

# A Format for Family Worship

## 1. Gather

- Suggestion: gather in a place where your family will be engaged, not relaxed and tired.

## 2. Pray

- Ask for *praise reports* from your children - what are you, as a family, grateful for? Say a quick prayer of praise and thanksgiving as you open your time of worship.
- Sample 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. Sing

*Music resources coming soon*

## 4. Read the Word

- Read the Scriptures using a reading/study plan, a family devotional, a catechism, the week's Sunday School lesson, or another resource (see *more resources on this page*).

## 5. Discuss the Word

- **Observation** - What does the text say?
- **Interpretation** - What does the text mean?
- **Application** - How does it apply to my life?

## 6. Respond in Song or Do an Activity that illustrates the day's passage

- Activities can be a simple puppet skit, science experiment, magic trick, or anything that further illustrates the day's Bible point and is memorable for the family. Many ideas can be found in the books and websites listed on this page.

## 7. Pray (ask for *prayer requests* from your children and be open with your prayer requests as well)

A suggested pattern of prayer to help your family pray:

### **A.C.T.S. Pattern of Prayer**

- **Adoration** (2 Samuel 22:50; Psalm 34:1; 1 Chronicles 29:11-13)

To adore God; to praise God for who He is and what He has and is doing; to worship and love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30) The book of Psalms is helpful in guiding our adoration. Example of using a Psalm:

147:1,5: "I praise you oh God for you are great, abundant in strength and you are all-knowing."

- **Confession** (Psalm 66:18; 1 John 1:9)

Acknowledging your sins before God. When you received eternal life through Jesus, a father-child relationship was established between you and God that will never be broken, but our fellowship with God can be hindered by unconfessed sin.

- **Thanksgiving** (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Philippians 4:4-7)

Expressing gratitude and praise to God for specific things He has done in you and your family's life.

- **Supplication** (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; 1 Timothy 2:1-4; Philippians 4:4-7)

Making requests and expressing desires to God on behalf of family, church, friends, others, the world, the lost, and yourself (specific requests).