the Righteous One was completely forsaken so we would never be abandoned, profound peace belongs to the weary. Flee from the dark despair of unbelief. Cling desperately to the finished sacrifice of the supreme Covenant Surety.
Praise	Psalm 16:7-11 (Hope beyond the grave)
Pray	1. Holy Deliverer, fortify our wavering faith when darkness falls, reminding us that you never forsake the children of the covenant. 2. Pour out your Spirit upon the reading and preaching of your holy Word tomorrow, awakening the spiritually dead. 3. Comfort [Name] in the midst of deep trials, and bring [Name] to true repentance.