

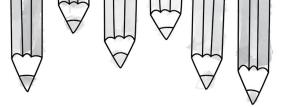
# Worship Bulletin

**Trinity Presbyterian Church** 

January 12, 2020



Name: Lila Smith Age: 5



## Just a word from Mr. Mac

Claude E. McRoberts III • Senior Minister

Dear Mom and Dad,

First of all, HAPPY NEW YEAR!

This issue of the Children's Bulletin is more directed to you with this brief letter from me coupled with a blog I'd love for you to read re: "Family Worship."

Dad, the greatest gift you can give this year is a commitment to leading the family spiritually. I promise, while always challenging in a fallen, broken world, it's not impossible and does NOT need to be overwhelming. If anything, it's as simple as living out your Christian life before your family, and taking the initiative to gather the family once a day for prayer and Bible reading. The ramifications are eternal!

I encourage you to use the Children's Bulletin and/or another helpful source. See the blog in this issue and know the goal is not perfection (7 days out of 7!), but consistency. Even your very failure in leading (and mine), God will use to mold your children as they see you strive to lead them spiritually.

Lead humbly and softly with understanding. Have someone (good friend or small group) hold you accountable to consistent time in prayer and the Word with your family. And simply lead them (share with them) by the example of your walk with Jesus. Share the gospel with your children; use words when you have to.

I'm pulling for you. I respect you for your commitments in a world that wants ALL of you and your family. Resist. Be different. You will be thankful as they move into their teenage years, young adult years, but especially in eternity.

Thankful for you,

Mr. Mac

## **Suggested Discussion Questions:**

When did Jesus give to His disciples (and the Church) the Lord's Supper Where were they when Jesus gave them the bread and said, "This is My body?"			
Why do we say the Lord's Supper is something we can see, touch, taste, hear and smell? In other words, What can we see? What do we touch? What do we taste? What do we hear? What can we smell?			
Do you look forward to taking the Lord's Supper one day?			
If you could ask your mom or dad anything about taking the Lord's Supper what would it be?			
What do we remember in the past while taking the Lord's Supper? In other words, what did Jesus do for you?			
What do we think about the future when taking the Lord's supper? What feast are we looking forward to in Heaven?			
Are we having supper with Jesus at the Lord's Supper?			
What do you think Jesus is saying to the Christian at the Lord's Supper?			
How can I prepare to take the Lord's Supper?			
In what ways has this sermon changed your life?			

## Family Worship 101

from William Boekstein www.ligonier.org/blog/family-worship-101

"Why did you steal my gods?" With these words, Laban ended a passionate speech against his son-in-law, Jacob (Gen. 31:30). In fact, Laban's daughter Rachel had stolen the gods, doubtless to keep alive the memory of her family after moving away with her husband, Jacob. Rachel literally took her family religion with her.

Every family has a god. Every day, young adults leave home with the gods of self-fulfillment, money, leisure, work, or even ministry. Some leave with the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. To a large extent, the difference is determined by how our families worship in the home.

#### **Understanding Family Worship**

Family worship is the regular use of Scripture, song, and prayer by a family unit, guided by the head of the household.

#### Family Worship Is Worship

Family worship is not merely a religious discipline; it is a meeting with the triune God in a spirit of adoration by means of three key ingredients.

First, families worship through Scripture. When we read the Bible, God preaches about Himself and the indescribable gift of His dear Son to a needy world. This message is not just for information, but for exaltation.

Second, families worship through singing. It is inescapable: God's people sing! The one hundred and fifty psalms reference singing around one hundred and fifty times. The New Testament call to admonish one another through song applies well in the context of the home (Col. 3:16).

Third, families worship through prayer. Since prayer is the chief way in which we show thankfulness to God (H.C. Q/A 116), our prayers must be worshipful, not merely formal. Family prayers should reflect the pastoral ethos and pathos of our High Priest (John 17).

#### Family Worship Is Regular

As illustrated by the practice of the early church, weekly congregational worship is insufficient for families that have been touched by God's grace (Acts 2:47; 5:42). Scripture exhorts us to worship God daily, giving glory to Him in all things (Ps. 92:2; 1 Cor. 10:31).

#### Family Worship Is Covenantal

Before God established worship in the tabernacle, his people worshiped in family tents. "The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tents of the righteous..." (Ps. 118:15). Job's piety shines in his prayers for his children (Job. 1:5). The faith of young Timothy blossomed in the fertile soil of family worship (2 Tim. 1:5). Christians must spend time alone with God in their prayer closets (Matt. 6:6). But they should also worship together with their families through the use of Scripture, song, and prayer.

#### **Defending Family Worship**

#### Scripture Requires Family Worship

Specifically, God requires heads of households, like good shepherds, to lead their families into green pastures (Josh. 24:15). God expected Abraham to "command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the Lord" (Gen. 18:19, emphasis mine). Consider also the example of Cornelius, "a devout man...who feared God with all his household" (Acts. 10:1). It is no surprise that when Peter came to Caesarea to preach the gospel, Cornelius rallied his household to attendance. "We are all present before God," he said, "to hear all the things commanded you by God" (v. 33, emphasis mine).

#### Family Worship Yields Spiritual Growth

Family worship is an indispensible instrument for instilling both old and young with a consciousness of the Lord, His Word, and our call to worship. In research for a recent book, George Barna demonstrates that parents who pass along to their children the baton of spiritual maturity and vitality have one thing in common: they "take God's words on life and family at face value, and apply those words faithfully and consistently." Missionary John Paton relates the indelible impact family worship left on his life: "When, on his knees and all of us kneeling around him in Family Worship, [father] poured out his whole soul with tears...for every...need, we all felt as if in the presence of the living Saviour, and learned to know and love Him as our Divine Friend."

Children notice when worship is only a once-a-week activity. God often works powerfully in young lives whose souls are warmed by the incubator of daily family worship.

#### **Improving Family Worship**

Many families are convinced by the need for family worship, but struggle in implementation. In such cases, what can be done?

#### Study Family Worship as a Family

Some time ago, our family spent a month carefully reading and discussing Joel Beeke's booklet, "Family Worship." Partly due to the dynamic of learning together, this study made a lasting impression on us.

#### Stick to a Plan

Haphazard Scripture reading rarely edifies over the long haul. Families should include variety in their plans and adjust them over time. But following a regular Scripture reading plan helps us read the Bible the way it was meant to be read: as a cohesive history of God's redemptive work.

#### Select a Time that Works

Unless worship is codified in a family's schedule it will likely be supplanted by life's busyness. Some families will flourish with morning worship; others will better meet in the evening. Families that can find no time in their week for worship need to adjust their schedule.

#### Sing!

For some Christians—particularly those who were not raised in the church or in singing homes—the thought of introducing song into family worship seems utterly unrealistic. But, as with all things, to establish a fresh tradition of family singing, begin with what you know. Start with familiar songs and progress to less-familiar songs with the help of tools (e.g. www.hymnary.org).

#### Strive for Regularity, Not Perfection

Most of us have become frustrated when our family worship ideals eclipsed reality. Family worship is like a great friendship. It has its bumps, but it is forged through regular meaningful interaction. William Gouge observed that "a nail that at one blow barely enters, with many blows is knocked all the way in." So it is with repetition in family worship.

Through the gospel, Jesus enters our lives and our families. Where He has entered, He is to be worshiped. Where He is worshiped, we trust He will stay and live and work and bless.



# Do you have a: Prayer Request? Is there something you need prayer for? Praise Report? Has God answered a prayer?

Is there anything else you would like Mr. Mac to know?

#### Mr. Mac wants to know!!

Please write to him here and place your message in his box.

Dear	Mr.	Mac,	
Name:		Δσε·	

## A Guide to Family Worship January 13 - January 18

# THE SIMPLEST OUTLINE FOR FAMILY TIME EVER!!! 10 EASY STEPS

#1	Just make sure you gather once a day as a family.
#2	Try really hard to make the same time every day.
#3	It does not have to be long; it does not have to be perfect.
#4	Read a Bible verse. Maybe a devotional.
#5	Sing a song or two together.
#6	Take prayer requests.
#7	Pray. (Daddy, your children NEED to hear you pray.) Pray for the children; pray for missionaries; pray for Trinity Church; give thanks.
#8	Everyone tell one thing they are thankful for.
#9	Have a Leader of the Day: they get to read and/or pray and/ or tell everyone to come gather and/or put out the Bibles/ hymnals and/or tell something that happened to them that day.
#10	Dad, pray this over your children: Numbers 6:24–26
	The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

# Sermon Art

Use this page to illustrate something that Mr. Mac preaches on during the sermon this morning!

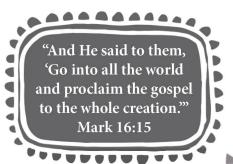
## This week's lesson is on

I Corinthians 11:17-34

# Want to see your artwork on the FRONT PAGE?

Put your artwork in the Sermon Art mailbox in the church office (bottom left hand side).

Name:



## Meet Our Missionaries!



**Tom Bridges** 

Let God Arise Montgomery, AL

Let God Arise has been serving in the Montgomery County and City jails since 1992. It was originally started by Chuck Staub with the help of men from Trinity Church and other Montgomery churches. When Chuck moved away from Montgomery, Tom began serving as the Prison Chaplain. Trinity Church has supported this ministry since its beginning.

- Please pray that the message of Jesus Christ would be received by the inmates and that real change would take place in their hearts.
- Many of the Sheriff and city employees often request prayer for personal and family needs. Pray that the Lord would use Let God Arise Ministries to meet their spiritual needs and draw them closer into a personal relationship with Jesus.
- Please pray for the welfare of Tom, his family, and all the volunteers and their families who give of their time for God's wisdom, protection, health and peace.
- Please pray for a spiritual revival to take place in the jails that many more souls be added to God's kingdom.

# Music and Hymns

#### #347 "The Church's One Foundation"

This hymn speaks of the church like a city with a foundation built on Christ the Lord. What else do you see the church compared to in verse 1 of this hymn? Verse 2 then tells us how the elect are really one people bound by one holy name, one holy food, and one hope, even though we might live all over the world. Verse 3 tells how the world views the church and describes the hardships we the saints must endure, but then assures us we, the church, shall never perish!

## #295 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Isn't it interesting to imagine a king crowned with not one, but many crowns! Can you think how wonderful it would be if every one of us put a "crown" on Jesus by making him King in our own life? We sing of the "Lamb upon his throne", the "Lord of Love", the "Lord of peace", the "Lord of years". Verse 4 has some mighty big words!! Do you know that "Potentate" means the most high and powerful of Kings (King of Kings!)? The rolling spheres mean the planets in their orbits. And no matter what, praise of the almighty God will NOT fail, even if it looks like the forces of this world are winning.



# children's ministry

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Montgomery, Alabama 36104 1728 South Hull Street www.trinitypca.org

Jesus loves: