

Family Worship

Week 1

Suggested Song:

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee!
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee!
Who wert, and art, and ever more shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Tho' the darkness hide Thee
Tho' the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth, and sky and sea
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!
By Reginald Heber, 1783 – 1826; Sung to the tune of NICAEA

Suggested Catechism Questions:

Q1: Who made you?

A: God made me.

(Gen 1:26, 27; 2:7; Eccl 12:1; Acts 17:24-29)

Q2: What else did God make?

A: God made all things.

(Gen 1, esp. vv. 1, 31; Acts 14:15; Rom 11:36; Col 1:16)

Q3: Why did God make you and all things?

A: For His own glory.

(Psa 19:1; Jer 9:23, 24; Rev 4:11; 5:13)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Isaiah 6:1-8

Key Thought: God is holy. He is “set apart” from creatures and from sin.

Older children: Why do you think Isaiah said “woe is me?” Why do you think the angel touched the “burning coal” to Isaiah’s lips?

Younger children: What do these verses tell you about God?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for his holiness and thank him for his grace. Ask God to show us his holiness, our own sin, and need of faith and repentance. Ask him to help us proclaim this message of his holiness to all creation.

Day 2

Read: Matthew 17:1-8

Key Thought: Jesus is set apart from all other men. We must listen to him.

Older children: What do verses 6, 7 and 8 teach us about Jesus? How would your life be different if you faithfully listened to Jesus?

Younger children: How would you have reacted if you saw Jesus shine like the disciples did?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for giving us His Son and for the grace of his birth, death, and resurrection. Ask God to make us a family who listens to Jesus faithfully (verse 5).

Day 3

Read: Revelation 5:1-14

Key Thought: Jesus Christ is worthy of worship.

Older children: How did Jesus ransom men? Why is he called a “lamb?” Why do you think the elders fell down to worship him?

Younger children: What are some of your favorite songs about Jesus (verse 9)?

Prayer suggestions: Proclaim the worthiness of Christ. Thank him for his ransom sacrifice. Ask him for faith to worship him today and forever.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Pray for your grandchildren by name, for their salvation, and that God would teach them about his holiness.

Family Worship

Week 2

Suggested Song:

Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.

Jesus loves me! He who died, Heaven's gate to open wide!
He will wash away my sin, Let His little child come in.

Jesus loves me! Loves me still, 'Tho' I'm very weak and ill;
From His shining throne on high, Comes to watch me where I lie.

Jesus loves me! He will stay Close beside me all the way;
If I love him, when I die, He will take me home on high.

Chorus:

Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so.

By Ana B. Warner, 1820 – 1915; Sung to the tune of CHINA

Suggested Catechism Questions:

Q1: Who made you?

A: God made me.

(Gen 1:26, 27; 2:7; Eccl 12:1; Acts 17:24-29)

Q2: What else did God make?

A: God made all things.

(Gen 1, esp. vv. 1, 31; Acts 14:15; Rom 11:36; Col 1:16)

Q3: Why did God make you and all things?

A: For His own glory.

(Psa 19:1; Jer 9:23, 24; Rev 4:11; 5:13)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Ezekiel 34:11-24

Key Thought: God loves and cares for His people.

Older children: In this passage, do the sheep seek the shepherd or does the shepherd seek the sheep? What does that teach us about God? How does God the Shepherd care for his flock in this passage?

Younger children: How has God shown His love for you?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His loving provision. Confess your sins. Thank Him for His love. Ask Him to help you love others as He loves.

Day 2

Read: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Key Thought: Love is a central Christian quality.

Older children: Why is love important? How would you define “love?”

Work through the list of qualities in verses 4-7, and list some ways they might change how we act toward others. What does verse 11 mean?

Younger children: How can you love other people?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for the love of Christ. Ask God to help you love your family as Christ has loved you. Pray that God would help you to love those who are not lovely.

Day 3

Read: 1 John 4:7-21

Key Thought: God is love.

Older children: How was God's love manifested among us? What does verse 10 mean? What is the relationship between verses 10 and 11?

According to verse 20, what is true of someone who hates his brother?

Younger children: Why should you love others (v. 11)?

Prayer suggestions: Give thanks to God that Christ died for our sins. Ask him to help you trust and love Christ more. Ask God to open your eyes to opportunities throughout the week to tell others about God's love.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Pray for your grandchildren by name, for their salvation, and that God would teach them about His love.

Family Worship

Week 3

Suggested Hymn:

This is my Father's world, And to my list'ning ears, All
nature sings, and round me rings The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world, I rest me in the thought Of
rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, The birds their carols raise; The
morning light, the lily white Declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world, He shines in all that's fair; In the
rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world, O let me ne'er forget That
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world, The battle is not done; Jesus
who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.

By Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858 – 1901; Sung to the tune of TERRA PATRIS

Suggested Catechism Questions:

Q1: Who made you?

A: God made me.

(Gen 1:26, 27; 2:7; Eccl 12:1; Acts 17:24-29)

Q2: What else did God make?

A: God made all things.

(Gen 1, esp. vv. 1, 31; Acts 14:15; Rom 11:36; Col 1:16)

Q3: Why did God make you and all things?

A: For His own glory.

(Psa 19:1; Jer 9:23, 24; Rev 4:11; 5:13)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Genesis 1:26-31

Key Thought: God created mankind in His image.

Older children: In what ways did God create men and women in His image? Why do you think God said that it was all “very good?”

Younger children: What are some animals that God gave us to rule over?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for graciously creating you. Confess any of your sins in failing to rule the creation as God himself would rule it. Ask God to help us to treat other human beings as fellow images of God.

Day 2

Read: Psalm 139:1-24

Key Thought: God knows and governs our lives from birth.

Older children: How should verse 2 effect the way we live our lives? How is the all-presence of God both a comfort to believers and a terror to the wicked (v. 7-8)? What do verses 13-16 mean?

Younger children: Are you thankful that God made you?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us to walk in the knowledge of His presence and of the fact that He governs our lives from beginning to end. Ask God to teach us His ways and marvel in His greatness.

Day 3

Read: Acts 17:22-34

Key Thought: God is the source of all created things.

Older children: What is the wrong way to serve God (v. 25)? What do you think is the connection among creation (v. 24), repentance (v. 30), and judgment (v. 31)?

Younger children: What did God make?

Prayer suggestions: Pray for grace to worship God rather than creation.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Thank the Lord for creating your grandchildren. Ask God to help you be a good example of faithfulness to Christ for them. Find an opportunity this week to talk to your grandchildren about God's creation.

Family Worship

Week 4

Suggested Hymn:

Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore;
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Savior reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When He had purged our stains,
He took his seat His seat above;
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail,
He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given;
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

By Charles Wesley, 1707 – 1778; Sung to the tune of GOPSALL

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q4: How can you glorify God?

A: By loving Him and doing what He commands.
(Eccl 12:13; Mk 12:29-31; Jn 15:8-10; 1 Cor 10:31)

Q5: Why ought you to glorify God?

A: Because He made me and takes care of me.
(Rom 11:36; Rev 4:11; cf. Dan 5:23)

Q6: Are there more gods than one?

A: There is only one God.
(Deut 6:4; Jer 10:10; Mk 12:29; Acts 17:22-31)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Psalm 47:1-9

Key Thought: God rules over all the nations.

Older children: Why is it important to sing to the Lord? What are some characteristics of a “great king?” How can we get the news to all the nations that *our* God is *their* King?

Younger children: What are your favorite songs to sing to the Lord?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His greatness and kingship. Ask God to help us to worship Him as sovereign over all the nations. Ask the Lord to help us to be a family who tells the world about our God.

Day 2

Read: Matthew 8:1-13

Key Thought: Jesus rules over sickness.

Older children: Who did the leper believe Jesus to be? How do you know? What do verses 5-10 tell us about Christ’s authority and kingship? Why do you think Jesus healed the centurion’s son?

Younger children: Who is Jesus?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for His kingly kindness in Christ. Ask God to help us to have great faith in His power to do good to all who trust Him.

Day 3

Read: 1 Samuel 2:1-10

Key Thought: God rules over all kinds of people.

Older children: Why should we not be “proud” or “arrogant” (v. 3)? What is pride and arrogance? What does God do to different kinds of people in this passage? Why should you submit to God’s kingly rule?

Younger children: Who gives you food to eat (v. 5)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank the Lord for His sovereign ordering of every human condition. Ask God to help us to submit to His wisdom in whatever circumstance we find ourselves. Praise God for his right to rule over all things.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Praise God for His good reign over your grandchildren. Ask Him to save them by His sovereign grace

Family Worship

Week 5

Suggested Hymn:

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God and man the Son; Thee will I cherish
Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring; Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer, Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fairer still the moonlight
And all the twinkling, starry host; Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer Than all the angels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of all nations,
Son of God and Son of man! Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration, Now and forever more be Thine!

Anonymous German Hymn; Sung to the tune of CRUSADERS' HYMN.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q5: Why ought you to glorify God?

A: Because He made me and takes care of me.
(Rom 11:36; Rev 4:11; cf. Dan 5:23)

Q6: Are there more gods than one?

A: There is only one God.
(Deut 6:4; Jer 10:10; Mk 12:29; Acts 17:22-31)

Q7: In how many persons does this one God exist?

A: In three persons.
(Matt 3:16; Jn 5:23; 10:30; 14:9, 10; 15:26; 16:13-15; 1 Jn 5:20; Rev 1:4, 5)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Psalm 95:1-11

Key Thought: We should worship God because He made us and takes care of us.

Older children: What are some reasons we should worship God according to this Psalm? What does the imagery of verse 7 tell us about God? What are some ways you might harden your hearts against God in worship? How can you keep your heart from being hard toward God?

Younger children: What has God done to take care of you?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to make us mindful of His perfect provision. Thank God for all the ways He has taken care of us.

Day 2

Read: Deuteronomy 4:32-40

Key Thought: Our God is the only God.

Older children: Why did God do so many mighty deeds among the Israelites (v. 35)? What are some implications of the fact that there is only one God? Which comes first: God's grace or God's commandments? Why is the order important?

Younger children: What are some of God's commandments (v. 40)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for the mighty works He has done. Ask God to help us to keep ourselves from idols and to worship Him alone.

Day 3

Read: Ephesians 1:1-14

Key Thought: The triune God saves us from our sins for His glory.

Older children: What role does each person of the Trinity play in our salvation according to this passage? What is the basis of our salvation? What is our inheritance (v.11)? What is the ultimate goal of our salvation (v. 14)? How can you glorify each person of the Trinity?

Younger children: Why did Jesus die on the cross?

Prayer suggestions: Worship God for His great salvation. Confess your sins. Thank God for the gift of redemption.

Suggestions for Grandparents: At a family gathering, tell your grandchildren about how God has taken care of you throughout life.

Family Worship

Week 6

Suggested Hymn:

Come, Thou Almighty King, Help us Thy
Name to sing, Help us to praise: Father all
Glorious, O'er all victorious
Come, and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, Thou Incarnate Word, Gird on Thy
Mighty sword, Our prayer attend! Come, and Thy
People bless, And give Thy Word success:
Spirit of holiness, On us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter, Thy sacred
Witness bear In this glad hour! Thou, who
Almighty art, Now rule in ev'ry heart
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

To Thee, great One in Three, The highest
Praises be, Hence evermore; Thy sov'reign
Majesty may we in glory see,
And to eternity Love and adore.
Anonymous; Sung to the tune of ITALIAN HYMN.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q6: Are there more gods than one?

A: There is only one God.

(Deut 6:4; Jer 10:10; Mk 12:29; Acts 17:22-31)

Q7: In how many persons does this one God exist?

A: In three persons.

(Matt 3:16-17; Jn 5:23; 10:30; 14:9, 10; 15:26; 16:13-15; 1 Jn 5:20)

Q8: Who are they?

A: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

(Matt 28:19; 2 Cor 13:14; 1 Pet 1:2; Jude 20, 21)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Matthew 19:13-30

Key Thought: Christ explains who may enter His kingdom.

Older children: What does verse 14 mean? What must you do to have eternal life? Why didn't the rich man follow Christ? What kinds of things keep people from following Christ?

Younger children: How did Jesus treat little children?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to expose our sins with His law. Thank God for the cross of Christ and that salvation is a free gift in Him.

Day 2

Read: Matthew 20:1-19

Key Thought: Christ has the right to give the kingdom to whomever He pleases.

Older children: How does the master have the right to pay all his workers the same thing? What do you think is the main point of the parable?

Younger children: Why did Jesus die on the cross?

Prayer suggestions: Ask the Lord to help us fix our minds on the cross of Christ throughout the day. Thank God for the grace of salvation. Praise God for making the first last and the last first.

Day 3

Read: Matthew 20:20-34

Key Thought: Christ's kingdom is a kingdom of servants (v. 27), and He makes servants out of people who have nothing to give (v. 34).

Older children: List some characteristics of Christ revealed in verses 29-34. What was wrong with the mother's request (v. 20)? What are some ways your life can better conform to verses 26-28? Why is jealousy wrong?

Younger children: How can you love and be kind to others?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to make us thankful for the gifts He gives to other people. Confess your sins. Tell the Lord how much you need Christ and praise God that Christ drank the cup of God's wrath.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Think of two or three ways you can teach and model servanthood for your grandchildren. Pray that God will mercifully make your grandchildren faithful servants for His glory.

Family Worship

Week 7

Suggested Hymn:

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise, Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, Now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Has thou not seen How thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

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.
Let the Amen Sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.
By Joachim Neander; Sung to the tune of LOBE DEN HERREN.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q7: In how many persons does this one God exist?

A: In three persons.

(Matt 3:16-17; Jn 5:23; 10:30; 14:9, 10; 15:26; 16:13-15; 1 Jn 5:20)

Q8: Who are they?

A: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

(Matt 28:19; 2 Cor 13:14; 1 Pet 1:2; Jude 20, 21)

Q9: Who is God?

A: God is a Spirit, and does not have a body like men.

(Jn 4:24; 2 Cor 3:17; 1 Tim 1:17)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Job 37:1-24

Key Thought: God is sovereign over the wind and rain.

Older children: What do you think about this God who controls even the wind and the rain? Why do you think God does “not regard any who are wise in their own conceit” (v. 24)? What does it mean to fear God?

Younger children: Who makes it rain?

Prayer suggestions: Thank the Lord for His good rule over all things. Ask Him for wisdom to submit to His rule and instructions in all of life.

Day 2

Read: Psalm 97:1-12

Key Thought: The Lord is sovereign over all the earth.

Older children: Over what things does God rule in this Psalm? What does it mean that God’s rule is “righteous” (v. 2, 6)?

Younger children: Do you love the Lord (v. 10)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank the Lord for his righteous rule over all things. Ask the Lord to expose our hidden idols and to trust the Lord alone.

Day 3

Read: Acts 7:1-34

Key Thought: God is sovereign over history.

Older children: Name some of the things this passage says God did in the history of Israel. What does this passage teach us about God’s character? What blessings does God give to believers?

Younger children: What do you think it was like for Moses to hear God’s voice coming out of a burning bush?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His redemptive rule over His stubborn people. Thank God for giving His people leaders who lead them according to His will. Ask God to help us always to remember how good God has been to us.

Suggestions for Grandparents: In your personal prayer time, thank God for His sovereign rule over your family and for giving you your children and grandchildren. Think of ways He has overruled evil with good in your life and share them with your grandchildren.

Family Worship

Week 8

Suggested Hymn:

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation, by Spirit and the Word:
From heav'n He came and sought her to be His holy bride,
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forever more;
Till with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

By Samuel J. Stone; Sung to the tune of AURELIA.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q8: Who are they?

A: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
(Matt 28:19; 2 Cor 13:14; 1 Pet 1:2; Jude 20, 21)

Q9: Who is God?

A: God is a Spirit, and does not have a body like men.
(Jn 4:24; 2 Cor 3:17; 1 Tim 1:17)

Q10: Where is God?

A: God is everywhere.
(Psa 139:7-12; Jer 23:23-24; Ac 17:27-28)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Key Thought: Our invisible God saves sinners through Christ.

Older children: Where do faith and love come from and who are they “in” (v. 14)? What do you think Paul means when he says that he is the foremost of sinners? How does verse 17 fit with the rest of this passage?

Younger children: Can you see God (v. 17)?

Prayer suggestions: Praise the Lord for the salvation we have in Jesus Christ. Ask God to give us great faith in Christ and love for Him.

Day 2

Read: John 4:19-26

Key Thought: God is spirit and seeks worshippers to worship Him in spirit and in truth.

Older children: What does it mean to worship God in spirit and in truth? What keeps people from worshipping God in spirit and in truth? What does it mean that Christ is the Messiah (v. 25-26), and how does that relate to our worship?

Younger children: How can you worship God?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us worship Him in spirit and truth. Confess our sin of lack of worship, thank God for the cross, and ask God to help us to walk in worshipful obedience.

Day 3

Read: 1 Kings 8:22-30

Key Thought: God, who is spirit, is present everywhere.

Older children: Since God is everywhere, how should we live our lives? How should God's presence impact our prayer lives? How can God “forgive” the sins of His people (v. 30)?

Younger children: Where is God (v. 27)?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us live our lives, conscious of the fact that He is present everywhere. Take a few moments to meditate prayerfully on the fact that God is fully present with you right now.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Show your grandchildren a map of the world or a globe and talk about how God, who is spirit, is everywhere.

Family Worship

Week 9

Suggested Hymn:

A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing;
Our helper he, amidst the flood of mortal ills prevailing;
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe; His craft and power
Are great, And, armed with cruel hate, On earth is not His equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, Our striving would be losing;
Were not the right man on our side, The Man of God's own choosing:
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He; Lord Sabaoth,
His name, From age to age the same, And He must win the battle.

And tho' this world with devils filled, Should threaten to undo us;
We will not fear for God hath willed His truth to triumph thro' us:
The Prince of Darkness grim, We tremble not for him; His rage we can
Endure, For lo, his doom is sure, One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, No thanks to them abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours 'thru' Him who with us sideth:
Let goods and kindred go, This mortal life also; The body they may
Kill: God's Truth abideth still, His kingdom is forever.

By Martin Luther; Sung to the tune of EIN' FESTE BURG.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q9: Who is God?

A: God is a Spirit, and does not have a body like men.
(Jn 4:24; 2 Cor 3:17; 1 Tim 1:17)

Q10: Where is God?

A: God is everywhere.
(Psa 139:7-12; Jer 23:23-24; Ac 17:27-28)

Q11: Can you see God?

A: No. I cannot see God, but He always sees me.
(Exod 33:20; Jn 1:18; 1 Tim 6:16; Psa 139; Heb 4:12, 13)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: John 14:1-7

Key Thought: Jesus alone is the way to life.

Older children: What do you think heaven will be like? What will be the most joyous part of heaven? Since Jesus is the only way to the Father and to heaven, what are you doing to tell others about Him?

Younger children: How can you "come to the Father?"

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to fill our minds with thoughts of heaven, where believers will enjoy God forever. Ask God to help us to be bold witnesses of the gospel message to those around us. Pray for the salvation of specific people you know are lost.

Day 2

Read: John 14:15-21

Key Thought: If you love Christ, you will keep His commandments.

Older children: How are we to express our love for Christ? Are you keeping Christ's commandments? Name some of the commands of Christ. What is the role of the Holy Spirit according to this passage?

Younger children: Should you love and obey Jesus?

Prayer suggestions: Ask the Lord to keep Christ's example before our minds and hearts. Pray that we would increasingly be conformed to the image of Jesus, learning to obey His commands, more and more.

Day 3

Read: John 17:1-5

Key Thought: To know Jesus Christ is to know eternal life.

Older children: What is eternal life? How can you have eternal life? What does it mean to *know* "God and Jesus Christ?"

Younger children: Why did God send Jesus into the world?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to give us knowledge of Jesus Christ. Pray God would give us grace to glorify the Father even as Christ glorified the Father while He was on the earth. Ask God to make us more like Christ in the way we treat other members of our family.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Pray that your grandchildren will know Christ and keep His commandments for the glory of God.

Family Worship

Week 10

Suggested Hymn:

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word
What a glory He sheds on our way! Not a grief or a loss,
Not a frown or a cross, But is blest if we trust and obey.
(Chorus)

Not a burden we bear, Not a sorrow we share,
But our toil He doth richly repay; Not a grief or a loss,
Not a frown or a cross, But is blest if we trust and obey.
(Chorus)

But we never can prove the delights of His love
Until all on the altar we lay; For the favor He shows
And the Joy He bestows are for them who will trust and obey.
(Chorus)

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet
Or we'll walk by His side in the way; What He says we will do,
Where He sends we will go; Never fear, only trust and obey.

Chorus:

Trust and obey, for there's no other way,
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

By John H. Sammis; Sung to the tune of TRUST AND OBEY.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q10: Where is God?

A: God is everywhere.

(Psa 139:7-12; Jer 23:23-24; Ac 17:27-28)

Q11: Can you see God?

A: No. I cannot see God, but He always sees me.

(Exod 33:20; Jn 1:18; 1 Tim 6:16; Psa 139; Heb 4:12, 13)

Q12: Does God know all things?

A: Yes. Nothing can be hidden from God.

(1 Chron 28:9; 2 Chron 16:9; Lk 12:6, 7; Rom 2:16)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Job 14:1-6

Key Thought: God appoints and knows the number of our days.

Older children: What does it mean that we are “few of days,” and that our days are “full of trouble?” How should that change the way we think and live? Does the fact that God appoints the number of your days bring you comfort? Why or why not? What does verse 4 mean?

Younger children: Does God know everything about you?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us live with all our might for His glory. Pray for grace to trust and obey to the end.

Day 2

Read: Matthew 9:1-8

Key Thought: Christ knows the thoughts of men.

Older children: What do you think about the fact that Jesus knows all your thoughts (v. 4)? Why do you think you sometimes have sinful thoughts? How can you control your thoughts? How can Jesus forgive your sinful thoughts?

Younger children: Does God know what you are thinking?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us to control our thoughts by thinking about the gospel. Pray that God will give us the mind of Christ for His glory.

Day 3

Read: Hebrews 4:11-13

Key Thought: God knows our thoughts and intentions, and the Word of God is the standard by which He judges them.

Older children: How does God's Word expose our thoughts and intentions? What does it mean that every creature will give an account to God? On what basis will God judge our thoughts and intentions? Do you love God's Word, and are you studying it? How can you do better?

Younger children: Can God see you no matter where you are?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to sift us with His Word, to show us how we have broken His laws, to drive us to Christ, and to bring us to obedience.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Ask God, who knows the thoughts of your grandchildren, to direct their thoughts to Christ.

Family Worship

Week 11

Suggested Hymn:

I sing the mighty pow'r of God, that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at His command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food; He
Formed the creatures with His Word and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,
If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flow'r below, but makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care,
And ev'ry where that we can be, Thou, God art present there.

By Isaac Watts; Sung to the tune of FOREST GREEN.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q11: Can you see God?

A: No. I cannot see God, but He always sees me.

(Exod 33:20; Jn 1:18; 1 Tim 6:16; Psa 139; Heb 4:12, 13)

Q12: Does God know all things?

A: Yes. Nothing can be hidden from God.

(1 Chron 28:9; 2 Chron 16:9; Lk 12:6, 7; Rom 2:16)

Q13: Can God do all things?

A: Yes. God can do all his holy will.

(Psa 147:5; Jer 32:17; Dan 4:34-35; Eph 1:11)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: 1 Kings 18:20-40

Key Thought: God shows His power to the false prophets of Baal.

Older children: What was the main point of this story? Why do you think Elijah poured water all over his offering? Is the God of Elijah the one true God? How should that change how you think and live?

Younger children: What did the fire from God burn? See verse 38.

Prayer suggestions: Confess our lack of worship. Pray that God will help us to believe His power and to live our lives in the knowledge of His greatness. Ask Him to make worshippers out of men and women from every tribe, and tongue, and nation.

Day 2

Read: Matthew 19:23-30

Key Thought: God is powerful to save!

Older children: How might riches make it hard for people to enter God's kingdom? Is it possible for any man to save himself (v. 25-26)? When God saves someone, how does that person's life change (v. 29)?

Younger children: Can God do all things? See verse 26.

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to make us willing to give whatever He would require of us. Pray that God would give us hearts that are thankful for His great and powerful salvation. Pray for some lost people you know, and ask God to save them.

Day 3

Read: Acts 12:5-19

Key Thought: God releases Peter from prison by His great power.

Older children: How does this story teach us about the power of prayer? Are you faithful to pray? What are some of the other great things God has done by His power? Are you telling others about it (v. 17)?

Younger children: Who let Peter out of prison?

Prayer suggestions: Confess our sin of prayerlessness. Thank God for Christ. Ask God to make us more faithful in prayer, to believe His power, and to expect Him to act for our good and for His glory.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Think of a Bible story showing God's power, and take a moment this week to share it with your grandchildren.

Family Worship

Week 12

Suggested Hymn:

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

When thro' fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall by thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, tho' all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no, never forsake!

By John Rippon; Sung to the tune of FOUNDATION.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q12: Does God know all things?

A: Yes. Nothing can be hidden from God.

(1 Chron 28:9; 2 Chron 16:9; Lk 12:6, 7; Rom 2:16)

Q13: Can God do all things?

A: Yes. God can do all his holy will.

(Psa 147:5; Jer 32:17; Dan 4:34-35; Eph 1:11)

Q14: Where do you learn how to love and obey God?

A: In the Bible alone.

(Job 11:7; Psa 119:104; Isa 8:20; Matt 22:29; 2 Tim 3:15-17)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Psalm 19:7-11

Key Thought: God's Word is a treasure.

Older children: How does God's law, or Word, "revive the soul?" In what ways is God's Word "sweeter than honey?" How is God's servant "warned" by the Bible? Discuss one "great reward" the Bible promises.

Younger children: What is the Bible?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us treasure His Word. Confess your lack of hunger for Scripture, and pray that God will give us a greater desire to read, memorize, and understand the Scriptures.

Day 2

Read: Isaiah 66:1-2

Key Thought: God looks to the one who trembles at His Word.

Older children: What is a "humble and contrite spirit?" What would cause someone to "tremble" at the Word of God? Do you tremble at God's Word? What is the connection between verses 1 and 2?

Younger children: Where does the Bible come from?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His greatness and goodness in creating the World and in creating His Word. Confess our lack of "trembling" at God's Word, and ask the Lord to give us humble spirits that tremble at what God reveals to us in His great Word.

Day 3

Read: Acts 17:10-11

Key Thought: The diligent study of Scripture is noble.

Older children: How often did the Bereans "examine the Scriptures" (v. 11)? Do you study the Bible daily? What keeps you from being a diligent student of the Bible? Why should we be eager to study Scripture? What is the purpose of Bible study?

Younger children: Where do you learn how to love and obey God?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for revealing Himself in Scripture and making it a book that we can understand if we study it diligently in faith. Ask God to help us to become more faithful to our study of Scripture.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Share with your grandchildren something you've learned from your personal Bible study.

Family Worship

Week 13

Suggested Hymn:

Man of sorrows! What a name, For the Son of God who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim! Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude, In my place condemned He stood
Seal'd my pardon with His blood; Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless we, Spotless Lamb of God was He;
Full atonement! Can it be? Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Lifted up was He to die, "It is finished" was His cry;
Now in heav'n exalted high, Hallelujah, what a Savior!

When He comes, our glorious King, All His ransomed home to bring,
Then anew this song we'll sing, Hallelujah, what a Savior!

By Philip P Bliss; Sung to the tune of HALLELUJAH, WHAT A SAVIOR!

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q13: Can God do all things?

A: Yes. God can do all his holy will.

(Psa 147:5; Jer 32:17; Dan 4:34-35; Eph 1:11)

Q14: Where do you learn how to love and obey God?

A: In the Bible alone.

(Job 11:7; Psa 119:104; Isa 8:20; Matt 22:29; 2 Tim 3:15-17)

Q15: Who wrote the Bible?

A: Holy men who were taught by the Holy Spirit.

(1 Pet 1:20-21; Acts 1:16; 2 Tim 3:16; 1 Pet 1:10-11)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Matthew 7:13-20

Key Thought: There are only two ways to live.

Older children: What are the differences between the wide and the narrow gates? How can we enter by the narrow gate? How can you recognize false teachers? What does verse 17 mean? What is "good fruit" and what is "bad fruit?"

Younger children: How can we walk with Jesus?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for providing the only way of salvation in Jesus Christ. Ask God to give us grace to follow His example by walking in the hard way and through the narrow gate.

Day 2

Read: Matthew 7:21-23

Key Thought: Some wrongly think that they are walking in God's way.

Older children: Who can enter the kingdom of heaven? Are you one who "does the will of my Father," or are you a "worker of lawlessness?"

Younger children: Do you want to enter the kingdom of heaven?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for this warning, and ask Him for grace to believe and persevere to the end in faith.

Day 3

Read: Matthew 7:24-29

Key Thought: Only "doers" of God's Word are walking in God's way.

Older children: What is the difference between the rock and the sand? What is a "foolish man?" What is the definition of a "wise man" in this passage? How can you become wise?

Younger children: What is God's Word?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His Word. Confess your sins against His Word. Thank God for Jesus Christ who saves us from our sins. Ask God to help us to build our whole lives on the Word of Christ for His glory.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Pray that God would let your grandchildren see their sins, that He would open their eyes to Christ and His Word, and that they would choose to walk through the narrow gate.

Family Worship

Week 14

Suggested Hymn:

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
We praise You for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The Church from You, dear Master, Received the gift divine,
And still that light is lifted O'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass That o'er life's surging sea,
Amid the rocks and quick sands, still guides, O Christ, to Thee.

O make Your Church, dear Savior, A lamp of burnished gold
To bear before the nations Your true light, as of old;
O teach Your wand'ring pilgrims by this their path to trace,
Till, clouds and darkness ended, they see You face to face.

By William W. How; Sung to the tune of AURELIA (The Church's One Foundation).

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q14: Where do you learn how to love and obey God?

A: In the Bible alone.

(Job 11:7; Psa 119:104; Isa 8:20; Matt 22:29; 2 Tim 3:15-17)

Q15: Who wrote the Bible?

A: Holy men who were taught by the Holy Spirit.

(1 Pet 1:20-21; Acts 1:16; 2 Tim 3:16; 1 Pet 1:10-11)

Q16: Who were our first parents?

A: Adam and Eve.

(Gen 2:18-25; 3:20; 5:1, 2; Acts 17:26; 1 Tim 2:13)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Key Thought: The Scriptures are God breathed.

Older children: What does it mean that all Scripture is “breathed out by God?” For what is Scripture useful? Does the Bible alone equip us to do “every good work” (v. 17)? How should these truths change you?

Younger children: Is the Bible God’s own word?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for giving us His Word. Ask Him to help us become better students of it. Ask God to give us an insatiable desire for Scripture, that we would long for it, and that it would transform all of our thoughts and actions, making us more like Christ.

Day 2

Read: 1 Peter 1:3-12

Key Thought: The Scriptures predicted the coming of Christ.

Older children: What did the old prophets “search and inquire?” Who was “in” the Old Testament prophets (v. 11)? How did the prophets serve you? How should this effect our perception of the Old Testament?

Younger children: Did the Old Testament say that Jesus was coming?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for the Old Testament prophecies. Thank God that He kept His word to save us by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Day 3

Read: 2 Peter 1:16-21

Key Thought: Holy men taught by the Holy Spirit wrote the Scriptures.

Older children: What is “more sure” than a voice from heaven (v. 18-19)? What does it mean that no prophecy comes from someone’s (or a prophet’s) own interpretation? How were the Scriptures produced?

Younger children: Who wrote the Bible?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for inspiring the Bible, for making it a trustworthy revelation of Himself, which is perfect and without error in every respect. Ask God to give us a greater reverence and love for His Holy Word, to help us learn it and apply it.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Study the role of grandparents in teaching their grandchildren the Word of God (2 Tim 1:5; 3:15).

Family Worship

Week 15

Suggested Hymn:

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.

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Thro’ many dangers toils and snares, I have already come;
‘Tis grace hath bro’t me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

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

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less deays to sing God’s praise than when we first begun.

By John Newton; Sung to the tune of NEW BRITAIN.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q15: Who wrote the Bible?

A: Holy men who were taught by the Holy Spirit.

(1 Pet 1:20-21; Acts 1:16; 2 Tim 3:16; 1 Pet 1:10-11)

Q16: Who were our first parents?

A: Adam and Eve.

(Gen 2:18-25; 3:20; 5:1, 2; Acts 17:26; 1 Tim 2:13)

Q17: Of what were our first parents made?

A: God made the body of Adam out of the ground, and formed Eve from the body of Adam.

(Gen 2:7, 21-23; 3:19; Psa 103:14)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: 1 Samuel 16:6-13

Key Thought: God looks on the heart.

Older children: Why do you think God chose David? What was David’s heart like? In what ways do people focus too much on outward appearances? How can we look at others’ hearts, rather than their appearances?

Younger children: Does God see our hearts?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to give us clean hands and pure heart in the Lord Jesus Christ. Ask God to help us to look on the hearts of others rather than their appearances.

Day 2

Read: Daniel 1:1-21

Key Thought: Young people should trust God in a lost culture.

Older children: Why do you think Daniel and his friends refused to eat the king’s food? What was the result of Daniel and his friends’ obedience to God (v. 17-20)? In what ways can you obey God, instead of doing what others say you should do?

Younger children: What foods did Daniel and his friends eat?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God for wisdom to live by faith in this world, to obey His Word and to be a witness for Him to all those around us.

Day 3

Read: Luke 2:41-52

Key Thought: Even as a child, Christ loved God’s Word.

Older children: What does this passage teach us about the heart of Christ? In what ways did Jesus grow (v. 52)? Do you want to know the Word of God like Christ? How can you discipline yourself to know the Bible better?

Younger children: Where was Jesus?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to give us a heart for God’s Word like Jesus had, and to understand it like Jesus did. Thank God that we have recorded in Scripture the perfect teaching of Jesus Christ.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Pray that God will make your grandchildren faithful like David, bold like Daniel, and wise like Christ.

Family Worship

Week 16

Suggested Hymn:

O worship the King, all glorious above, and gratefully
Sing His wonderful love; our Shield and Defender, the
Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of his grace, Whose robe is the
Light, whose canopy space! His chariots of wrath the deep
Thunderclouds form, and dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, In Thee do we
Trust, nor find Thee to fail: Thy mercies how tender, how
Firm to the end, Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

By Robert Grant; Sung to the tune of LYONS.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q16: Who were our first parents?

A: Adam and Eve.

(Gen 2:18-25; 3:20; 5:1, 2; Acts 17:26; 1 Tim 2:13)

Q17: Of what were our first parents made?

A: God made the body of Adam out of the ground, and formed Eve
from the body of Adam.

(Gen 2:7, 21-23; 3:19; Psa 103:14)

Q18: What did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies?

A: He gave them souls that could never die.

(1 Cor 15:45; Eccl 12:7; Zech 12:1)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Genesis 1:26-31

Key Thought: God created Adam and Eve in His image and likeness.

Older children: Over what did God give Adam and Eve “dominion?”
What do you think it means to have “dominion” over the earth? Do you
treat this world as God would have you to treat it? Why do you think
God called the creation of Adam and Eve “very good” (v. 31)?

Younger children: Who were our first parents?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for creating mankind. Ask God to help us
to rule this world as He would have us to rule it and that we would be
clearer reflections of His own righteous image.

Day 2

Read: Genesis 2:5-22

Key Thought: God made Adam to work the garden and Eve to help Adam.

Older children: What things in this passage show God’s great kindness to
Adam? In what ways does God show His kindness to you? Why do you
think God commanded Adam not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of
good and evil? What work did God give Adam to do? How might Eve
have helped him?

Younger children: Who did God make to help Adam?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for His grace to us. Pray that God would
give us wisdom to obey His commandments.

Day 3

Read: Genesis 5:1-5

Key Thought: Adam had a son in his likeness.

Older children: In what ways are you like your parents? In what ways do
you think Adam’s children were like him? Why did Adam die (Gen 2:17;
3:6)? Who is the second Adam (see Rom 5:19; 2 Cor 5:21)?

Younger children: How long did Adam live?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for the Second Adam, Jesus Christ. Pray
that we will “look like” Him, more and more, as we seek to live by faith
every day.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Ask God to give your children and
their spouses wisdom as they instruct your grandchildren in the Lord.

Family Worship

Week 17

Suggested Hymn:

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to His feet thy
Tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore His praises sing; Alleluia!
Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor to our fathers
In distress; Praise Him, still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless; Alleluia!
Alleluia! Glorious in His faithfulness.

Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish; Blows the wind and
It is gone; But, while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on: Alleluia!
Alleluia! Praise the high eternal One.

Angels in the height adore Him; ye behold Him
Face to face; saints triumphant, bow before Him;
Gathered in from ev'ry race; Alleluia!
Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

By Henry F. Lyte; Sung to the tune of LAUDA ANIMA.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q17: Of what were our first parents made?
A: God made the body of Adam out of the ground, and formed Eve
from the body of Adam.
(Gen 2:7, 21-23; 3:19; Psa 103:14)

Q18: What did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies?
A: He gave them souls that could never die.
(1 Cor 15:45; Eccl 12:7; Zech 12:1)

Q19: Have you a soul as well as a body?
A: Yes. I have a soul that can never die.
(Matt 10:28; Mk 8:34-38; 12:30)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Matthew 10:26-33

Key Thought: The body can die but not the soul.

Older children: Why should we not fear men? Why should we fear God?
What are some ways you can be faithful to proclaim the Word of God to
others?

Younger children: Can your soul die?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for our soul, and ask God to make us fear
Him, rather than men. Pray for some unbelievers and for boldness to
proclaim the message of the gospel to them.

Day 2

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10

Key Thought: The believer's soul goes to be with the Lord at death.

Older children: Why would we rather be away from the body and at home
with the Lord? What should our attitude be, whether we are at home or
away (v. 6-9)? How should we live in light of the fact that we must all
appear before the judgment seat of Christ?

Younger children: Where does the believer's soul go when he dies?

Prayer suggestions: Pray that God will give us good courage, great faith, and
an aim to please Him in all things. Confess your sins and thank God for
the cross of Jesus Christ, who is our only hope of salvation.

Day 3

Read: Philippians 1:20-26

Key Thought: Life is fruitful, but the believer who dies goes to Christ.

Older children: How can you honor Christ either by life or by death? Why
do you think Paul wanted to depart and be with Christ? Why did he also
desire to live on in his body? Do you want to see heaven? Why?

Younger children: Have you a soul as well as a body?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His wisdom in making us with a body
and a soul. Ask God to help us honor Him, whether we live or die.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Pray for your children and
grandchildren that they would be able to say, "To live is Christ, but to die
is gain." Ask God to make you a model of Christ in your life, but also
when it comes time for you to die and to be at home with the Lord.

Family Worship

Week 18

Suggested Hymn:

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast, unmeasured, boundless free!
Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me,
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of Thy love;
Leading onward, leading homeward, to my glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, spread His praise from shore to shore!
How He loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, never more.
How He watches o'er His loved ones, died to call them all His own;
How for them He intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, love of ev'ry love the best!
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus, 'tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
And it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to Thee.

By Samuel Trevor Francis; Sung to the tune of EBENEZER.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q18: What did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies?

A: He gave them souls that could never die.

(1 Cor 15:45; Eccl 12:7; Zech 12:1)

Q19: Have you a soul as well as a body?

A: Yes. I have a soul that can never die.

(Matt 10:28; Mk 8:34-38; 12:30)

Q20: How do you know that you have a soul?

A: Because the Bible tells me so.

(Matt 10:28; Mk 8:34-38; 12:30)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: John 5:19-23

Key Thought: The Father has given the Son all authority and honor.

Older children: What does the Son do? To whom does the Son give life? Why are all to honor the Son just as they honor the Father? Do you honor the Son? How so?

Younger children: Does God the Father love God the Son (v. 20)?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God the Father and God the Son for their greatness and power. Confess our sins by which we have dishonored the Son. Thank the Father for sending His Son to do His will. Ask God to help us to honor the Son by loving Him and obeying Him in all things.

Day 2

Read: John 5:24-25

Key Thought: The Son has all authority to give us eternal life.

Older children: What is the difference between *hearing* the word of Christ and *believing* it? What does it mean to pass from death to life? Do you have eternal life? Who will be raised from the dead?

Younger children: What must you do to have eternal life?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for the gift of eternal life. Thank Him for giving eternal life to all who believe. Think of three people who do not have eternal life and ask God to save them for His glory.

Day 3

Read: John 5:26-29

Key Thought: The Son has all authority to judge the world.

Older children: Who will be raised to judgment on the last day? Who will be raised to life on the last day? What happens to those who are judged and what happens to those who are given life? How do we enter life?

Younger children: Will Jesus judge the world?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for the Word of Christ, which is the way of life. Ask God to help us all believe in Christ, today, and to the end of our lives. Ask God to make us bold and clear witnesses of Christ to those who do not know Him.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Pray that your life would be a clear manifestation of life in Christ to your grandchildren.

Family Worship

For the Week of May 4, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/c/o/comethou.htm>

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry 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 Thy redeeming love.

Here I raise mine 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.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy grace, Lord, 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, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

By Robert Robinson; Sung to the tune of NETTLETON.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q19: Have you a soul as well as a body?

A: Yes. I have a soul that can never die.

(Matt 10:28; Mk 8:34-38; 12:30)

Q20: How do you know that you have a soul?

A: Because the Bible tells me so.

(Matt 10:28; Mk 8:34-38; 12:30)

Q21: In what condition did God make Adam and Eve?

A: He made them holy and happy.

(Gen 1:26-28; Psalms 8:4-8)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Psalm 145:4-9

Key Thought: God is great and good.

Older children: What are some of God's works and mighty acts? How can you commend them to others? In what way is God's goodness and mercy over all He has made? What can you do to meditate on God's wondrous works?

Younger children: Is God good to all (v. 9)?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His greatness. Confess our sin in worship. Thank God for His goodness and mercy. Think of some of His wondrous works and praise Him for them.

Day 2

Read: 1 Chronicles 16:28-36

Key Thought: God is worthy of worship and His love endures forever.

Older children: Why do you think we should "tremble" before God? What are two reasons we should "give thanks to the LORD" (v. 34)?

According to verse 35, why does God save and deliver us?

Younger children: How long does God's love last (v. 34)?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to make us a family that ascribes to Him glory and strength. Ask Him to make us constantly mindful of His rule, His goodness, His power, and His loyal love for His people.

Day 3

Read: Exodus 34:1-8

Key Thought: God is patient, forgiving, and just.

Older children: How has God been slow to anger toward you? How do you think it is possible for God to both "forgive sin" and "by no means clear the guilty?" What was Moses' response to God's description of Himself? How will you respond to God?

Younger children: What is God like according to verses 6 and 7?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to teach us more about Himself and to cause us to love Him and trust Him for His own glory.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Read Psalm 145:4-5 and think of some ways you can declare the mighty acts of God to other generations. Take a few moments to meditate on God's wonderful works in your lifetime.

Family Worship

For the Week of May 11, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/j/p/jpaidall.htm>

I hear the Savior say, Thy strength indeed is small,
Child of weakness, watch and pray, Find in Me Thine all in all.
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find Thy pow'r, and Tine alone,
Can change the leper's spots And melt the heart of stone.
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

For nothing good have I whereby Thy grace to claim;
I'll wash my garments with in the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb.
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

And when, before the throne, I stand in Him complete,
Jesus died my soul to save, My lips shall still repeat.
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

By Elvina M. Hall; Sung to the tune of ALL TO CHRIST.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q20: How do you know that you have a soul?

A: Because the Bible tells me so.

(Matt 10:28; Mk 8:34-38; 12:30)

Q21: In what condition did God make Adam and Eve?

A: He made them holy and happy.

(Gen 1:26-28; Psa 8:4-8)

Q22: Did Adam and Eve stay holy and happy?

A: No. They sinned against God.

(Gen 3:1-7; Eccl 7:29; Hos 6:7 where "men" is Adam)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Psalm 51:1-10

Key Thought: Only God can wash our sins away.

Older children: How does God "wash" our sins away? What does David mean that he "was brought forth in iniquity" (v. 5)? What happens to a person when God gives them a clean heart and a right spirit?

Younger children: Who did David sin against (v. 4)?

Prayer suggestions: Confess our sins against God and ask Him for according to the merits of Christ's blood and righteousness. Ask God to give us clean hearts that trust Him, love Him, and love others in His name.

Day 2

Read: Jeremiah 17:5-14

Key Thought: Our hearts are sinful and we need God to save us.

Older children: In what does a "cursed" man trust (v. 5)? In what does a "blessed" man trust (v. 7)? How can you trust in God rather than man? Can a man save himself (v. 14)? Why not (v. 9)? What is some of the faithful "fruit" in your own life?

Younger children: What does verse 9 say about the "heart?"

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to make us like the blessed man, and to keep us from being like the cursed man. Ask God to save us and acknowledge that if He doesn't, then we won't be saved. Praise Him for his great salvation.

Day 3

Read: Ephesians 2:1-10

Key Thought: Men are dead in their sins, but God can make them alive.

Older children: What does it mean that they "were by nature children of wrath" (v. 3)? What is significant about the words "but God" in verse 4? Where do "faith" and salvation come from (v. 8-9)?

Younger children: How are we saved (v. 8)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for His great grace in Christ that overcomes the guilt and power of our sin.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Ask God to show your grandchildren their sin and to help them to see their great need of Christ every single day. Ask God to give you wisdom as you model a life of faith for them.

Family Worship

For the Week of May 18, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/c/o/m/comeyspn.htm>

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love and pow'r.
I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.

Come, ye thirsty, come and welcome, God's free bounty glorify;
True belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh.
I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.

Come, ye weary heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall;
If you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all.
I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;
All the fitness He requireth is to feel your need of Him.
I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.

By Joseph Hart; Sung to the tune of RESTORATION.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q21: In what condition did God make Adam and Eve?

A: He made them holy and happy.

(Gen 1:26-28; Psa 8:4-8)

Q22. Did Adam and Eve stay holy and happy?

A: No. They sinned against God.

(Gen 3:1-7; Eccl 7:29; Hos 6:7 where "men" is Adam)

Q23. What is sin?

A: Sin is any transgression of the law of God.

(1 Jn 3:4; Rom 3:20; Jas 2:9-11)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Romans 3:19-20

Key Thought: The law reveals our sin.

Older children: What are two purposes of the law according to verse 19? How do you think the law stops "every mouth?" How does God hold men accountable for their sins? If we aren't justified by the works of the law, then how are we justified (see verse 24)?

Younger children: What comes through the law (v. 20)?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to reveal our sin by His holy law and to drive us into the arms of Christ every single day. Give thanks to God for the gift of His law, and rejoice in Him for the grace of the gospel.

Day 2

Read: James 2:8-13

Key Thought: The law demands perfect obedience.

Older children: Is it possible to break just one of God's laws (v. 10)? Why? How does God's law convict transgressors? How can God show mercy to lawbreakers?

Younger children: Do you keep God's whole law (see v. 10)?

Prayer suggestions: Give glory to God for His perfect character which is reflected in His whole law. Confess that when we sin, we sin against the whole character of God. Ask God for mercy on the basis of Christ's righteousness. Thank Him for the gift of redemption.

Day 3

Read: 1 John 3:4

Key Thought: Sin is any transgression of the law of God.

Older children: How do we know whether or not we are sinning? Where is God's law revealed? What are some of the laws of God you break? How can you respond with faith and repentance when you break God's laws?

Younger children: What is sin?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to expose the depths of our sin with His law. Ask God to forgive us for our sinful actions and for our sinful hearts.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Thank God for His law and for the gospel of Christ. Ask God to give your grandchildren the gift of faith.

Family Worship

For the Week of May 25, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/h/o/holyholy.htm>

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who wert, and art, and ever more shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Tho' the darkness hide Thee,
Tho' the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth, and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

By Reginald Heber; Sung to the tune of NICAEA.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q22. Did Adam and Eve stay holy and happy?
A: No. They sinned against God.
(Gen 3:1-7; Eccl 7:29; Hos 6:7 where “men” is Adam)

Q23. What is sin?
A: Sin is any transgression of the law of God.
(1 Jn 3:4; Rom 3:20; Jas 2:9-11)

Q24. What is meant by transgression?
A: Doing what God forbids.
(1 Sam 13:8-14; 15:22, 23; Hos 6:7; Rom 1:21-32)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Psalm 99:1-9

Key Thought: God is holy and worthy of worship.

Older children: Why do you think the people “tremble” before the Lord? What are two qualities of God mentioned in verse 8? How can you worship the Lord? Why should you worship the Lord?

Younger children: What does verse 3 teach us about God?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to give us a clear sight of His holiness and ask Him to make us reflect His holiness in our personal walk with him, in our homes, in our schools and in our occupations.

Day 2

Read: Isaiah 6:1-7

Key Thought: God is “holy, holy holy!”

Older children: What was Isaiah’s reaction to this vision of God and His holiness? How did God (through the seraphim) respond to Isaiah’s words? Does thinking about God’s holiness cause you to see your need of forgiveness? How can you be forgiven?

Younger children: What were the seraphim calling to one another?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His perfect holiness of character and being. Give thanks to God for the grace of forgiveness. Ask God to make us like Isaiah and to see ourselves as sinners in need of mercy.

Day 3

Read: 1 Peter 1:13-21

Key Thought: Be holy because God is holy.

Older children: How can you “be holy in all your conduct” (v. 15)? How can you become more holy (vv. 17-19)? Who is the object of our faith and hope?

Younger children: Is God holy? Should you be holy?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to make us more holy, even as He is holy. Praise God for the redemption we have in Christ and ask God to give us the godly fear that produces holiness.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Pray that you will be an example of faithful Christlike holiness for your grandchildren.

Family Worship

For the Week of June 1, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/a/1/a/alasand.htm>

Alas and did my Savior bleed, and did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred head for such a worm as I?
(Refrain)

Was it for crimes that I had done He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, and love beyond degree!
(Refrain)

Well might the sun in darkness hide, and shut His glories in,
When Christ the mighty Maker died for man, the creatures sin.
(Refrain)

But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord I give myself away, 'Tis all that I can do.

Refrain:

At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light, and the
Burden of my heart rolled away, it was there by faith
I received my sight, and now I am happy all the day!

By Isaac Watts; refrain, Ralph Hudson; Sung to the tune of HUDSON.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q23. What is sin?

A: Sin is any transgression of the law of God.
(1 Jn 3:4; Rom 3:20; Jas 2:9-11)

Q24. What is meant by transgression?

A: Doing what God forbids.
(1 Sam 13:8-14; 15:22, 23; Hos 6:7; Rom 1:21-32)

Q25: What was the sin of our first parents?

A: Eating the forbidden fruit.
(Gen 2:16, 17; 3:6)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Matthew 6:19-21

Key Thought: Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.

Older children: What are some earthly treasures? What are some heavenly treasures? What do you treasure? What do your treasures tell you about your heart? How can you lay up treasures in heaven?

Younger children: Where should our treasure be?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to make Himself the treasure of our hearts. Ask God to give us minds set on the things above, rather than on the things of this earth.

Day 2

Read: 2 Peter 3:10-13

Key Thought: God will make a new heaven and a new earth.

Older children: What will happen to this world? Since this world will be destroyed, what kind of lives should we live? Give some examples of "holiness and godliness" (v. 11). Does any unrighteousness dwell in the new heavens and the new earth?

Younger children: Will God make a new heavens and a new earth?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us remember that this world will pass away and that we should live holy and godly lives that anticipate the new heavens and the new earth.

Day 3

Read: Revelation 21:1-4

Key Thought: The new heaven will be a place to dwell with God Himself.

Older children: What will the new heaven be like? What will it be like for "God Himself will be with" His people? How will God comfort His people in the new heaven? How will the new heaven be different from this world? Who will be in this new heaven (v. 2)?

Younger children: Do you want to be in the new heaven?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us to think about heaven more often than we do. Ask God to help us long for the day when we will be free from sin so that we can worship Him in perfect holiness.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Ask God to give your grandchildren the wisdom to store up for themselves treasures in heaven.

Family Worship

For the Week of June 8, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/g/1/glorious.htm>

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
He, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for His own abode:
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove:
Who can faint, while such a river ever does their thirst assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near!
Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
He, whose Word cannot be broken, formed thee for His own abode.

By John Newton; Sung to the tune of AUSTRIAN HYMN.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q24. What is meant by transgression?

A: Doing what God forbids.

(1 Sam 13:8-14; 15:22, 23; Hos 6:7; Rom 1:21-32)

Q25: What was the sin of our first parents?

A: Eating the forbidden fruit.

(Gen 2:16, 17; 3:6)

Q26: Why did they eat the forbidden fruit?

A: Because they did not believe what God had said.

(Gen 3:1-6; cf. Heb 11:6)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Acts 2:40-47

Key Thought: The fellowship of the church.

Older children: How were people “added” to the church (v. 41)? List the things to which the people of this church “devoted themselves.” What actions and attitudes characterized this church? Do those action and attitudes characterize you?

Younger children: Who was baptized (v. 41)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for our church and ask God to make us more like Christ for His glory. Ask God to give you a great sense of “awe,” a generous heart, and commitment to the assembly of the church.

Day 2

Read: Romans 12:9-21

Key Thought: The attitude of the church.

Older children: How can you love fellow Christians with “brotherly affection” (v. 10)? *Why* do you think Christians should “never be conceited” (v. 16)? How should you treat those who are unkind toward you? How do you “overcome evil with good?” (v. 21)?

Younger children: How should you “overcome evil” (v. 21)?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to make us humble as Christ was humble and to teach us to repay evil with good, to live at peace with all men if possible, and to love fellow believers with brotherly affection.

Day 3

Read: Ephesians 4:11-16

Key Thought: The building up of the church.

Older children: How do we attain the “unity of the faith” in the church (v. 13)? What characterizes “children” in verse 14? How can we “grow up” according to verses 15 and 16? Give an example of how you have demonstrated Christlike love to others in the church?

Younger children: Who are we to “grow up” into (v. 15)?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to strengthen His church, to build us up in faith, knowledge, and love as we set our eyes on Christ.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Pray for Morningview Baptist Church that we would be good examples of Christ for your grandchildren.

Family Worship

For the Week of June 15, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/t/h/therepow.htm>

Would you be free from the burden of sin? There's pow'r in the
Blood, pow'r in the blood; Would you o'er evil a victory win?
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood. (chorus)

Would you be free from your passion and pride? There's pow'r in the
Blood, pow'r in the blood; Come for a cleansing to Calvary's tide;
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood. (chorus)

Would you be whiter, much whiter than snow? There's pow'r in the
Blood, pow'r in the blood; Sin stains are lost in its life-giving flow;
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood. (chorus)

Would you do service for Jesus your King? There's pow'r in the
Blood, pow'r in the blood; Would you live daily His praises to sing?
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood.

Chorus

There is pow'r pow'r, wonder-working pow'r
In the blood of the Lamb; there is pow'r, pow'r
Wonder-working pow'r in the precious blood of the Lamb.

By Lewis E. Jones; Sung to the tune of POWER IN THE BLOOD.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q25: What was the sin of our first parents?

A: Eating the forbidden fruit.

(Gen 2:16, 17; 3:6)

Q26: Why did they eat the forbidden fruit?

A: Because they did not believe what God had said.

(Gen 3:1-6; cf. Heb 11:6)

Q27: Who tempted them to this sin?

The devil tempted Eve, and she gave the fruit to Adam.

(Gen 3:1-3; 2 Cor 11:3; 1 Tim 2:13, 14; cf. Rev 12:9)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Matthew 10:32-33

Key Thought: Sin is *absolutely* wrong.

Older children: How can we acknowledge Christ? How might some deny Christ? Is there an absolute difference between denying Christ and acknowledging Him? What is that difference? What can you do to acknowledge Christ more?

Younger children: Who does Christ acknowledge?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for telling us the truth about what He requires of us and ask Him to help us to acknowledge Christ in all things.

Day 2

Read: Matthew 15:18-19

Key Thought: Sin comes from the heart.

Older children: What kinds of sins come out of the heart, according to this passage? List some of the sins mentioned here and talk about each sin, explaining what it is. How does telling a lie start with your sinful heart? How can our hearts be cleansed of sin and made more like Christ?

Younger children: Does sin come out of the heart?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to direct our hearts to Christ, to delight in Him, to be so consumed by Him that we long to become like Him.

Day 3

Read: Galatians 5:16-26

Key Thought: Sin is a condition, a problem in our hearts, not just an action.

Older children: Verse 19 talks about the "works of the flesh." What do you think Paul means by "the flesh?" What kinds of acts does our "flesh" (or sinful nature) produce? According to this passage, who overcomes our "flesh" and produces good "fruit?"

Younger children: What is the fruit of the Spirit?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us to live by the Spirit and to walk by the Spirit for His glory. Ask Him to direct our eyes to Christ and to be filled with fresh longings to become like the One we admire.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Pray that God in Christ will overcome the sin in the hearts of your grandchildren by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Family Worship

For the Week of June 22, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/r/e/rejtlord.htm>

Rejoice the Lord is King; your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore: Lift
Up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say rejoice!

Jesus, the Savior reigns, The God of truth and love;
When He had purged our stains, He took his seat above: Lift
Up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n: Lift
Up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord and judge shall come
And take His servants up to their eternal home: Lift
Up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say rejoice!

By Charles Wesley; Sung to the tune of DARWALL.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q26: Why did they eat the forbidden fruit?

A: Because they did not believe what God had said.

(Gen 3:1-6; cf. Heb 11:6)

Q27: Who tempted them to this sin?

The devil tempted Eve, and she gave the fruit to Adam.

(Gen 3:1-3; 2 Cor 11:3; 1 Tim 2:13, 14; cf. Rev 12:9)

Q28: What happened to our first parents when they had sinned?

Instead of being holy and happy, they became sinful and miserable.

(Gen 3:14-24; 4:1-24; Jas 1:14-15)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Revelation 1:7-8

Key Thought: Christ's return will be visible.

Older children: What will it be like when Christ comes back? According to these verses, what kinds of people will see Him when He returns? Will Christ's return be "secret" or "public?" Are you looking forward to the return of Christ? Why or why not?

Younger children: Will everyone see Jesus when He comes back to earth?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to make us long and hope for Christ's return, and to look forward to seeing Him face to face.

Day 2

Read: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

Key Thought: Christ's return will be sudden.

Older children: Do you think that Christ's return will be a surprise? How do you know? Since Christ's return will be "sudden," how should we live our lives every day? How can you prepare for the return of Christ? Is there anything you should change about how you're living? What?

Younger children: Can we know the day or the hour of Christ's return?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to prepare us for the return of His Son. Pray that He will make us diligent in faith and perseverance, resisting sin to the shedding of blood, longing for the One who has redeemed us.

Day 3

Read: Revelation 19:11-16

Key Thought: Christ's return will be glorious and victorious.

Older children: In your own words, describe what Christ's second coming will be like. What does this passage teach us about Christ? What do you love about Christ as depicted in this passage? What does it mean that He is the King of kings and Lord of lords? Can you depend on Christ to save you, protect you, and preserve you to the end? How do you know?

Younger children: Is Jesus great?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us see Christ in truth, to delight in Him, and hope in Him to the very end.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Ask God to help you set your eyes on Christ and to long for His return.

Family Worship

For the Week of June 29, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/o/j/ojordsbi.htm>

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand and cast a wishful eye,
To Canaan's fair and happy land where my possessions lie.
I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land;
O who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land.

All o'er those wide extended plains shines one eternal day;
There God the Son for ever reigns and scatters night away.
I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land;
O who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land.

No chilling winds nor pois'nous breath can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness and sorrow, pain and death are felt and feared no more.
I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land;
O who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land.

When shall I reach that happy place and be forever blest?
When shall I see my Father's face and in His bosom rest?
I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land;
O who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land.

By Samuel Stennett; Sung to the tune of PROMISED LAND.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q27: Who tempted them to this sin?

The devil tempted Eve, and she gave the fruit to Adam.
(Gen 3:1-3; 2 Cor 11:3; 1 Tim 2:13, 14; cf. Rev 12:9)

Q28: What happened to our first parents when they had sinned?
Instead of being holy and happy, they became sinful and miserable.
(Gen 3:14-24; 4:1-24; Jas 1:14-15)

Q29: What effect did the sin of Adam have on all mankind?
A: All mankind is born in a state of sin and misery.
(Psa 51:5; Rom 5:12, 18, 19; 1 Cor 15:21, 22; 1 Jn 5:19)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Psalm 86:15-16

Key Thought: God is patient.

Older children: List some of God's character qualities mentioned in these verses. What do you think patience is? How is God a patient God? In what ways can you be more patient?

Younger children: What is God like according to these verses?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to give you a clear knowledge of His patience in grace and mercy, and ask Him to make you more like Him.

Day 2

Read: Romans 2:1-4

Key Thought: Do not presume upon God's patience.

Older children: How do you think people might take God's kindness and patience for granted? Will God be patient forever? When will His patience with sinful human beings come to an end?

Younger children: What leads us to repentance?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us not to presume upon His patience, but to repent of our sins and cling to Jesus Christ every day.

Day 3

Read: 1 Timothy 1:15-17

Key Thought: God saves to display the glory of His patience.

Older children: Why did Paul receive mercy according to this passage? How is Christ's patience displayed in Paul's salvation? In what ways has God been patient with you? How can trusting in Christ make you more patient?

Younger children: Why did Jesus come into the world?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for His patient redemption of poor sinners like us. Praise God for the glory of His patience and ask Him to make us more patient that we might be better reflections of His glory.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Thank God for His patience with your grandchildren in not dealing with them according to what they deserve, but according to His grace. Ask God to make you a testimony of His loving patience to your grandchildren as you witness the gospel to them.

Family Worship

Week 28

Suggested Hymn:

Jesus, I my cross have taken, all to leave, and follow Thee;
Destitute, despised forsaken, Thou, from hence, my all shall be;
Perish every fond ambition, all I've sought or hoped or known;
Yet how rich is my condition: God and heav'n are still my own!

Let the world despise and leave me, They have left my Savior too;
Human hearts and looks deceive me, Thou art not, like man, untrue;
And, while Thou shalt smile upon me, God of wisdom, love and might,
Foes may hate and friends may shun me: Show Thy face, and all is bright.

Haste thee on from grace to glory, armed by faith, and winged by prayer;
Heav'n's eternal days before thee, God's own hand shall guide thee there;
Soon shall close thy earthly mission, swift shall pass thy pilgrim days;
Hope shall change to glad fruition, faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

By Henry F. Lyte; Sung to the tune of ELLESDIE.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q28: What happened to our first parents when they had sinned?
Instead of being holy and happy, they became sinful and miserable.
(Gen 3:14-24; 4:1-24; Jas 1:14-15)

Q29: What effect did the sin of Adam have on all mankind?
A: All mankind is born in a state of sin and misery.
(Psa 51:5; Rom 5:12, 18, 19; 1 Cor 15:21, 22; 1 Jn 5:19)

Q30: What do we inherit from Adam as a result of this original sin?
A: A sinful nature.
(1 Kgs 8:46; Psa 14:2, 3; 58:3; Eccl 9:3; Matt 15:18-20; Jn 2:24; Rom 8:7)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Mark 8:34-38

Key Thought: Take up your cross.

Older children: How can you deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow Christ? Are you trying to save your life or lose it? Are you ashamed of Christ and His words or are you carrying the cross as He did?

Younger children: Should you follow Jesus?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God that Christ bore His cross. Ask God to give us grace to bear the cross of suffering as we stand for Christ, obey His commands, and glorify Him.

Day 2

Read: Luke 15:27-31

Key Thought: Bearing the cross is costly.

Older children: What are some things that are costly and difficult about being a disciple of Christ? Are you willing to obey Christ by enduring the difficulties that disciples must endure? Are you willing, not only to start, but also to finish your life as a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ?

Younger children: What must a “disciple” do (v. 27)?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for making a way of salvation for sinners. Ask God to give us wisdom to faithfully bear our crosses, knowing that the disciple's life is not easy, but that it is joyful.

Day 3

Read: Luke 23:26-56

Key Thought: Christ bore the cross.

Older children: What was Christ thinking about while He was going to be crucified and while He hung on the cross (what kinds of things did He say)? How did Christ treat others while men were putting Him to death? Since Christ bore His cross, will you bear the cross too? How?

Younger children: Why did Jesus have to die?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for the cross of Jesus Christ. Ask God to forgive our sins and help us to bear our crosses as Christ bore His cross.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Ask God to give your grandchildren a love for the cross of Christ and that He will teach them what it means to carry the cross, and to follow Christ, even unto death.

Family Worship

For the Week of July 13, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/t/i/tissweet.htm>

‘Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, Just to take Him at His word;
Just to rest upon His promise; Just to know, “Thus saith the Lord.”
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I’ve proved Him o’er and o’er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!

O, how sweet to trust in Jesus, Just to trust His cleansing blood;
Just in simple faith to plunge me ‘neath the healing, cleansing flood!
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I’ve proved Him o’er and o’er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!

Yes, ‘tis sweet to trust in Jesus, Just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace.
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I’ve proved Him o’er and o’er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!

I’m so glad I learned to trust Him, precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that He is with me, will be with me to the end.
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I’ve proved Him o’er and o’er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!

By Louisa M. R. Stead; Sung to the tune of TRUST IN JESUS.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q29: What effect did the sin of Adam have on all mankind?

A: All mankind is born in a state of sin and misery.

(Psa 51:5; Rom 5:12, 18, 19; 1 Cor 15:21, 22; 1 Jn 5:19)

Q30: What do we inherit from Adam as a result of this original sin?

A: A sinful nature.

(1 Kgs 8:46; Psa 14:2, 3; 58:3; Eccl 9:3; Matt 15:18-20; Jn 2:24; Rom 8:7)

Q31: What does every sin deserve?

A: The anger and judgment of God.

(Deut 27:26; Rom 1:18; 2:2; Gal 3:10; Eph 5:6)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Psalm 98:1-9

Key Thought: Shout joyfully to the Lord.

Older children: What does it mean to make a joyful noise to the Lord?
Why should the “world and those who dwell in it” rejoice in the Lord
(see verse 9)? What reasons do you have to rejoice in the Lord?

Younger children: Who should sing praises to the Lord?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for salvation and that He judges the world
according to His own righteousness. Ask God to give us joyful hearts
that praise Him in all that we do for His own glory.

Day 2

Read: John 15:8-11

Key Thought: May your joy be full.

Older children: What does keeping Christ’s commandments have to do
with joy (see verses 10-11)? According to these verses how is the Father
glorified? Are you keeping Christ’s commandments? Do you love Jesus?
How do you know?

Younger children: Should you obey Jesus?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for His gracious commandments, which
teach us how to express our love for Him. Thank God for Christ, who is
the perfect embodiment of commandment keeping. Ask God to make
us more like Him for our joy and for God’s glory.

Day 3

Read: Hebrews 12:1-2

Key Thought: Jesus went to the cross for the joy set before Him.

Older children: What “joy” was set before Jesus on the cross? What sins
can we lay aside and how can we run with endurance? What joy is
promised to us for running with endurance?

Younger children: Did Jesus die on the cross for the joy set before Him?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for the cross and ask God to help us bear
our crosses for the joy set before us.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Ask God to give you His joy in every
circumstance and to manifest that godly joy to your family.

Family Worship

Week 30

Suggested Hymn:

Come, we that love the Lord, And let our joys be known;
Join in a song with sweet accord, Join in a song with sweet accord
And thus surround the throne, And thus surround the throne.

Refrain

*We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward to Zion, The beautiful city of God.*

Let those refuse to sing, Who never knew our God;
But children of the heavenly King, But children of the heavenly King
May speak their joys abroad, May speak their joys abroad.

Refrain

The hill of Zion yields, A thousand sacred sweets
Before we reach the heav'nly fields, Before we reach the heav'nly fields,
Or walk the golden streets, Or walk the golden streets.

Refrain

Then let our songs abound, And every tear be dry;
We're marching through Immanuel's ground, We're marching through
Immanuel's ground, To fairer worlds on high, To fairer worlds on high.

Refrain

By Isaac Watts; Sung to the tune of MARCHING TO ZION.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q30: What do we inherit from Adam as a result of this original sin?

A: A sinful nature.

(1 Kgs 8:46; Psa 14:2, 3; 58:3; Eccl 9:3; Matt 15:18-20; Jn 2:24; Rom 8:7)

Q31: What does every sin deserve?

A: The anger and judgment of God.

(Deut 27:26; Rom 1:18; 2:2; Gal 3:10; Eph 5:6)

Q32: Can anyone go to heaven with this sinful nature?

A: No. Our hearts must be changed before we can be fit for heaven.

(Jer 31:33, 34; Ezek 36:25-27; Jn 1:12, 13; 3:1-10; 1 Jn 5:1, 4, 18)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Matthew 28:16-20

Key Thought: Disciples are to be baptized.

Older children: Who is to be baptized, according to this passage? Into what name are disciples to be baptized? How are disciples made? Are you being faithful to this Great Commission? How can do be more faithful?

Younger children: Should disciples be baptized?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for the grace of discipleship and the sign of baptism. Ask God to make us a family that is diligent about taking the gospel to the nations and going to make disciples.

Day 2

Read: Acts 8:27-40

Key Thought: Those who hear and receive the gospel are to be baptized.

Older children: How did Philip help the Ethiopian? Who was the passage in Isaiah about (see v. 35)? Why did Philip baptized the Ethiopian? When should people be baptized?

Younger children: Did Philip baptize the Ethiopian? What did Philip do (what is baptism)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for His Word and the message of Christ revealed in it. Thank God for His Spirit who powerfully applies that message to our hearts by regenerating us and giving us the gift of faith.

Day 3

Read: Romans 6:1-11

Key Thought: Baptism is a picture of dying to self and living for Christ.

Older children: Into whom have we been baptized if we are believers (v. 3)? How are those in Christ “dead to sin” and “alive to God in Christ Jesus” (v. 11)? List some ways that you can live to God in Christ Jesus.

Younger children: What is baptism a picture of?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for Christ who saves us from our sins. Ask God to help us to keep our eyes fixed upon Him, to die to our sins and to live for Christ by walking as He walked.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Tell your grandchildren about how God saved you and about your baptism.

Family Worship

For the Week of July 27, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/c/t/ctrlisen.htm>

Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Al-le-lu-ia!
Sons of men and angels say, Al-le-lu-ia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Al-le-lu-ia!
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply, Al-le-lu-ia!

Lives again our glorious King, Al-le-lu-ia!
Where, O Death, is now thy sting? Al-le-lu-ia!
Dying once He all doth save, Al-le-lu-ia!
Where thy victory, O Grave? Al-le-lu-ia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Al-le-lu-ia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Al-le-lu-ia!
Death in vain forbids Him rise, Al-le-lu-ia!
Christ hath opened Paradise, Al-le-lu-ia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Al-le-lu-ia!
Foll'wing our exalted Head, Al-le-lu-ia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Al-le-lu-ia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al-le-lu-ia!

By Charles Wesley; Sung to the tune of EASTER HYMN.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q31: What does every sin deserve?

A: The anger and judgment of God.

(Deut 27:26; Rom 1:18; 2:2; Gal 3:10; Eph 5:6)

Q32: Can anyone go to heaven with this sinful nature?

A: No. Our hearts must be changed before we can be fit for heaven.

(Jer 31:33, 34; Ezek 36:25-27; Jn 1:12, 13; 3:1-10; 1 Jn 5:1, 4, 18)

Q33: What is a change of heart called?

A: Regeneration.

(Titus 3:5-6)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Matthew 28:1-10

Key Thought: Jesus rose from the dead.

Older children: What do you think is important about the fact that Jesus rose from the dead? How would you have reacted if you had seen Christ's empty tomb? Where do you think Jesus is right now (Luke 22:69; Eph 1:20)?

Younger children: Why was Jesus' tomb empty? Who raised Jesus from the dead?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Praise Him for His great power and grace in raising Christ from the dead. Ask God to help us trust the risen Christ every single day.

Day 2

Read: John 11:25-27

Key Thought: Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Older children: What does Jesus mean "I am the resurrection and the life?" How can a person "live even if he dies?" Did Martha believe in Jesus? What did she believe? Do you believe as Martha did?

Younger children: What does Jesus say will never happen if you believe in Him? What does that mean?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us set our minds upon Christ. Pray that God would help us to give a good confession of faith, like Martha, and to continue in that confession.

Day 3

Read: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Key Thought: The dead will be raised.

Older children: When will the dead be raised? Why do men die (v. 56)? How has death been overcome (v. 57)? How should the Bible's teaching about the resurrection change the way we live our lives (v. 58)?

Younger children: Will the dead be raised one day (v. 52)?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His wise power in raising the dead.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Tell your grandchildren about what you're looking forward to when God raises you to new life and glory.

Family Worship

For the Week of August 3, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/a/c/acanitbe.htm>

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who him to death pursued? Amazing love!
How can it be? That Thou, my God, should die for me?
Amazing love! How can it be? That Thou my God should die for me?

He left his Father's throne above. So free, so infinite His grace.
Emptied Himself in matchless love.
And bled for Adam's helpless race; 'Tis mercy all!
Immense and free; O praise my God, it reaches me.
Amazing love! How can it be? That Thou my God should die for me?

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night.
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray.
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light; My chains fell off!
My heart was free; I rose, went forth and followed Thee.
Amazing love! How can it be? That Thou my God should die for me?

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head.
And clothed in righteousness divine; Bold I approach!
The eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ my own.
Amazing love! How can it be? That Thou my God should die for me?

By Charles Wesley; Sung to the tune of SAGINA.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q32: Can anyone go to heaven with this sinful nature?
A: No. Our hearts must be changed before we can be fit for heaven.
(Jer 31:33, 34; Ezek 36:25-27; Jn 1:12, 13; 3:1-10; 1 Jn 5:1, 4, 18)

Q33: What is a change of heart called?
A: Regeneration.
(Titus 3:5-6)

Q34: Who can change a sinner's heart?
A: The Holy Spirit alone.
(Jn 3:3; Rom 8:6-11; 1 Cor 2:9-14; 2 Thess 2:13-14; Titus 3:5-6)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Ezekiel 36:22-27

Key Thought: God gives new hearts to sinners.

Older children: What is God's chief concern in verses 22-23? What changes in people when God gives them new hearts (v. 27)? Do you have a new heart? How do you know?

Younger children: Who can change our hearts (v. 26)?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His powerful grace in giving new hearts to sinners. Ask God to cause us to be faithful to Him and to walk in obedience to His commandments for the glory of His name.

Day 2

Read: John 3:1-8

Key Thought: You must be born again.

Older children: How did Nicodemus misunderstand Jesus? What did Jesus mean when He said that a person has to be "born again" to see the "kingdom of God?" According to verse 8, how are people born again?

Younger children: What has to happen for you to see the kingdom of God?
Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His great wisdom in sending His Spirit to cause men to be born again. Pray for someone who does not know Christ and ask God to bring about the new birth in their hearts.

Day 3

Read: 1 John 5:1-5

Key Thought: Those who are born again overcome the world.

Older children: According to verse 1, who has been "born of God?" Are God's commandments burdensome for those who are born of God (v. 3)? How can you overcome the world? Are you overcoming the world?

Younger children: Who overcomes the world (V. 4)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for giving us His commandments as a way to express our love for Him. Ask God to help us overcome the world by keeping His commandments from a nature that has been born again.

Suggestions for Grandparents: If your children and grandchildren are believers, thank God for giving them the gift of new birth. If they are not believers, ask God to give them new hearts that believe.

Family Worship

For the Week of August 10, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/g/g/greater.htm>

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

Chorus:

Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that is greater than all our sin.

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide,
What can avail to wash it away?
Look! There is flowing a crimson tide;
Whiter than snow you may be today.
(Chorus)

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,
Freely bestowed on all who believe;
All who are longing to see His face,
Will you this moment His grace receive?
(Chorus)

By Julia H. Johnston; Sung to the tune of MOODY.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q33: What is a change of heart called?

A: Regeneration.

(Titus 3:5-6)

Q34: Who can change a sinner's heart?

A: The Holy Spirit alone.

(Jn 3:3; Rom 8:6-11; 1 Cor 2:9-14; 2 Thess 2:13-14; Titus 3:5-6)

Q35: What is God's righteousness?

A: It is God's goodness.

(Exod 33:19; 34:36; Psa 33:5; Hos 3:5; Rom 11:22)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Key Thought: Those who are born again are new creations.

Older children: What does it mean for a person to be a "new creation?"
What is "the old" that has passed away for those who are new creations?

Younger children: If you are "in Christ," are you a new creation (v. 17)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for graciously restoring the fallen world and for making all things new in Christ. Praise Him for making people "new creations" in Christ who love Him and keep His commandments.

Day 2

Read: Titus 3:3-8

Key Thought: Our good God washes us in regeneration (new birth).

Older children: Why does God save His people (v. 5)? How does He save them (v. 5-7)? What is the difference between unregenerate people (v. 3) and regenerate people (v. 8)?

Younger children: What is a change of heart called? (See the catechism.)

Prayer suggestions: Give thanks to God for His great goodness and kindness in sending Christ to purchase salvation and in sending the Spirit to apply it. Ask God to help us respond to His kind redemption with gratitude, love, joy, and obedience.

Day 3

Read: 1 Peter 1:1-5

Key Thought: Those who are born again have a living hope.

Older children: What is the "living hope" of those who are "born again" (v. 4)? Once people are "born again" to a living hope can they lose their faith or does guarded through faith forever (v. 5)?

Younger children: Who causes people to be born again (v. 3)?

Prayer suggestions: Pray specifically for someone who does not know Jesus Christ and ask God to give them the gift of new birth for His own glory. Thank God that He not only brings about new birth and faith, but that He keeps believers in the faith to the end by His great power.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Tell your grandchildren about how being born again has changed the way you've lived your life.

Family Worship

For the Week of August 17, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/w/h/a/whatwond.htm>

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb Who is the great "I Am";
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be;
And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And through eternity, I'll sing on.

American Folk Hymn; Sung to the tune of WONDROUS LOVE.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q34: Who can change a sinner's heart?

A: The Holy Spirit alone.

(Jn 3:3; Rom 8:6-11; 1 Cor 2:9-14; 2 Thess 2:13-14; Titus 3:5-6)

Q35: What is God's righteousness?

A: It is God's goodness.

(Exod 33:19; 34:36; Psa 33:5; Hos 3:5; Rom 11:22)

Q36: Can anyone be saved by his own righteousness?

A: No one is good enough for God.

(Prov 20:9; Eccl 7:20; Rom 3:10-23)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Psalm 36:5-10

Key Thought: God is righteous.

Older children: What does it mean that God is righteous? Why do you think God's righteousness is compared to a mountain? What are some of the other characteristics of God listed in these verses?

Younger children: What is God's righteousness like?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God that His righteousness is mighty like the mountains. Confess that though He is righteous, we are unrighteous. Ask God to conform us to the image of Christ for His glory.

Day 2

Read: Romans 3:9-20

Key Thought: We are all unrighteous.

Older children: List all of the things that "no one" is and "no one" does. Since there is no one righteous, can anyone be saved (justified) by keeping the law (see verse 20)? Since none of us can be justified by keeping the law, how can any of us be saved at all (Rom 3:24)?

Younger children: Is there anyone who is righteous?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His law, which reveals our unrighteousness and our need of Christ's righteousness. Ask God to help us trust in Christ every single day and to cling to Him as our only hope in life and in death.

Day 3

Read: Philippians 3:8-11

Key Thought: We must be saved by the righteousness of Christ.

Older children: Can we have a righteousness of our own that comes from the law? How does righteousness come? Do you have faith in Christ? How do you know? Why should you have faith in Jesus?

Younger children: Does righteousness come through faith?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for the gift of Christ's righteousness. In light of God's great gift of righteousness, pray that with Paul, we too would count all things loss for the sake of Christ.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Pray that God will bring your grandchildren to trust in Christ's righteousness, rather than their own.

Family Worship

For the Week of August 24, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

What sacred fountain yonder springs up from the throne of God,
And all new covenant blessings brings?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

What mighty sum paid all my debt, when I a bondman stood,
And has my soul at freedom set?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

refrain:

What stream can sweep away
My sins just like a flood,
Nor lets one guilty blemish stay?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

What voice is that which speaks for me, in heaven's court for good,
And from the curse has set me free?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

What theme, my soul shall best employ, thy harp before thy God,
And make all heaven to ring with joy?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

By William J. Irons (1812-1833).

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q35: What is God's righteousness?

A: It is God's goodness.

(Exod 33:19; 34:36; Psa 33:5; Hos 3:5; Rom 11:22)

Q36: Can anyone be saved by his own righteousness?

A: No one is good enough for God.

(Prov 20:9; Eccl 7:20; Rom 3:10-23)

Q37: What is a covenant?

A: An agreement between two or more persons.

(e.g., 1 Sam 18:3; Matt 26:14, 15)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Key Thought: God promised a new covenant.

Older children: What are some of the promises God makes to those in the new covenant? What do you think happens if God puts His law in your heart? What do these verses teach us about God? Why should we thank God for the new covenant?

Younger children: Does God promise to forgive sins? Who forgives sins?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for being merciful to His people. Confess our sins against God, but thank Him that He forgives those in Christ. Ask God to help us to trust and obey Him for His glory.

Day 2

Read: John 17:1-5

Key Thought: The Father and the Son have an agreement (a covenant).

Older children: What work did the Father give to the Son? Did the Son agree to do that work? Did the Son finish the work the Father gave Him? How do God's people benefit from this agreement between the Father and the Son? Do you know the Father and the Son (v. 3)?

Younger children: Do the Father and the Son have an agreement?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to give us boldness to tell everyone about what the Son did to glorify the Father. Ask God to help us to join Christ in glorifying the Father by trusting Him, loving Him, and obeying Him.

Day 3

Read: Hebrews 13:20-21

Key Thought: God equips us with everything good by the blood of the eternal covenant.

Older children: What are some of the blessings of the eternal covenant mentioned in these verses? What pleases God (v. 21)? How does God equip us to do His will? Why does he equip us to do His will?

Younger children: Who is to be glorified "forever and ever" (v. 21)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for raising Jesus from the dead, ask God to equip us with everything good by Christ's blood.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Find a time this week to tell your grandchildren something God has taught you in His Word.

Family Worship

For the Week of August 31, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/i/i/iigowise.htm>

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, In light inaccessible
hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great Name we praise.

Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light, Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou
rulest in might; Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above Thy
clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small; In all life Thou livest, the
true life of all; We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, And wither
and perish—but naught changeth Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, Thine angels adore Thee, all
veiling their sight; But of all Thy graces this grace, Lord, impart Take
(the) veil from our faces, the vile from our heart.

All praise we would render; O help us to see 'Tis only the splendor of
light hideth Thee, And so let Thy glory, Almighty, impart, Through
Christ in His story, Thy Christ to the heart.

By Walter C. Smith (1876); Sung to the tune of ST. DENIO.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q36: Can anyone be saved by his own righteousness?

A: No one is good enough for God.

(Prov 20:9; Eccl 7:20; Rom 3:10-23)

Q37: What is a covenant?

A: An agreement between two or more persons.

(e.g., 1 Sam 18:3; Matt 26:14, 15)

Q38: What is the covenant of grace?

A: The agreement God made with His elect people to save them from
their sins. (Gen 17:1-8; Rom 11:27; Heb 10:16-17)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Psalm 2:7-12

Key Thought: The Father covenanted with the Son to bless those in Him.

Older children: What promises did the Father make to the Son? What
commands did the Father give to the Son? What commands did the
Father give to the nations? What promises did the Father make to the
nations?

Younger children: Who is blessed according to verse 12?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for the covenant of grace by which we may
be blessed in Christ through faith. Ask God to help us to serve the Lord
with fear and to rejoice with trembling as we take refuge in Christ.

Day 2

Read: Ephesians 1:1-14

Key Thought: The Father, Son, and Spirit covenanted to redeem sinners.

Older children: What is the role of the Father in the covenant (3-6)? What
is the role of the Son in the covenant (7-12)? What is the role of the
Spirit in the covenant (13-14)? How should you respond to this
covenant of grace?

Younger children: What happens when you believe in Jesus (v. 13-14)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for His eternal electing grace. Praise Him
for not leaving His people to die in their sins, but for sending His only
Son to accomplish their salvation and for sending His Spirit to apply
salvation to them.

Day 3

Read: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

Key Thought: The covenant of grace gives what God commands.

Older children: List God's commands and list His matching gifts. What's
God's goal (purpose) in choosing sinners for salvation (v. 13-14)? How
should verse 15 effect how you live your life?

Younger children: What does God give His people?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to make us diligent students of His Word who
not only know it but believe it and do it.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Thank God for His great grace in your
own life and ask God to manifest Christ through you to others.

Family Worship

For the Week of September 7, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/r/o/rockages.htm>

Rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, from Thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill Thy law's demands;
These for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone:
In my hand no price I bring, simply to Thy cross I cling.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyes shall close in death,
When I rise to worlds unknown, and behold Thee on Thy throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee.

By Augustus Toplady; Sung to the tune of TOPLADY.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q37: What is a covenant?

A: An agreement between two or more persons.
(e.g., 1 Sam 18:3; Matt 26:14, 15)

Q38: What is the covenant of grace?

A: The agreement God made with His elect people to save them from their sins. (Gen 17:1-8; Rom 11:27; Heb 10:16-17)

Q39: What did Christ undertake in the covenant of grace?

A: To keep the whole law for His people and to suffer the punishment due to their sins. (Rom 8:3-4; Gal 4:4-5; Heb 9:14-15)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: 2 Chronicles 26:1-5

Key Thought: King Uzziah did right in the sight of the LORD.

Older children: Why did God bless Uzziah? How can you seek the Lord? How can we do what is right in the sight of God? Are you seeking the Lord, learning His Word, and learning to obey Him?

Younger children: Did Uzziah seek God?

Prayer suggestions: Pray that God would help us to seek Him continually, to depend on Him in every circumstance, and to do what is right in His sight. Ask God to make us examples of Christ to others for His glory.

Day 2

Read: 2 Chronicles 26:6-15

Key Thought: God blessed King Uzziah.

Older children: In what ways did God bless Uzziah? What does that teach us about God? How has God helped you (v. 7)?

Younger children: Who helped Uzziah defeat the Philistines (v. 7)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for all of His great blessings, for His help in everything you do. Praise God for His kindness and grace in giving good things to those who trust Him.

Day 3

Read: 2 Chronicles 26:16-23

Key Thought: Uzziah became proud and God disciplined him.

Older children: Why do you think Uzziah was proud? How can you cultivate a humble heart that is ready to receive correction (vv. 18-19)? What does God's discipline of Uzziah teach us about who God is?

Younger children: How did Uzziah sin against God (v. 16)?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His holiness. Confess your sins of pride and rebellion against God's laws. Thank God that redemption from sin comes through the blood of Jesus Christ. Ask God to make us more like Christ and less like the proud Uzziah.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Thank God for His kind blessing to you in giving you grandchildren. Pray that your grandchildren will see more of their sinful pride and trust in Christ every single day for His blessing.

Family Worship

For the Week of September 14, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

O Lord, may church and home combine to teach Thy perfect way,
With gentleness and love like Thine, That none shall ever stray.

Let all unworthy aims depart, imbue us with Thy grace;
Within the home let eve'ry heart become Thy dwelling place.

Shine, light divine; reveal Thy face where darkness else might be
Grant, love divine, in ev'ry place glad fellowship with Thee.

May steadfast faith and earnest prayer keep sacred vows secure;
Built Thou a hallowed dwelling where true joy and peace endure.

By Carlton C. Buck; Sung to the tune of LAND OF REST.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q38: What is the covenant of grace?

A: The agreement God made with His elect people to save them from their sins.

(Gen 17:1-8; Rom 11:27; Heb 10:16-17)

Q39: What did Christ undertake in the covenant of grace?

A: To keep the whole law for His people and to suffer the punishment due to their sins.

(Rom 8:3-4; Gal 4:4-5; Heb 9:14-15)

Q40: Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever sin?

A: No. He was holy, blameless and undefiled.

(Heb 7:26; Lk 23:47; Heb 4:15; 1 Pet 2:22; 1 Jn 3:5)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Proverbs 10:1-7

Key Thought: Wise children are a delight to their parents.

Older children: What does verses 4-5 teach about laziness? In what ways can you be a better worker at home and at school? How can you better honor and serve your parents to make them glad?

Younger children: Do wise children make their parents glad?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us to be a delight to our parents.

Thank God that He is a perfect Father who is worthy of all love and obedience and ask Him to help us be a delight to Him.

Day 2

Read: Proverbs 10:8-14

Key Thought: Wise children receive God's commandments.

Older children: What is the difference between the "wise" and the "fool" in verse 8? What are the two ways you might use your mouth (v. 11)?

According to verse 12, how are "love" and "hate" different? What does verse 13 teach about spankings and who should receive them (see also Prov 22:15; 23:13-14; 29:15-17)? How can you become wise?

Younger children: Should you listen to God's commandments?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to make us wise, to fill us with the knowledge of His Word, and to help us to do what it says in all of life.

Day 3

Read: Ephesians 6:1-2

Key Thought: Children obey your parents in the Lord.

Older children: Why should children obey their parents? Why is it "right" for children to obey their parents in the Lord? How can you better honor your father and your mother? How can God forgive us when we disobey our parents? Do you trust in Jesus to forgive your disobedience?

Younger children: Are children to obey their parents?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for giving us parents. Confess our sins of disobedience. Ask God to help us honor our father and our mother in all ways and to help us look to Christ for grace to obey.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Ask God to help you to be an encouragement to your children as they parent your grandchildren.

Family Worship

For the Week of September 21, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/s/o/c/socitarr.htm>

Soldiers of Christ in truth arrayed,
A world in ruins needs your aid: A world by sin destroyed and dead;
A world for which the Savior bled.

His gospel to the lost proclaim,
Good news for all in Jesus' name;
Let light upon the darkness break
That sinners from their death may wake.

Morning and evening sow the seed,
God's grace the effort shall succeed.
Seedtimes of tears have oft been found
With sheaves of joy and plenty crowned.

We meet to part and part to meet
When earthly labors are complete,
To join in yet more blessed employ
In an eternal world of joy.

By Basil Manly, Jr. (1825-1892); Sung to the tune of MENDON.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q39: What did Christ undertake in the covenant of grace?

A: To keep the whole law for His people and to suffer the punishment due to their sins.

(Rom 8:3-4; Gal 4:4-5; Heb 9:14-15)

Q40: Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever sin?

A: No. He was holy, blameless and undefiled.

(Heb 7:26; Lk 23:47; Heb 4:15; 1 Pet 2:22; 1 Jn 3:5)

Q41: How could the Son of God suffer?

A: Christ, the Son of God, took flesh and blood, that He might obey and suffer as a man.

(Jn 1:14; Rom 8:3; Gal 4:4; Phil 2:7-8; Heb 2:14, 17; 4:15)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Acts 8:1-3

Key Thought: Persecution scattered the church.

Older children: What is “persecution?” In what ways was Saul persecuting the church? Do you think persecution still takes place today? How should we respond to persecution when it comes?

Younger children: Was there a “great persecution” against the church?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His wisdom in permitting persecution. Thank God that He scattered the Jerusalem church to spread the gospel. Ask God to help us honor Him and keep His commandments in the midst of any persecution we may have to endure.

Day 2

Read: Acts 8:4-8

Key Thought: Those who scattered proclaimed the gospel.

Older children: What were they preaching (v. 4)? What was the crowd's reaction to Philip's preaching? Who can you tell about the way of salvation in Christ? When will you tell them about Him?

Younger children: Who did Philip “proclaim” (v. 5)?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us to be faithful to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to those around us. Pray specifically for people who do not know Christ, asking God to open their eyes to the truth of the gospel.

Day 3

Read: Acts 5:27-42

Key Thought: We must tell others about Jesus, no matter what people might say or do to us.

Older children: What did the council charge the apostles not to do? Why did they disobey the council? What was their punishment (v. 40)? What did the apostles do after that (vv. 41-42)?

Younger children: Who did Peter and the apostles say they must obey (v. 29)? Will you obey God?

Prayer suggestions: Pray that God would make us bold like these apostles.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Look for an opportunity this week to talk to your grandchildren about the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Family Worship

For the Week of September 28, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

Lord, Thou lov'st the cheerful giver, who with open heart and hand
Blesses freely, as a river, that refreshes all the land.
Grant us then the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free,
That our life and all our living, we may consecrate to Thee.

We are Thine, Thy mercy sought us, found us in death's dreadful way,
To the fold in safety brought us, nevermore from Thee to stray.
Thine own life Thou freely gavest, as an offering on the cross
For each sinner whom Thou savest, from eternal shame and loss.

Blest by Thee with gifts and graces, may we heed Thy church's call:
Gladly in all times and places, give to Thee Who givest all.
Thou hast bought us, and no longer, can we claim to be our own;
Ever free and ever stronger, we shall serve Thee, Lord, alone.

Savior, Thou hast freely given, every blessing, every breath.
Earthly store and bread of heaven, in your life, the death of death;
Humbly now we bow before Thee, and our all to Thee resign;
For the kingdom, pow'r and glory, are, O Lord, forever Thine.

By Robert Murray (1898); Sung to the tune of .

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q40: Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever sin?

A: No. He was holy, blameless and undefiled.

(Heb 7:26; Lk 23:47; Heb 4:15; 1 Pet 2:22; 1 Jn 3:5)

Q41: How could the Son of God suffer?

A: Christ, the Son of God, took flesh and blood, that He might obey and suffer as a man.

(Jn 1:14; Rom 8:3; Gal 4:4; Phil 2:7-8; Heb 2:14, 17; 4:15)

Q42: What is meant by the atonement?

A: Christ satisfying divine justice, by His sufferings and death in the place of sinners.

(Mk 10:45; Acts 13:38-39; Rom 3:24-26; 5:8-9; 2 Cor 5:19-21; Gal 3:13)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Ezra 1:1-11

Key Thought: God is a great giver.

Older children: List some of the gifts God has given to you. Do you give gifts to others as a way to help and encourage? What are some ways in which you can give to other people?

Younger children: Does God give good gifts to His people?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His greatness in giving good gifts to His people. Praise Him for the gift of Christ to redeem them from their sins and miseries. Ask God to help us trust Him to give us everything we need.

Day 2

Read: 2 Corinthians 8:1-5

Key Thought: We are to give generously.

Older children: What do you think of the Macedonians and how they gave? Why do you think they were so eager to give? Are you eager to give?

Younger children: Should we give generously? What can you give?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to make us generous givers who give even as God has given to us. Pray that God would help us to give sacrificially for the sake of His kingdom.

Day 3

Read: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Key Thought: We are to give cheerfully.

Older children: What does it mean to give cheerfully? How can you become a more cheerful giver? What can you give to the Lord cheerfully? Will you give to Him?

Younger children: What does God love (v. 7)?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us give generously and cheerfully, knowing that everything we own belongs to Him already. Thank God for giving us the gospel, our home, our church, and our nation. Ask Him to help us be good stewards of all His good gifts for His glory.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Thank God for giving you the gift of family, for your children and grandchildren. Tell your grandchildren about how God has provided and given to you when times were tough.

Family Worship

For the Week of October 5, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/t/f/tfountfb.htm>

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Immanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains;
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day;
And there may I, though vile as he, wash all my sins away:
Wash all my sins away, wash all my sins away;
And there may I, though vile as he, wash all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood shall never lose its pow'r;
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more:
Be saved, to sin no more, Be saved, to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed church of God, be saved to sin no more.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die:
And shall be till I die, And shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

By William Cowper (1731-1800); Sung to the tune of CLEANSING FOUNTAIN.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q41: How could the Son of God suffer?

A: Christ, the Son of God, took flesh and blood, that He might obey and suffer as a man.

(Jn 1:14; Rom 8:3; Gal 4:4; Phil 2:7-8; Heb 2:14, 17; 4:15)

Q42: What is meant by the atonement?

A: Christ satisfying divine justice, by His sufferings and death in the place of sinners.

(Mk 10:45; Acts 13:38-39; Rom 3:24-26; 5:8-9; 2 Cor 5:19-21; Gal 3:13)

Q 43: What did God the Father undertake in the covenant of grace?

A: To justify, adopt, and sanctify those for whom Christ should die.

(Rom 8:29-33; Heb 10:9-10; 1 Cor 1:8-9; Phil 1:6; 1 Thess 4:3, 7)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Exodus 11:4-12:13

Key Thought: The Passover was a picture of the atonement.

Older children: How do you think the passover lamb symbolizes Jesus (1 Cor 5:7)? Why did Jesus have to die? How does Jesus' blood save us from eternal death? Are you covered by Jesus' blood?

Younger children: Why did God tell the Israelites to put blood on their doorposts? Does Jesus' blood save our lives if we believe in Him?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for this picture of Christ's atonement in the Old Testament and thank God that Jesus died for the sins of His people.

Day 2

Read: Hebrews 9:22

Key Thought: Atonement comes through blood.

Older children: Why do you think blood must be shed in order for there to be forgiveness? Do you deserve forgiveness? How do you think Christ blood purifies believers? Do you trust in Jesus to forgive your sins?

Younger children: Is there any forgiveness without the shedding of blood?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for the blood of Jesus Christ! Ask God to help us fix our eyes upon Jesus, to love Him and to rejoice in all He has done to save.

Day 3

Read: 1 Peter 2:24-25

Key Thought: Christ atoned for sins on the cross.

Older children: What does it mean that Jesus "bore our sins in His body on the tree?" Why did Jesus bear our sins (v. 24-25)? Have you died to sin and are you living to righteousness? What does this verse teach us about God's justice? What does it teach us about His grace and kindness?

Younger children: What is meant by the atonement? (See catechism)

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His wisdom in crediting (transferring) the sins of His people to Christ. Confess your sins to God, knowing that if you believe, Christ bore those sins in His body.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Talk to your grandchildren about Jesus Christ and all He has done to save you. Encourage them to trust in Him every single day.

Family Worship

For the Week of October 12, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

Free From the Law <http://www.cyberhymnal.org/hym/f/r/freefrom.htm>

Free from the law, O happy condition,
Jesus has bled and there is remission,
Cursed by the law and slain by the fall, Grace hath redeemed us once for all.

Refrain:

Once for all, O sinner, receive it,
Once for all, O friend now, believe it;
Cling to the cross, the burden will fall, Christ hath redeemed us once for all.

Now we are free, there's no condemnation, Jesus provides a perfect salvation.
"Come unto Me," O hear His sweet call,
Come, and He saves us once for all.

Refrain

"Children of God," O glorious calling,
Surely His grace will keep us from falling; Passing from death to life at His call;
Blessèd salvation once for all.

Refrain

By Philip P. Bliss

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q42: What is meant by the atonement?

A: Christ satisfying divine justice, by His sufferings and death in the place of sinners.

(Mk 10:45; Acts 13:38-39; Rom 3:24-26; 5:8-9; 2 Cor 5:19-21; Gal 3:13)

Q 43: What did God the Father undertake in the covenant of grace?

A: To justify, adopt, and sanctify those for whom Christ should die.

(Rom 8:29-33; Heb 10:9-10; 1 Cor 1:8-9; Phil 1:6; 1 Thess 4:3, 7)

Q44: What is justification?

A: It is God regarding sinners as if they had never sinned and granting them righteousness (Zech 3:1-5; Rom 3:24-26; 4:5; 8:33; 2 Cor 5:21)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Romans 4:1-8

Key Thought: Abraham was justified by faith alone.

Older children: How might justification by works lead to boasting? Does God give us justification because we work for it (v. 4-5)? Are you ungodly? What does verse 5 say about the ungodly? Do you trust God?

Younger children: What is justification (see the catechism)?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for the great grace of justification. Confess our sins and inability to justify ourselves. Ask God to help us look away from our own works and look toward the work of Christ for our justification.

Day 2

Read: Galatians 3:21-22

Key Thought: Righteousness (justification) is by faith, not by law.

Older children: Why do you think that the law can't give us life (and righteousness)? Is there a problem with the law or is it with us? What problem does the law teach us that we all have (v. 22)? How can you have the promise of life (v. 22)? How did Jesus earn life for believers?

Younger children: Can the law give life (v. 21)? Who gives life (v. 22)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for His law, that it exposes our sins and shows us our need of Jesus. Thank God for Jesus, that He was perfectly righteous and merited eternal life for all who believe in Him.

Day 3

Read: Philippians 3:7-10

Key Thought: Righteousness is a gift that comes through faith.

Older children: What does Paul mean, "not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law" (v. 9)? Where does righteousness come from? How can we receive this gift of righteousness (v. 9)?

Younger children: Does righteousness come from God (v. 9)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for the gift of Christ's righteousness to all who believe. Ask God to help us not to try to earn our own righteousness by works, but to rest on Christ's righteousness by faith.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Sometime this week, ask your grandchild the catechism question, "What is justification?"

Family Worship

For the Week of October 19, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/f/a/1/faljesus.htm>

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God and man the Son,
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine,
Fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Now and forever more be Thine.

By Anonymous; Sung to the tune of CRUSADERS' HYMN (ST. ELIZABETH).

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q 43: What did God the Father undertake in the covenant of grace?

A: To justify, adopt, and sanctify those for whom Christ should die.
(Rom 8:29-33; Heb 10:9-10; 1 Cor 1:8-9; Phil 1:6; 1 Thess 4:3, 7)

Q44: What is justification?

A: It is God regarding sinners as if they had never sinned and granting them righteousness (Zech 3:1-5; Rom 3:24-26; 4:5; 8:33; 2 Cor 5:21)

Q45: What is sanctification?

A: It is God making sinners holy in heart and conduct.

(Jn 17:17; Eph 2:10; 4:22-24; Phil 2:12-13; 1 Thess 5:23)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Romans 6:12-15

Key Thought: Sanctification is based on grace.

Older children: What are some ways in which sin reigns in you? What are some ways you might obey God rather than sin against Him? How do you think God's grace leads us to obey God?

Younger children: What is sanctification? (See the catechism.)

Prayer suggestions: Pray that God would bring us to a clearer understanding of grace so that we can obey God more. Pray that we would see more of our sins, love God's grace more, and obey Him more.

Day 2

Read: Romans 7:15-25

Key Thought: Sanctification is war within us.

Older children: What is the war that goes on in the hearts of believers? Talk about a time when you have struggled with sin. When we sin, who should we thank God for (v. 25)?

Younger children: Do believers fight against sin?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His grace of sanctification. Confess that we are sinners and that we need Jesus Christ to forgive us of our sins and give us His righteousness. Thank God for Jesus Christ. Ask God to help us to overcome sin because God has given us Jesus Christ.

Day 3

Read: Galatians 5:16-26

Key Thought: Sanctification produces the fruit of the Spirit.

Older children: What two kinds of desires are against each other (v. 17)? What are some of the works of the flesh? What is the fruit of the Spirit? If you belong to Christ, what is true of you (v. 24)? Are you walking by the Spirit? How do you know?

Younger children: List some fruit of the Spirit.

Prayer suggestions: Thank God that we are not under the law if we are led by the Spirit. Ask God to help us to walk by the Spirit.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Ask your grandchildren what they learned from the Bible this week. Tell them what you learned.

Family Worship

Week 44

Suggested Hymn:

My Lord, I did not choose you, For that could never be;
My heart would still refuse You, Had You not chosen me.
You took the sin that stained me, You cleansed me, made me new;
Of old You have ordained me, That I should live in You.

Unless Your grace had called me, And taught my op'ning mind,
The world would have enthralled me, to heaven'ly glories blind.
My heart knows none above You; For Your rich grace I thirst.
I know that if I love You, You must have loved me first.

By Josiah Conder (1789-1855); Sung to the tune of AURELIA.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q44: What is justification?

A: It is God regarding sinners as if they had never sinned and granting them righteousness (Zech 3:1-5; Rom 3:24-26; 4:5; 8:33; 2 Cor 5:21)

Q45: What is sanctification?

A: It is God making sinners holy in heart and conduct.
(Jn 17:17; Eph 2:10; 4:22-24; Phil 2:12-13; 1 Thess 5:23)

Q46: For whom did Christ obey and suffer?

A: For those whom the Father had given Him.
(Isa 53:8; Matt 1:21; Jn 10:11, 15, 26-29; 17:9; Heb 2:13)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Luke 13:1-5

Key Thought: Unless you repent, you will perish.

Older children: What happens to those who don't repent? Why does everyone need to repent? How do you repent? What do you think will happen to those who do repent?

Younger children: Who needs to repent? Do you need to repent?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for giving the gift of life to those who repent of their sins. Ask God to give us the gift of repentance (Acts 5:31; 11:18). Ask God to help us to repent of our sins and to turn to Jesus every single day.

Day 2

Read: Luke 15:1-7

Key Thought: God finds His sheep to bring them to repentance.

Older children: What do these verses teach us about God? Who does God seek? What is God's attitude like when He finds a lost sinner? Do you think of yourself as a "sinner who repents" or as a "righteous person" (v. 7)? Which of these kinds of people does God have more joy in? Why?

Younger children: Is God happy when one sinner repents (v. 6-7)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for seeking the lost. Praise Him for His great grace of salvation. Ask God to give us repentant hearts.

Day 3

Read: Luke 15:8-10

Key Thought: There is great joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.

Older children: What do these verses teach us about God? What do they teach us about ourselves? Is your heart a repentant heart? How do you know? What do these verses say happens in heaven when sinners repent?

Younger children: Does God seek and find the lost? Isn't God good?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God that He is a God who seeks and saves that which is lost. Praise God that He rejoices over those He finds.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Tell your grandchildren about the joys you experienced in your life as God saved people you know and brought them to repentance.

Family Worship

For the Week of November 2, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/o/f/o/ofor1000.htm>

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honors of Thy name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of canceled sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean,
His blood availed for me.

By Charles Wesley (1707-1788); Sung to the tune of AZMON.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q45: What is sanctification?

A: It is God making sinners holy in heart and conduct.
(Jn 17:17; Eph 2:10; 4:22-24; Phil 2:12-13; 1 Thess 5:23)

Q46: For whom did Christ obey and suffer?

A: For those whom the Father had given Him.
(Isa 53:8; Matt 1:21; Jn 10:11, 15, 26-29; 17:9; Heb 2:13)

Q47: What kind of life did Christ live on earth?

A: A life of perfect obedience to the law of God.
(Matt 5:17; Rom 10:4; 1 Pet 2:21, 22)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Psalm 22:27-31

Key Thought: All the nations will worship before God!

Older children: Who rules over all the nations? What are some of the promises revealed in verses 27-28? Are you proclaiming the righteousness of God (v. 31)? Who will you tell about Jesus this week?

Younger children: Will all the families of the nations worship before God?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for promising to save people from every nation on earth. Ask God to help us to faithfully proclaim the good news about Jesus Christ to those He has put into our lives.

Day 2

Read: Matthew 5:13-16

Key Thought: We are to be salt and light in this world!

Older children: How can you be a salt and light among your friends? Why should we live and speak like Jesus Christ before other people (v. 16)? Have you told someone about Jesus this week?

Younger children: Should we hide the light of Jesus? Should shine the light of the gospel so everyone can see it?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His wisdom in making us His representatives on earth. Ask God to help us to be faithful to His calling. Pray for three lost people, asking the Lord to bring them to faith in Christ.

Day 3

Read: Matthew 9:35-38

Key Thought: We must pray for God to send laborers into the harvest!

Older children: What was Jesus' attitude toward the crowds? Why did He have compassion upon them? Do you have compassion for the crowds who do not know Christ? How can you cultivate a heart like Christ's?

Younger children: Should we pray that God would send workers to tell others about Jesus?

Prayer suggestions: Pray that the Lord of the harvest would send laborers into His harvest. Ask God to send us to tell others about Christ.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Tell your grandchildren about a time when you had the opportunity to share Christ with someone.

Family Worship

Week 46

Suggested Hymn:

Brethren, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God;
Will you pray with all your power, while we try to preach the Word?
All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down;
Brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Brethren, see poor sinners round you slumbering on the brink of woe;
Death is coming, hell is moving, can you bear to let them go?
See our fathers and our mothers, and our children sinking down;
Brethren, pray and holy manna will be showered all around.

Sisters, will you join and help us? Moses' sister aided him;
Will you help the trembling mourners who are struggling hard with sin?
Tell them all about the Savior, tell them that He will be found;
Sisters, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Let us love our God supremely, let us love each other, too;
Let us love and pray for sinners, till our God makes all things new.
Then He'll call us home to Heaven, at His table we'll sit down;
Christ will gird Himself and serve us with sweet manna all around.

By George Atkins; Sung to the tune of HOLY MANNA.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q46: For whom did Christ obey and suffer?

A: For those whom the Father had given Him.

(Isa 53:8; Matt 1:21; Jn 10:11, 15, 26-29; 17:9; Heb 2:13)

Q47: What kind of life did Christ live on earth?

A: A life of perfect obedience to the law of God.

(Matt 5:17; Rom 10:4; 1 Pet 2:21, 22)

Q48: What kind of death did Christ die?

A: The painful and shameful death of the cross.

(Psa 22; Isa 53; the Gospel accounts of Christ's death)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Psalm 67:1-7

Key Thought: Let all the nations praise our God!

Older children: Who should praise our God? Why should all the nations praise our God? In what ways is God good to the nations (v. 2, 4, 6)? How are you making God's "way" known among the nations?

Younger children: Should all the nations praise God?

Prayer suggestions: Pray that God would save men and women from every nation. Ask God to help us as a family and church to proclaim Christ to every nation.

Day 2

Read: Acts 1:6-11

Key Thought: Christ sent us to proclaim Him to all the nations!

Older children: Who gives us power to tell the world about Christ (v. 8)? How can we be Christ's "witnesses?" Where should we be Christ's witnesses (v. 8)? How can you take the gospel of Jesus to the world?

Younger children: Did Jesus teach us to tell the world about Him?

Prayer suggestions: Pray that God would open our eyes to opportunities to share the gospel every day. Pray for three people you know are lost and without faith in Christ. Ask God to save them.

Day 3

Read: Revelation 5:7-14

Key Thought: Christ purchased a people from all the nations!

Older children: Who is the focus of this passage? What is the reason that everyone in heaven worships Jesus? What did Jesus do that makes him worthy of worship (v. 9-10)? Will you worship Jesus for saving people from every people group?

Younger children: Did Jesus die for people from every tribe and language and people and nation?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for sending Christ to die for the nations! Ask God to help us to take the gospel to the nations for His glory.

Suggestions for Grandparents: If you've ever been on a mission trip to serve the nations in His name, tell your grandchildren about your experience and encourage them also to be missionaries of grace.

Family Worship

For the Week of November 16, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/i/1/ilovethy.htm>

I love Thy kingdom, Lord; The house of Thine abode,
The church our blessed Redeemer saved; With His own precious blood.

I love Thy church, O God. Her walls before Thee stand,
Dear as the apple of Thine eye; And written on Thy hand.

For her my tears shall fall; For her my prayers ascend,
To her my cares and toils be given; Till toils and cares shall end.

Beyond my highest joy; I prize her heavenly ways,
Her sweet communion, solemn vows; Her hymns of love and praise.

Sure as Thy truth shall last; To Zion shall be given
The brightest glories earth can yield; And brighter bliss of Heaven.

By Timothy Dwight (1752-1817); Sung to the tune of ST. THOMAS.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q47: What kind of life did Christ live on earth?

A: A life of perfect obedience to the law of God.
(Matt 5:17; Rom 10:4; 1 Pet 2:21, 22)

Q48: What kind of death did Christ die?

A: The painful and shameful death of the cross.
(Psa 22; Isa 53; the Gospel accounts of Christ's death)

Q49: Who will be saved?

A: Only those who repent of sin and believe in Christ.
(Mk 1:15; Lk 13:3, 5;; Ac 2:37-41; 16:30, 31; 20:21; 26:20)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Romans 15:1-7

Key Thought: The church is to be united in the Scriptures.

Older children: In what way should we glorify God in the church (v. 6-7)?
How are we to treat the weak? In what ways can you “build” others
“up?” What role does the Bible have among God’s people (v. 4)?

Younger children: Was the Bible written for our instruction? What does the Bible teach us?

Prayer suggestions: Pray that our church would be united in the Scriptures.
Ask God to give us diligence to study the Bible and to apply the Bible
both in our individual lives and in the church.

Day 2

Read: Ephesians 4:1-16

Key Thought: The church is to be built up and united in love.

Older children: Which of the qualities mentioned in verses 2-3 do you need
to work on? How do you think you can improve in those areas? List
several ways you can be humble, gentle, and patient with others at
church.

Younger children: Should we become more like Jesus Christ (v. 15)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God that Christ died to save us from the penalty
and power of sin. Pray that God would help us to be united in love. Ask
God to give us the grace to die to ourselves and love others as we have
been loved in Christ.

Day 3

Read: Colossians 3:12-17

Key Thought: The church is to be united in Christ-like qualities.

Older children: Why should we forgive each other (v. 13)? How can the
word of Christ dwell in us richly (v. 16)?

Younger children: Should we forgive each other at home and at church?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for the forgiveness we have in Christ. Ask
God to help us to forgive others at home and at church as Christ has
forgiven us.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Tell your grandchildren about some
ways you have experienced the love of others at church.

Family Worship

For the Week of November 23, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/a/1/allpeopl.htm>

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

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;
Without our aid He did us make;
We are His folk, He doth us feed,
And for His sheep He doth us take.

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.

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.

By Thomas Ken (1637-1711); Sung to the tune of OLD 100TH.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q48: What kind of death did Christ die?

A: The painful and shameful death of the cross.

(Psa 22; Isa 53; the Gospel accounts of Christ's death)

Q49: Who will be saved?

A: Only those who repent of sin and believe in Christ.

(Mk 1:15; Lk 13:3, 5; Ac 2:37-41; 16:30, 31; 20:21; 26:20)

Q50: What is it to repent?

A: To be sorry for sin, and to hate and forsake it because it is displeasing to God.

(Lk 19:8-10; Rom 6:1-2; 2 Cor 7:9-11; 1 Thess 1:9-10)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Psalm 100:1-5

Key Thought: Thank God for creating us and redeeming us!

Older children: What are some of the reasons we should thank God?

Younger children: Should we thank God?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for creating us and making a way for us to be redeemed in Jesus Christ.

Day 2

Read: Matthew 15:32-39

Key Thought: Thank God for Jesus Christ!

Older children: Why should we be thankful for Jesus Christ?

Younger children: Did Jesus Christ give thanks to God?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for our daily bread, which gives us physical nourishment, and for Christ, the Bread of Life.

Day 3

Read: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Key Thought: Thank God for all things!

Older children: What are some circumstances in which it is hard to give thanks? Why should we give thanks anyway?

Younger children: When are we supposed to give thanks?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for everything in our lives.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Talk to your grandchildren about some of the things you thank God for.

Suggested Prayers for an Unreached People Group:

Pray for the people of the Amazon Basin. Ask God to reveal Himself to the isolated and unreached people in the Amazon Basin in South America.

Population: 26 Million

Location: Along the Amazon Basin: regions in Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Columbia, and Ecuador

Challenges: Local governments restrict international organizations from entering some areas of the Amazon Basin.

Primary Religion: Animism

Number of Believers: Few, if any

Family Worship

For the Week of November 30, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/c/o/m/comtlong.htm>

Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's Strength and Consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

By Charles Wesley (1701-1788); Sung to the tune of HYFRYDOL.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q49: Who will be saved?

A: Only those who repent of sin and believe in Christ.
(Mk 1:15; Lk 13:3, 5;; Ac 2:37-41; 16:30, 31; 20:21; 26:20)

Q50: What is it to repent?

A: To be sorry for sin, and to hate and forsake it because it is displeasing to God.

(Lk 19:8-10; Rom 6:1-2; 2 Cor 7:9-11; 1 Thess 1:9-10)

Q51: What is it to believe in Christ?

A: To trust in Christ alone for salvation.

(Jn 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Tim 2:5; 1 Jn 5:11-12)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Isaiah 9:6-7

Key Thought: To us a child is born.

Older children: What do these verses teach us about the son of God?

Younger children: Did the Father send Jesus into the world?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for sending His Son to be born into this world to establish and uphold peace through justice and righteousness.

Day 2

Read: Isaiah 11:1-5

Key Thought: There will be a shoot from the stump of Jesse.

Older children: What do these verses teach us about Jesus?

Younger children: Was Jesus righteous and wise?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for His righteous Son. Thank God for Christ's wisdom, knowledge, justice, and mercy.

Day 3

Read: Isaiah 40:9-11

Key Thought: The Lord God comes with might.

Older children: Contrast the qualities of Christ revealed in verse 10 with those revealed in verse 11. What does this teach you about Christ?

Younger children: Is Jesus strong? Is He gentle?

Prayer suggestions: Pray that we would trust, love, and adore the strong and gentle Jesus who saves His people from their sins.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Tell your grandchildren some of the reasons you love Christ and are thankful that He came into this world.

Suggested Prayers for an Unreached People Group:

Pray for the Olvidados of Columbia. Ask God to reveal Himself to the unreached people in the Olvidados in South America.

Population: 5, 000

Location: Interior of Columbia

Challenges: Villages are isolated and located in high-risk areas

Primary Religion: Animism

Number of Believers: Less than 2 percent; no churches

Family Worship

For the Week of December 7, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/a/s/aswithgl.htm>

As with gladness, men of old; Did the guiding star behold
As with joy they hailed its light; Leading onward, beaming bright
So, most glorious Lord, may we; Evermore be led to Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped; To that lowly manger bed
There to bend the knee before; Him Whom Heaven and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet; Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare; At that manger rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy; Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring; Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus, every day; Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past; Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide; Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

By William C Dix (1837-1898); Sung to the tune of DIX.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q50: What is it to repent?

A: To be sorry for sin, and to hate and forsake it because it is displeasing to God.

(Lk 19:8-10; Rom 6:1-2; 2 Cor 7:9-11; 1 Thess 1:9-10)

Q51: What is it to believe in Christ?

A: To trust in Christ alone for salvation.

(Jn 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Tim 2:5; 1 Jn 5:11-12)

Q 52: Can you repent and believe in Christ by your own power?

A: No. I can do nothing good without God's Holy Spirit.

(Jn 3:5-6; Rom 8:2, 5, 8-11; 1 Cor 2:9-14; Gal 5:17-18; Eph 2:4-6)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Luke 1:1-25

Key Thought: God promised that John would prepare the way for Jesus.

Older children: Why did God make Zechariah unable to speak? What was John's role going to be (v 15-17)?

Younger children: What did God promise Elizabeth?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God that He kept His OT promise by sending John the Baptist in the spirit and power of Elijah.

Day 2

Read: Luke 1:26-38

Key Thought: God promised that Mary would give birth to the Savior.

Older children: What did the angel promise to Mary about Christ?

Younger children: What was the name of the baby given to Mary?

Prayer suggestions: Ask God to help us believe all His promises to us in Christ.

Day 3

Read: Luke 1:39-45

Key Thought: Those who believe God's promises in Christ are blessed.

Older children: What is the blessing promised in verse 45? Do you believe?

Younger children: Was Mary filled with the Holy Spirit?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for keeping His promise to save His people.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Pray that your grandchildren would trust God's saving promises in Christ.

Suggested Prayers for an Unreached People Group:

Pray for the Pachitea Quechua of Peru. Ask God to strengthen believers among the Pachitea Quechua to break the cycle of alcoholism.

Population: 52, 000

Location: Interior of Peru

Challenges: Alcoholism, Cultural Religion

Primary Religion: Cultural Catholicism

Number of Believers: Less than 2 percent; most have never heard the gospel

Family Worship

For the Week of December 14, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/a/f/afrglory.htm>

Angels from the realms of glory; Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story; Now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ the newborn King.

Shepherds, in the field abiding; Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing; Yonder shines the infant light:
Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ the newborn King.

Sages, leave your contemplations; Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations; Ye have seen His natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ the newborn King.

Saints, before the altar bending; Watching long in hope and fear;
Suddenly the Lord, descending; In His temple shall appear.
Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ the newborn King.

By James Montgomery (1771-1854); Sung to the tune of REGENT SQUARE.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q51: What is it to believe in Christ?

A: To trust in Christ alone for salvation.

(Jn 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Tim 2:5; 1 Jn 5:11-12)

Q 52: Can you repent and believe in Christ by your own power?

A: No. I can do nothing good without God's Holy Spirit.

(Jn 3:5-6; Rom 8:2, 5, 8-11; 1 Cor 2:9-14; Gal 5:17-18; Eph 2:4-6)

Q53: How can you receive the Holy Spirit?

A: God has told us that we must pray to Him for the Holy Spirit.

(Lk 11:9-13; Jn 4:10; 16:24)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Luke 1:46-56

Key Thought: Mary praises God for the promise of Christ.

Older children: List the reasons Mary rejoices in God.

Younger children: Does God show mercy in Jesus?

Prayer suggestions: Praise God for sending Christ to fulfill His promises to Abraham and his offspring. Ask God to help us trust and love Him.

Day 2

Read: Luke 1:57-66

Key Thought: John the Baptist was born to fulfill God's promise.

Older children: Why did they name him John (1:13)? How do these verses show that God keeps His promises?

Younger children: What was the name of Elizabeth's baby?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God that He is a promise keeping God!

Day 3

Read: Luke 1:67-80

Key Thought: Zechariah prophesies about John's future ministry.

Older children: What would the role of John the Baptist be?

Younger children: Did John grow and become strong in spirit (v. 80)?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God that John prepared the way for Jesus.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Talk to your grandchildren this week about the meaning of Christmas and why it is important.

Suggested Prayers for an Unreached People Group:

Pray for the Aymara of Peru: Ask God to burden Aymara believers with a longing to proclaim Christ to other Aymara.

Population: about 80,000

Challenges: Aymara in Peru live in harsh surroundings that discourage visitors to their remote villages.

Primary Religion: Many have melded elements of Catholicism with animism.

Number of Believers: About 1 in 40 profess to be evangelical believers.

Family Worship

For the Week of December 21, 2008

Suggested Hymn:

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/j/o/joyworld.htm>

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

By Isaac Watts (1674-1748); Sung to the tune of ANTIOCH.

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Q 52: Can you repent and believe in Christ by your own power?
A: No. I can do nothing good without God's Holy Spirit.
(Jn 3:5-6; Rom 8:2, 5, 8-11; 1 Cor 2:9-14; Gal 5:17-18; Eph 2:4-6)

Q53: How can you receive the Holy Spirit?
A: God has told us that we must pray to Him for the Holy Spirit.
(Lk 11:9-13; Jn 4:10; 16:24)

Q54: How were godly persons saved before the coming of Christ?
A: By believing in the Savior to come.
(Jn 8:56; Gal 3:8-9; 1 Cor 10:1-4; Heb 9:15; 11:13)

A Family Worship Plan

Day 1

Read: Luke 2:1-7

Key Thought: Christ was born in Bethlehem.

Older children: What reasons did Joseph and Mary go to Bethlehem?

Younger children: Was Jesus born in Bethlehem?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God for keeping His promise to bring the Messiah from Bethlehem (Micah 5:2).

Day 2

Read: Luke 2:8-14

Key Thought: The angels announced the coming of Christ.

Older children: What do you find most interesting about this passage?

Younger children: Was Jesus born to be the Savior and Lord of His people?

Prayer suggestions: Thank God that Christ the King came to make peace between God and those with whom God is pleased.

Day 3

Read: Luke 2:15-21

Key Thought: The shepherds glorified God for the birth of Christ.

Older children: How would you have reacted to the message of the angels and the sight of Christ if you were one of the shepherds?

Younger children: Did the shepherds glorify and praise God? Why?

Prayer suggestions: Pray that our reaction to seeing Christ would be the same as the shepherds – to glorify and praise God in faith, love, and obedience.

Suggestions for Grandparents: Talk to your grandchildren sometime this week about the meaning of Christmas.

Suggested Prayers for an Unreached People Group:

Pray for the Imbabura Quichua of Ecuador: Thank God for the spiritual hunger among Imbabura Quichua, and ask God to call forth workers for the harvest.

Population: 300,000

Location: Northern Ecuador

Challenges: Extreme Poverty

Primary Religion: Cultural Catholicism

Number of Believers: Less than 2 Percent