

Student ministry workers in Sweden developed a series of questions to ask when reading a Bible passage. Called the “Swedish Method” because of its origins, these questions can be used when reading the Bible by yourself or with others

The daily readings in this family worship guide have a few questions. However, you are encouraged, as appropriate for your family, to ask the following general questions of the text each day.



Is there something that ‘shines’ from the passage—whatever impacts most, or draws attention?



Is there something you don’t understand, or a question the passage raises in your mind?



Is there a personal application to your life?



Is there something you plan to share with someone else – and who will you share it with?



How do ideas in the passage interrelate? Or with other passages in this book – or in the whole Bible?

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*Worshipping Together* is part of the vision and is a ministry of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Frankston, Victoria, Australia. [frankston.rpca.org.au](http://frankston.rpca.org.au)

The concept and layout draws heavily from *Let’s Worship God*, a ministry of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in Airdrie, Scotland. [airdrierpcs.org](http://airdrierpcs.org)

The readings are from Tim Chester’s 3-year weekly reading plan. [tiny.cc/WkBbl](http://tiny.cc/WkBbl) or [tiny.cc/3yrBbl](http://tiny.cc/3yrBbl)

The quote on the cover is from the article *What Shampoo and Family Worship Have in Common*, Written by Randy Greenwald, (Quoted from *Tabletalk* magazine, Nov 1997.)

Notes this week are taken mostly from the Westminster Shorter Catechism in Modern English by the WestShor Group

# Worshipping Together



We love God because He first loved us.

And we love to tell God that we love Him.

Joyful and faithful worship together twice each Lord’s Day is the highlight of our week. We are glad that they said, “Let us go to the House of the Lord.” Corporate worship prepares us for the week and prepares us for Heaven.

In addition, we regularly worship God as families and as individuals.

One father put it this way:

*The back of my shampoo bottle says, “Lather, rinse, repeat.” Simple enough that even I can do it. Though family worship may be a bit more complicated than shampooing hair, it ought not be rated with “home dentistry” in the scale of difficulty.*



*If you could buy family worship in the store, it would come in the form of a Bible, and the directions would simply say, “Read, pray, repeat.” Men\* should gather their families at least once daily. They should read a portion of the Scriptures to them. And they should pray with them. There need be no fireworks or pizzazz to keep the kids interested. There needs to be only a father\* with a heart-love for God – who desires to see that love appropriated by his children.*

*Read, pray, repeat.*

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\* Fathers leading their family in worship is always the goal. When, in the Lord’s providence, the father is absent or uninterested a godly mother will lead her children

**Reading** Exodus 20:1-17

**Notes** God requires man to obey His revealed will. The rules He first revealed were the moral law. The moral law is summarized in the ten commandments.

The essence of the ten commandments is to love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all our mind, and to love everyone else as we love ourselves.

The introduction to the ten commandments teaches us that, because God is Lord and is our God and redeemer, we must keep all His commandments.

- Questions**
1. What does God require of man?
  2. Where is the moral law summarised?
  3. What does the introduction to the ten commandments teach us?

4.     

**Praise** Psalm 11a<sup>2</sup>

- Pray**
1. Commit you and your family in prayer to loving the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, by God's help
  2. Pray for a member of your church
  3. Pray for your family
  4. Pray for a non-Christian friend/family member

**Reading** Exodus 20:1-17

**Notes** Since the fall no ordinary man can perfectly keep the commandments of God in this life but breaks them every day in thought, word, and action.

In the eyes of God some sins in themselves are more evil than others, and some are more evil because of the harm that results from them.

Every sin deserves God's anger and curse, both in this life and in the life to come.

To escape God's anger and curse, which we deserve for our sin, God requires from us faith in Jesus Christ and repentance unto life along with diligent involvement in all the external ways Christ uses to bring us the benefits of redemption.

Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, by which we receive and rest on Him alone for salvation, as He is offered to us in the gospel.

Repentance unto life is a saving grace, by which a sinner, being truly aware of his sinfulness, understands the mercy of God in Christ, grieves for and hates his sins, and turns from them to God, fully intending and striving for a new obedience.

- Questions**
1. Can anyone perfectly keep God's law? (*think carefully*)
  2. How has God provided us an escape from His just anger and curse?
  3. What is saving faith and repentance?

4.     

**Praise** Psalm 11a

- Pray**
1. Rejoice with your family that God has provided a way that you might escape His curse by faith in Christ
  2. Pray for your family
  3. Pray for a non-Christian friend/family member
  4. Pray for the reading and preaching of God's word tomorrow

<sup>1</sup> You will notice we only have a printed guide for 6 days. We recommend each Lord's Day you review the previous week's readings and/or the previous or current week's sermons and pray together

<sup>2</sup> Psalm selections are taken from the *Book of Psalms for Worship*. The same selection is sung each day for a week to gain familiarity with the selection

**Reading**

Exodus 20:1-17

**Notes**

The eighth commandment requires that we lawfully acquire and increase our own and others' money and possessions.

The eighth commandment forbids anything that either does or may unjustly take away money or possessions from us or anyone else.

The ninth commandment requires us to tell the truth and to maintain and promote it and our own and others' reputations, especially when testifying.

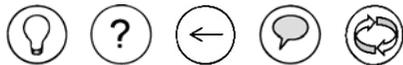
The ninth commandment forbids anything that gets in the way of the truth or injures anyone's reputation.

The tenth commandment requires us to be completely satisfied with our own status in life and to have a proper, loving attitude toward others and their possessions.

The tenth commandment forbids any dissatisfaction with what belongs to us, envy or grief at the success of others, and all improper desire for anything that belongs to someone else.

**Questions**

1. What is the 8<sup>th</sup> commandment? And what does it require/forbid?
2. The 9<sup>th</sup> commandment?
3. The 10<sup>th</sup> commandment?



4.

**Praise**

Psalm 11a

**Pray**

1. Commit yourself and your family in prayer to respecting the possessions and reputation of others, with God's help.
2. Pray for a member of your church
3. Pray for your family
4. Pray for a non-Christian friend/family member

**Reading**

Exodus 20:1-17

**Notes**

The first commandment requires us to know and recognize God as the only true God and our God, and to worship and glorify Him accordingly.

The first commandment forbids denying God or not worshipping and glorifying Him as the true God and our God. It also forbids giving worship and glory, which He alone deserves, to anyone or anything else.

The words before me in the first commandment teach us that God, Who sees everything, notices and is very offended by the sin of having any other god.

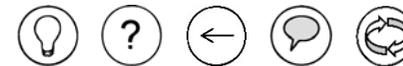
The second commandment requires us to receive, respectfully perform, and preserve completely and purely all the regulations for religion and worship that God has established in His word.

The second commandment forbids our worshipping God with images or in any other way not established in His word.

The reasons for the second commandment are that God totally rules over us, that we belong to Him, and that He is eager to be worshipped correctly.

**Questions**

1. What is the 1<sup>st</sup> commandment? And what does it require/forbid?
2. What is the 2<sup>nd</sup> commandment? And what does it require/forbid?



3.

**Praise**

Psalm 11a

**Pray**

1. Commit you and your family in prayer to worshipping God rightly, by God's help
2. Pray for a member of your church
3. Pray for your family
4. Pray for a non-Christian friend/family member

**Reading** Exodus 20:1-17

**Notes** The third commandment requires the holy and reverent use of God's names, titles, qualities, regulations, word, and works. The third commandment forbids our treating as un-holy or abusing anything God uses to make Himself known.

The reason for the third commandment is that the Lord our God will not allow those who break this commandment to escape His righteous judgment, although they may escape punishment from men.

The fourth commandment requires us to set apart to God the times He has established in His word—specifically one whole day out of every seven as a holy Sabbath to Him.

From the beginning of the world until the resurrection of Christ God established the seventh day of the week as the Sabbath. From that time until the end of the world the first day of the week is the Christian Sabbath.

We keep the Sabbath holy by resting the whole day from worldly affairs or recreations, even ones that are lawful on other days. Except for necessary works or acts of mercy we should spend all our time publicly and privately worshipping God.

God allows us six days of the week to take care of our own affairs; He claims the seventh day as His own; He set the example; and He blesses the Sabbath.

- Questions**
1. What is the 3<sup>rd</sup> commandment? And what does it require/forbid?
  2. What is the 4<sup>th</sup> commandment? And how do we keep it?
  3.     

- Praise Pray** Psalm 11a
1. Commit yourself and your family in prayer to keeping holy God's name and His day, with God's help.
  2. Pray for a member of your church
  3. Pray for your family
  4. Pray for a non-Christian friend/family member

**Reading** Exodus 20:1-17

**Notes** The fifth commandment teaches us to love and obey our parents and all others that God appoints over us. It requires us to respect and treat others, whether above, below, or equal to us, as their position or our relationship to them demands.

The fifth commandment forbids being disrespectful to or not treating others as their position or relationship to us demands.

The reason for the fifth commandment is the promise of long life and prosperity, if these glorify God and are for the good of those who obey this commandment.

The sixth commandment requires making every lawful effort to preserve one's own life and the lives of others.

The sixth commandment forbids taking one's own life or the lives of others unjustly or doing anything that leads to suicide or murder.

The seventh commandment requires us and everyone else to keep sexually pure in heart, speech, and action.

The seventh commandment forbids thinking, saying, or doing anything sexually impure.

- Questions**
1. What is the 5<sup>th</sup> commandment? And what does it require/forbid?
  2. The 6<sup>th</sup> commandment?
  3. The 7<sup>th</sup> commandment?
  4.     

- Praise Pray** Psalm 11a
1. Commit yourself and your family in prayer to honouring parents and others in authority, and honouring life and purity of yourself and others, with God's help.
  2. Pray for a member of your church
  3. Pray for your family
  4. Pray for a non-Christian friend/family member