

## AN 8-10 MINUTE FAMILY WORSHIP GATHERING

### 1. GATHER THE FAMILY TOGETHER

Tip: gather in a place where your family will be engaged (like the kitchen table), not relaxed and tired.

### 2. OPEN WITH PRAYER

*"Our kind Heavenly Father, thank you for our family. And thank you for the privilege of reading Your Word together. Grant us understand Your Word and obey it with a joyful heart. In Jesus name, we pray, amen."*

### 3 .SCRIPTURE READING; EXAMPLE: MARK 1:1-8

Close with a one sentence summary. For example, I might say this about Mark 1:1-8: "This passage teaches us that John the Baptist was sent by God to prepare the way for Jesus."

### 4. RESPOND IN SONG

Tip: For those with terrible singing voices, choose one of the following hymns that are a little easier to sing (i.e., not a lot of difficult high notes).

#### The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above you heavenly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

#### Holy, Holy, Holy

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.

#### Jesus Loves Me (for young families)

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

### 5. RESPOND WITH THANKSGIVING

Tip: Dad, call on each family member by name, and ask them if they can thank God for something specific. In my family, standard answers are go something like this: "mommy, daddy, Jesus dying on the cross for us, the Bible, Legos, cookies, summer, etc." So long as my children are genuinely thankful, then I celebrate their answer. Every good gift is from our Father (James 1:17), and He delights in our gratitude towards Him (1 Thess. 5:16-18).

### 6. ANOTHER PRAYER OPTION: PETITION

Tip: Ask your family how you can pray for them specifically. The prayer requests that your children offer can get fun and interesting at this point. However, if possible, pray for everything that your children express. Our heavenly Father cares about the things that are on our heart, because He cares about us (1 Peter 5:7). Dad, you can model that kind of fatherly care as you pray seriously for the concerns that are on your children's hearts.

**Note 1:** This is also a great opportunity for you to begin to understand your children better!

**Note 2:** As you pray for your children's "anxieties" and/or concerns, you are teaching them how to take their own anxieties and concerns directly to the Lord! This will be a lifelong – even eternal – benefit to your children.

### 7. PRAY

Offer up to the Lord the expressions of thanksgiving and the prayer requests that your family just expressed to you. Let your family hear you pray for them. And always thank God for Jesus...and pray in Jesus' name only.