



Landis Presbyterian Church

# **Family Worship Guide**

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**May 14-20, 2017**

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# **Family Worship Guide**

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The purpose of this family worship guide is to encourage fathers -or- heads of households to engage in this vital activity in our families.

Our reformed heritage teaches us that this practice is needful, especially in today's world. The importance of gathering around God's word each day as a family cannot be overstated.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Keep it simple. This guide will help you in that area.
2. Always start and end with prayer.
3. Encourage all members of the family to pray and read the Scriptures together.
4. Fathers -or- heads of households should lead a discussion that is age appropriate.
5. If possible, sing a hymn together.

# The Preached Word

Each week, our Lord speaks to us through the preaching of God's Word. The Westminster Shorter Catechism is helpful:

## **Q89. How is the word made effectual to salvation?**

The Spirit of God maketh the reading, but especially the preaching, of the word, an effectual means of convincing and converting sinners, and of building them up in holiness and comfort, through, faith unto salvation

The preached Word of God, through an ordained minister of the gospel, is the living voice of Christ to His people. Therefore, we should remember the instructions of the Westminster Larger Catechism:

## **Q160 What is required of those that hear the Word preached?**

It is required of those that hear the Word preached, that they attend upon it with diligence, preparation, and prayer, examine what they hear by the Scriptures, receive the truth with faith, love, meekness, and readiness of mind, as the Word of God; meditate and confer of it; hide it in their hearts and bring forth the fruit of it in their lives.

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

Each week, engage in the following plan:

### **Preaching: Sowing the Seed Into Your Heart**

**Lord's Day:** Worship of God and hearing the preached Word of God. Take notes if that is what you like to do. Summarize the sermon in your own words, making special note of areas of application that are relevant to your life. **Review the sermon in family worship.**

### **Response: Tending the Soil of Your Heart**

**Monday-Wednesday:** Read the passage preached on the Lord's Day. Review your notes. Look up noteworthy cross references. Consider one or two applications from the sermon as it applies to your life. Keep a journal of thoughts and other items. Endeavor to memorize one or two verses that were used in the sermon. Pray for the Spirit to use the preached Word to bring forth fruit in your life.

### **Preparation: Preparing the Soil of Your Heart**

**Thursday-Saturday:** Read the next passage that will be preached on the Lord's Day. Begin to ask questions of the text, pray over and through the passage. Jot down observations and highlight issues that you hope to see resolved in the sermon. Pray for the preaching of the Word of God and your pastor as he studies. Pray for the Spirit to open your mind, eyes, and heart as you prepare for the Word of God preached. Answer the discussion questions related to the upcoming sermon.

## **SUGGESTIONS:**

For each sermon listed below, use these questions to prompt more thought and study. If being used in family worship, ask each member to answer these questions.

1. Summarize the sermon in your own words:
2. What was the main point of the sermon?
3. What cross-references were used in the sermon?  
Use these to study the sermon passage further this week.
4. What specific areas of doctrine or theology explained? Look up items you do not understand.
5. What areas of application do you need to address?
6. What were other items of study prompted by the sermon preached on the Lord's Day?

### **LORD'S DAY, MAY 14, 2017**

**A.M. Sermon Text:** Mark 11:27-33

**P.M. Sermon Text:** Hosea 2:14-15

### **LORD'S DAY, MAY 21, 2017**

**A.M. Sermon Text:** Mark 12:1-12

**P.M. Sermon Text:** Hosea 2:16-23

*NOTE: If this is being used in family worship, the father or head of household should craft age-appropriate questions.*

# Family Worship

**Monday, May 15, 2017**

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 13

**Suggested Hymn:** Almighty God, Word is Cast  
(Trinity Hymnal #383)

**Prayer:** Father in heaven, we thank You for the preaching of God's Word this past Lord's day and ask that you seal those words to our hearts. We ask that You will cause us to meditate on Your word, and bring forth fruit in our lives. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Discussion Points:

1. What is the purpose of parables?
2. In the parable of the sower, what four types of soil does the seed fall on?
3. List each type and explain what each one represents.
4. What is the "seed?"
5. What is the main point of the parable of the weeds?
6. What is the main point of the parable of the hidden treasure?
7. What is the main point of the parable of the net?

**Tuesday, May 16, 2017**

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 14

**Suggested Hymn:** Built on the Rock the Church  
Doth Stand (Trinity Hymnal #351)

**Prayer:** Father in heaven, You are the great and mighty God, maker of heaven and earth. We are thankful to be able to read Your Word and we ask that in our reading You would give us eyes to see and ears to hear. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Discussion Points:

1. Describe the events surrounding the death of John the Baptist.
2. How did Jesus feed the 5,000?
3. Who else walked on the water other than Jesus? What happened when he became fearful? What lesson does that teach us?

# Wednesday, May 17, 2017

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 15

**Suggested Hymn:** O God beyond All Praising (Trinity Hymnal #660)

**Prayer:** Father in heaven, we have been reading in Your Word of the mighty miracles Your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ did. We see His mighty power and His ability to do marvelous things. We ask as we read Your Word today, that You would teach us by your Holy Spirit. In Jesus' Name. Amen

Discussion Points:

1. In what way does God desire us to worship Him? 15:1-9
2. What is the root of all sin? 15:10-20
3. What lessons are being taught in the healing of the Canaanite woman?
4. In 15:32-39 Jesus feeds the 4,000. What does He use to do so?

**Thursday, May 18, 2017**

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 16

**Suggested Hymn:** Onward, Christian Soldiers  
(Trinity Hymnal #572)

**Prayer:** Father in heaven, we pray to You today because You are our Father Who stands ready and able to help us. We pray that You would bless our time in Your Word and help us to be doers of the Word and not hearers only. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Discussion Points:

1. What is the sign of Jonah? 16:1-4
2. What is the leaven of the Pharisees? Why should you beware of it? 16:5-12
3. What was the confession of Peter? Have you confessed your faith and trust in Jesus?
4. What three things must happen to "follow Jesus?" 16:24-28
5. What do each of those items mean? How can you do them in your daily life? List some ways.

**Friday, May 19, 2017**

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 17

**Suggested Hymn:** Rejoice, the Lord is King (Trinity Hymnal #309)

**Prayer:** Father, we come to You humbly today to ask that You would help us to deny self, take up our cross and follow you in all things. Teach us, by Your Word and Spirit to obey You gladly, from the heart, because You are our King. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Discussion Points:

1. Who went with Jesus to the mountain?
2. Describe the events of the "Transfiguration."
3. Why did the disciples "fall on their faces?"  
What lesson does that teach us regarding God?
4. Why were the disciples unable to cast out the demon? 17:14-21

## Saturday, May 20, 2017

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 18

**Suggested Hymn:** Lord of the Sabbath, Hear Us Pray (Trinity Hymnal #390)

**Prayer:** Our Father in heaven, we humbly ask of You that You would enable us to obey and keep the Lord's Day as You have instructed in Your word. May we find our rest and joy in Your presence. May You help us to prepare for Your worship on the Lord's Day and may we enjoy Your presence with us as we worship You. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Discussion Points:

1. The disciples asked Jesus, "who is the greatest?" How does He answer them? What warning is given in these verses? 18:1-9
2. What comfort is offered in the parable of the Lost Sheep? 18:10-14
3. How should you respond if your brother sins against you? What are the steps? 18:15-20
4. What is the main point of the parable of the Unforgiving Servant?
5. Why should you forgive others?



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