



Resources for Household Worship
Summer 2019

Introduction

I composed this little booklet of readings and songs because I believe it can help us to gather together in worship as families and as a church. Sometimes the title of "family worship" can seem either a little intimidating, a little boring or a little pretentious. But, at its root, "family worship" is simply the basic formative practices of the Christian life done as a group. I intentionally wrote "Household Worship" in the title on the front page because this can be done by many groups of people, and not just biological families. The word "household" is meant to contrast with the word "congregation." On Sunday, Christians gather in large groups – in congregations – and their worship is experienced in more formal ways. But, the Bible also creates the expectation that the same practices of reading the Bible, singing songs, and saying prayers would be practiced in other settings. For example, the very first picture of the Church is one in which people gather in the temple... and in their homes (Acts 2:46).

In this short book, I compiled a list of readings and songs. The idea is that you can use this little booklet as a basis for short and informal worship services. I have found this to be useful for situations as varied as the breakfast table, a campfire, a sunset at the beach, or an evening gathering with old friends. I have never regretted asking other Christians to join in for a quick song or a sacred reading.

My hope is that these songs and readings can form a quick and easy backbone for a household worship service. The readings are generally things that I try to commit to memory. Prayers and other Bible readings or sections of a good book can be easily added to expand this. Sometimes it is appropriate for someone to share a reflection on something that was read. But my personal advice is that if this is something you are doing as a family (and presumably including your kids on a less than optional basis) – please keep it short. Regular family devotions build patterns of worship and dependence upon God that shape the rest of our lives. It should be a joy and not a burden.

- Matt Koerber

Compiled by Matt Koerber

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All scripture verses are the English Standard Version (ESV), unless otherwise noted.

Section #1: Standard Text for Memory & Recitation

The Lord's Prayer

From Matthew 6

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.

The Great Commission

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

The Ten Commandments

Abbreviated from Deuteronomy 5:6-21

I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

- 1) You shall have no other gods before me.
- 2) You shall not make for yourself a graven image...
- 3) You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain...
- 4) Observe the Sabbath day and keep it holy...
- 5) Honor your father and mother...
- 6) You shall not murder.
- 7) You shall not commit adultery.
- 8) You shall not steal.
- 9) You shall not bear false witness...
- 10) You shall not covet...

The Great Commandment

John 15:12-13

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Section #2: Additional Text for Memory & Recitation

John 15:5

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Zephaniah 3:16

The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Ephesians 2:8-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Philippians 2:5-11

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Section #3: Standard Songs

#1: Psalm 100

Verse 1

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell;
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Verse 4

For why? the Lord our God is good;
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

#2: The Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. (Amen)

#3: Be Thou My Vision

Verse 1

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart!
Naught be all else to me save that thou art!
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Verse 2

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always!
Thou and thou only first in my heart;
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

Verse 3

High King of Heaven, my victory won.
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of All.

#4: Amazing Grace

Verse 1

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound!
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind but now I see.

Verse 2

The Lord has promised good to me.
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

Verse 3

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright, shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.

#5: All Creatures of Our God and King

Verse 1

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise Him, O praise Him,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse 4

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness,
O praise Him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in one,
O praise Him, O praise Him,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

#6: Come Thou Fount

Verse 1

Come thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace.
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.

Verse 2

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by thy help I'm come,
And I hope by thy good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God.
He to rescue me from danger
Interposed his precious blood.

Verse 3

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be.
Let that grace now like a fetter
Bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for thy courts above.

#7: 10,000 Reasons

Chorus

Bless the Lord O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship His holy name

Verse 1

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Verse 2

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Verse 3

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

#8: Praise to the Lord the Almighty

Verse 1

Praise to the Lord,
The Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him for
He is thy health and salvation!

Chorus 1

All ye who hear,
Now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.
(Repeat)

Verse 4

Praise to the Lord,
O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath,
Come now with praises before Him.

Chorus 4

Let the Amen
Sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.
(Repeat)

#9: Before the Throne of God Above

Verse 1

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong, a perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart:
I know that while in Heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

Verse 2

When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.

Verse 3

Behold Him there! The risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless righteousness;
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself, I cannot die,
My soul is purchased with His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

#10: I Love You Lord

I love you, Lord
And I lift my voice
To worship you,
O my soul rejoice!
Take joy, my King,
In what you hear,
May it be a sweet,
Sweet sound in your ear.

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM

Winchester Thurston School

Entrance: 5059 Ellsworth Ave.

Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (Oakland)

Sunday Evening Worship Service

6:30PM

3929 Coleman St.

Pittsburgh, PA 15207 (Greenfield)

Church Office (Open Tues - Fri)

3929 Coleman St.

Pittsburgh, PA 15207

t: 412-720-7014

e: office@cityreformed.org

w: cityreformed.org