

FAMILY WORSHIP DEVOTIONAL



CEDAR SPRINGS
PRESBYTERIAN

Live Deeply



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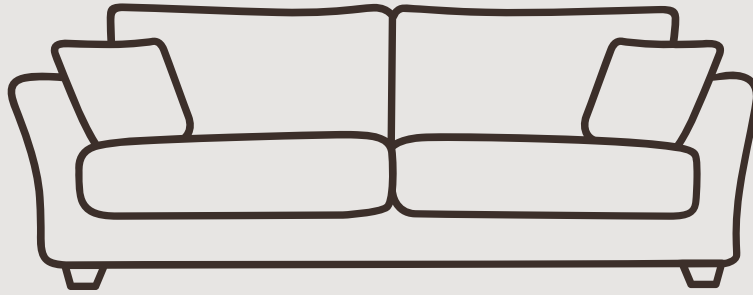


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Explanation and Vision of Family Worship

This section draws upon and quotes Don Whitney's article, "[Worthy of Family Worship: First Steps for Christian Homes.](#)"

Why?

After nearly a half-century in ministry, including preaching in 47 states, it is my observation that few Christian homes practice regular family worship. I would even venture to say that in most of our best churches, most of our best men do not lead their wives — and children if they have them — in family worship.

While we are convicted about the role of men to lead in the home and the church, we also acknowledge and celebrate the powerful work of the Holy Spirit in family worship whenever our mothers lead, whenever it is done in single parent homes, and even when it occurs in grandparent-led homes to glory of the Lord!

At the end of the day, having your family in a good, Bible-teaching local church is crucial to a Christian marriage and parenting. But it is unlikely that church attendance alone will impress your children with the greatness and glory of God such that they will want to pursue him once they leave home.

It's because of this that the younger your kids are, the better! Start worshiping together as soon as you can BUT please always be encouraged that it's never too late to start worshiping together as a family even if your kids are grown or near grown.

In this article, I want to convey one main point: God deserves to be worshiped daily in our homes by our families.

Worthy of Daily Worship

The Bible clearly implies that God deserves to be worshiped daily in our homes by our families.

Although there are few explicit commandments in Scripture about family worship (though see Deuteronomy 6:4–9), evidence for its practice abounds. For example, Abraham evidently led his family in the worship of God; otherwise, how would Isaac have known to ask, “Where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” (Genesis 22:7)? Leading his family in worship is something that “Job did continually” (Job 1:5).

Family worship is one of the best and most practical ways husbands administer the cleansing water of the word of God to their wives (Ephesians 5:25–26) and fathers bring their children up “in the discipline and instruction of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4). When Peter commands husbands to show honor to their wives “so that your prayers may not be hindered” (1 Peter 3:7), he is likely referring to mutual prayers, not merely those of the husband.

Our Little Churches

The lives of our Christian heroes also testify that God deserves to be worshiped daily in our homes by our families.

The growing emphasis on family worship today is not a contemporary Christian fad. A study of church history reveals that believers have always understood the Bible to teach the practice. We know, for example, that the first generation of Christ-followers after the apostles read a portion of Scripture, prayed, and sang Psalms together as families. The same was true for Luther, Knox, and the Puritans. Both the Westminster Confession (1647) and the Second London Confession (1689), the most influential of all Baptist confessions of faith, contain the identical phrase: “God is to be worshiped everywhere in spirit and in truth; as in private families daily, and in secret each one by himself” (emphasis added).

Jonathan Edwards, Charles Spurgeon, the missionary John G. Paton, and Martyn Lloyd-Jones, though all had many heavy responsibilities, led their families in the daily worship of God. Virtually all of our Christian heroes could be shown to believe what Edwards declared: “Every Christian family ought to be as it were a little church” (Works of Jonathan Edwards, 25:484). And part of the life of every church and every Christian is worship.

Three Simple Steps

Every Christian family is able to show that God deserves to be worshiped daily in our homes. The essence of family worship is simple. It requires no preparation. It can take as little as ten minutes. It consists of three single syllables: read, pray, sing.



Read

The heart of family worship is hearing God’s word through reading the Bible. Focus on Bible stories if you have young children (see Part II for graded Bible Resources). Some use a good story Bible at this age. As children get older, move to the Gospels and the rest of the New Testament, with a goal of eventually reading all the Scriptures. Briefly explain terms your family may not understand. A study Bible can help here. You may want to ask questions during or after the reading to improve everyone’s understanding.



Pray

Parents and children can all pray or take turns. To avoid saying basically the same things every time, I’d recommend the simple practice of praying about at least one thing you heard in the Bible. For example, after reading John 3, you could ask, “Who is someone we could pray for to be born again like Nicodemus?” From John 4 the next night, “Who is a woman whom we could pray would meet Jesus like the woman at the well met Jesus?” Also, asking each person, “How would you like for us to pray for you?” not only personalizes the experience, but can be the means of discovering previously unspoken feelings and needs.



Sing

I get more responses of “Seriously?” on this one than with any other element. But in the short list of activities the Bible tells us to do in worship, singing is prominent. Some of the activities the Bible requires of acceptable worship are congregational by nature, such as preaching and the practice

of the ordinances. But three activities on that list can be done whether the worship is congregational, individual, or familial: Bible reading, prayer, and worshipful singing.

This can be as brief as the Doxology, or as long as an entire hymn or chorus. Although this is a great time to utilize family musicians or Internet helps, my observation is that most families sing without musical accompaniment. I'd suggest getting songbooks for each member of the family. Consult the pastor or worship leader at your church for other resources."

How?

Borrowing from Whitney's suggestions, here is our suggested process for our people here at Cedar Springs. **Above all, do whatever works best for your family.**

That said, we're asking that you worship together at least one night a week. This resource guide is broken up into 52 sections – one for each week of the year. If you want to do multiple nights a week, review the catechism questions and song for the week and simply keep going in the Scriptures (see part IV for an everyday reading plan. It'd also be helpful to thank the Lord for any answered prayers you've previously prayed as well as to pray for the new requests of the day.

Start out by writing in the Scripture you are going to cover so you can keep going during the next family worship. Then read the Scripture for the night and engage in questions or highlights you want to make from the text.

Then, do the catechism questions together. You'll find that these form a system of thought that builds progressively on each other. It may be helpful to review the

previous week's questions before moving on to remind yourselves of the building blocks that will be assumed in the proceeding Q/A's.

Next, sing the song together on Spotify. Many will come with lyrics from the Spotify app. You can always google them too! These will put to music some truth from the catechism questions you've just rehearsed.

We are including the QR codes to the complete playlist of songs featured each week on both Spotify and YouTube.



Spotify
Playlist



YouTube
Playlist

Lastly, write in the prayer requests for each night to see ways the Lord met you in them over time and then pray for each other!

If you do this multiple nights a week, we'd encourage you to keep a family prayer journal instead of using the bullets we provide.




We'd also encourage the use of "What Every Child Should Know about Prayer" by Nancy Guthrie as a teaching tool during prayer time.

The big picture is this:

- Pick a time that works for you and be consistent but also flexible, the win is that you do it...not that you're great at it! Give grace along the way and just keep going.
- Family worship can be boiled down to three simple things: Read, Pray, and Sing. Do these in whatever form works best for you and to the glory of the Lord.







Graded Bible Recommendations

Resources	Description	QR Code
Choosing a Children's Bible at a Child's Reading Level Group Publishing, Inc.	Match God's Word to your child's reading level with Bible translations tailored from third to twelfth grade—making Scripture accessible, understandable, and age-appropriate.	
Sorting Out the Children's Bible Market by Janie Cheaney	A practical guide to navigating the crowded children's Bible market—highlighting the good, the popular, and the questionable to help families choose wisely.	
Choosing a Bible for Your Kid by Amanda DeWitt	Cut through the confusion of kids' Bible options with a heartfelt guide to finding the right one—real, readable, and engaging for your child's faith journey.	

If these lists don't meet your needs or if you're seeking a specific recommendation, the Cedar Springs Family Ministry recommends the following Benchmark Plan:

BIBLE BENCHMARKS READING PLAN

The Bible Benchmarks Reading Plan is designed to enhance biblical literacy as your child's knowledge and skill-levels grow. This plan aligns with the following CSPC recommended Bibles.

Age		Bible	Description
Pre-K 3 - Kindergarten		The Jesus Storybook Bible: Every Story Whispers His Name Zonderkidz	At the center of all is Jesus. He is the one piece to the puzzle that makes all pieces fit together. As the story unfolds, children will piece together the puzzle. We recommend this Bible as a read-aloud for children ages 3 - 6.
Kindergarten - 3rd Grade		The Gospel Story Bible: Discovering Jesus in the Old and New Testaments New Growth Press	The easy-to-read storybook shows how the captivating people, places, and events from the Bible point to Jesus. We recommend this Bible as a read-aloud in sequential order for children ages 5 - 9.
3rd - 9th Grade		The Adventure Bible NIV Zonderkidz	A complete Bible designed to assist young readers with study aids (i.e. sidebars with explanations, mini glossaries, graphics, maps, and life applications). We recommend parents read alongside their child for up to two years until they become proficient readers who can understand and accurately interpret the text.
9th - 12th Grade		The ESV Study Bible Crossway	A complete Bible with the English Standard Version text with evangelical commentary and includes useful study aids (i.e. book introductions, illustrations, maps, timelines, and glossary).



Family Worship Devotional



Week 1



Read

Refer to the McCheyne's Reading Plan on page 58 for assistance or inspiration regarding a scripture reading plan.

SCRIPTURE
READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Question 1 What is man's primary purpose?

Answer Man's primary purpose is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever.

Question 2 What authority from God directs us how to glorify and enjoy him?

Answer The only authority for glorifying and enjoying him is the Bible, which is the word of God and is made up of the Old and New Testaments.



Sing

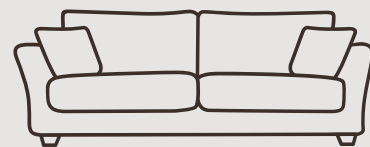
SONG

Come, Thou Almighty King



Pray

PRAYER
REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 2



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Question 3 What does the Bible primarily teach?

Answer The Bible primarily teaches what man must believe about God and what God requires of man.

Question 4 What is God?

Answer God is a spirit, whose being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth are infinite, eternal, and unchangeable.



Sing

SONG

Holy, Holy, Holy



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 3



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

He was still speaking
when, behold, a bright
cloud overshadowed
them, and a voice from
the cloud said, "This is
my beloved Son, with
whom I am well pleased;
listen to him."
Matthew 17:5

Question 5 Is there more than one God?

Answer There is only one, the living and true God.

Question 6 How many persons are in the one God?

Answer Three persons are in the one God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are one God, the same in substance and equal in power and glory.



Sing

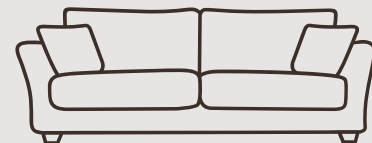
SONG

We Believe (Apostles' Creed)



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 4



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 7 What are the decrees of God?

Answer The decrees of God are his eternal plan based on the purpose of his will, by which, for his own glory, he has foreordained everything that happens.

Question 8 How does God carry out his decrees?

Answer God carries out his decrees in creation and providence.



Sing

SONG

Ancient of Days



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 5



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."
Matthew 17:5

Question 9 What is creation?

Answer Creation is God's making everything out of nothing by his powerful word in six days—and all very good.

Question 10 How did God create man?

Answer God created man, male and female, in his own image and in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, to rule over the other creatures.



Sing

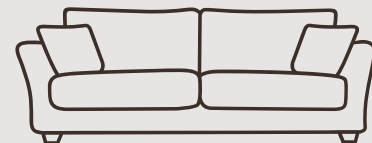
SONG

Psalm 8 (How Majestic Is Your Name)



Pray

PRAAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 6



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 11 What is God's providence?

Answer God's providence is his completely holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing every creature and every action.

Question 12 What did God's providence specifically do for man whom he created?

Answer After the creation God made a covenant with man to give him life, if he perfectly obeyed; God told him not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil or he would die.



Sing

SONG

This is My Father's World



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 7



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

I have not departed
from the
commandment of his
lips; I have treasured
the words of his
mouth more than my
portion of food.
Job 23:12

Question 13 Did our first parents remain as they were created?

Answer Left to the freedom of their own wills, our first parents sinned against God and fell from their original condition.

Question 14 What is sin?

Answer Sin is disobeying or not conforming to God's law in any way.



Sing

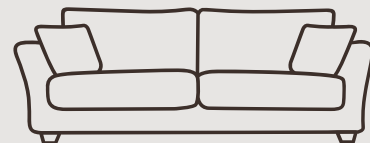
SONG

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 8



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 15 By what sin did our first parents fall from their original condition?

Answer Our first parents' sin was eating the forbidden fruit.

Question 16 Did all mankind fall in Adam's first disobedience?

Answer Since the covenant was made not only for Adam but also for his natural descendants, all mankind sinned in him and fell with him in his first disobedience.



Sing

SONG

All Thy Works



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 9



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

I have not departed
from the
commandment of his
lips; I have treasured
the words of his
mouth more than my
portion of food.
Job 23:12

Question 17 What happened to man in the fall?

Answer Man fell into a condition of sin and misery.

Question 18 What is sinful about man's fallen condition?

Answer The sinfulness of that fallen condition is twofold. First, in what is commonly called original sin, there is the guilt of Adam's first sin with its lack of original righteousness and the corruption of his whole nature. Second are all the specific acts of disobedience that come from original sin.



Sing

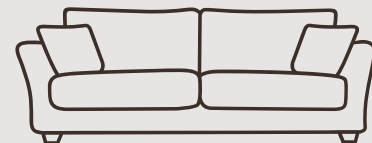
SONG

Lord, Have Mercy



Pray

PRAAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 10



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 19 What is the misery of man's fallen condition?

Answer By their fall all mankind lost fellowship with God and brought his anger and curse on themselves. They are therefore subject to all the miseries of this life, to death itself, and to the pains of hell forever.

Question 20 Did God leave all mankind to die in sin and misery?

Answer From all eternity and merely because it please him, God chose some to have everlasting life. These he freed from sin and misery by a covenant of grace and brought them to salvation by a redeemer.



Sing

SONG

Grace Alone



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 11



Read

But Mary
treasured up all
these things,
pondering them in
her heart.
Luke 2:19

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 21 Who is the redeemer of God's chosen ones?

Answer The only redeemer of God's chosen is the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, who became man. He was and continues to be God and man in two distinct natures and one person forever.

Question 22 How did Christ, the son of God, become man?

Answer Christ, the son of God, became man by assuming a real body and a reasoning soul. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary, who gave birth to him; yet he was sinless.



Sing

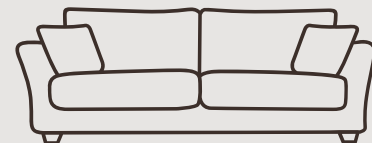
SONG

Behold the Wondrous Mystery



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 12



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 23 How is Christ our redeemer?

Answer As our redeemer, Christ is a prophet, priest, and king in both his humiliation and his exaltation.



Sing

SONG

Christ Is Mine Forevermore



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 13



Read

But Mary
treasured up all
these things,
pondering them in
her heart.
Luke 2:19

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

- Question 24** How is Christ a prophet?
Answer As a prophet, Christ reveals the will of God to us for our salvation by his word and Spirit.
- Question 25** How is Christ a priest?
Answer As a priest, Christ offered himself up once as a sacrifice for us to satisfy divine justice and to reconcile us to God, and he continually intercedes for us.
- Question 26** How Is Christ a king?
Answer As a king, Christ brings us under his power, rules and defends us, and restrains and conquers all his and all our enemies.



Sing

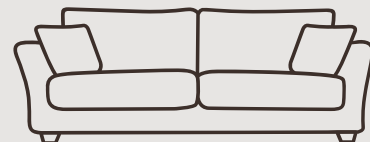
SONG

King of Kings



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 14



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 27 How was Christ humiliated?

Answer Christ was humiliated: by being born as a man and born into a poor family; by being made subject to the law and suffering the miseries of this life, the anger of God, and the curse of death on the cross; and by being buried and remaining under the power of death for a time.

Question 28 How is Christ exalted?

Answer Christ is exalted by his rising from the dead on the third day, his going up into heaven, his sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and his coming to judge the world at the last day.



Sing

SONG

Behold Our God



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 15



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Question 29 How are we made to take part in the redemption Christ bought?

Answer We take part in the redemption Christ bought when the Holy Spirit effectively applies it to us.

Question 30 How does the Holy Spirit apply to us the redemption Christ bought?

Answer The Spirit applies to us the redemption Christ bought by producing faith in us and so uniting us to Christ in our effective calling.

Send out your light
and your truth; let
them lead me; let
them bring me to your
holy hill and to your
dwelling!
Psalm 43:3



Sing

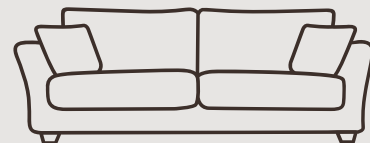
SONG

O Great God



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 16



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 31 What is effective calling?

Answer Effective calling is the work of God's Spirit, who convinces us that we are sinful and miserable [we experience the misery of a fallen world], who enlightens our minds in the knowledge of Christ, and who renews our wills. This is how he persuades and makes us able to receive Jesus Christ, who is freely offered to us in the gospel.

Question 32 What benefits do those who are effectively called share in this life?

Answer In this life those who are effectively called share justification, adoption, sanctification, and the other benefits that either go with or come from them.



Sing

SONG

Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 17



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Send out your light
and your truth; let
them lead me; let
them bring me to your
holy hill and to your
dwelling!
Psalm 43:3

Question 33 What is justification?

Answer Justification is the act of God's free grace by which he pardons all our sins and accepts us as righteous in his sight. He does so only because he counts the righteousness of Christ as ours. Justification is received by faith alone.

Question 34 What is adoption?

Answer Adoption is the act of God's free grace by which we become his sons with all the rights and privileges of being his.



Sing

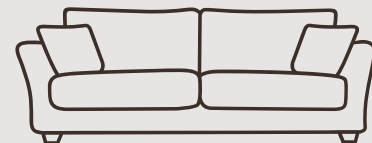
SONG

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 18



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 35 What is sanctification?

Answer Sanctification is the work of God's free grace by which our whole person is made new in the image of God, and we are made more and more able to become dead to sin and alive to righteousness.

Question 36 What benefits in this life go with or come from justification, adoption, and sanctification?

Answer The benefits that in this life go with or come from justification, adoption, and sanctification are: the assurance of God's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Spirit, and growing and persevering in grace to the end of our lives.



Sing

SONG

Grace Alone



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 19



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

...and how from
childhood you have
been acquainted with
the sacred writings,
which are able to
make you wise for
salvation through
faith in Christ Jesus.
2 Timothy 3:15

Question 37 What benefits do believers receive from Christ when they die?

Answer When believers die, their souls are made perfectly holy and immediately pass into glory. Their bodies, which are still united to Christ, rest in the grave until the resurrection.

Question 38 What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the resurrection?

Answer At the resurrection, believers, raised in glory, will be publicly recognized and declared not guilty on the day of judgment and will be made completely happy in the full enjoyment of God forever.



Sing

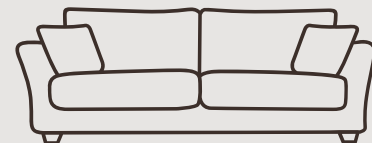
SONG

When We See Your Face



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 20



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 39 What does God require of man?

Answer God requires man to obey his revealed will.

Question 40 What rules did God first reveal for man to obey?

Answer The rules he first revealed were the moral law.



Sing

SONG

Show Us Christ



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 21



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

...and how from
childhood you have
been acquainted with
the sacred writings,
which are able to
make you wise for
salvation through
faith in Christ Jesus.
2 Timothy 3:15

Question 41 Where is the moral law summarized?

Answer The moral law is summarized in the ten commandments.

Question 42 What is the essence of the ten commandments?

Answer 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.



Sing

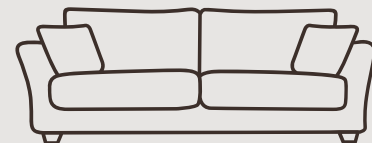
SONG

Trust and Obey



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 22



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 43 What introduces the ten commandments?

Answer These words introduce the ten commandments: *I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.*

Question 44 What does the introduction to the ten commandments teach us?

Answer 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.



Sing

SONG

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 23



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Question 45 What is the first commandment?

Answer The first commandment is: *You shall have no other gods before me.*

Question 46 What does the first commandment require?

Answer 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.

Blessed is the one
who reads aloud the
words of this
prophecy, and blessed
are those who hear,
and who keep what is
written in it, for the
time is near.
Revelation 1:3



Sing

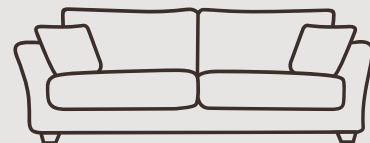
SONG

Only a Holy God



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 24



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 45 What does the first commandment forbid?

Answer 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.

Question 46 What are we specifically taught in the first commandment by the words *before me*?

Answer 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.



Sing

SONG

Holy Forever



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 25



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Blessed is the one
who reads aloud the
words of this
prophecy, and blessed
are those who hear,
and who keep what is
written in it, for the
time is near.
Revelation 1:3

Question 49 What is the second commandment?

Answer The second commandment is: *You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand [generations] of those who love me and keep my commandments.*

Question 50 What does the second commandment require?

Answer 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.



Sing

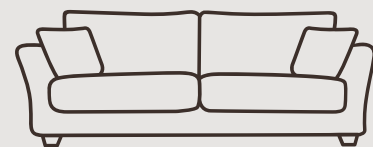
SONG

The Heart of Worship



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 26



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 51 What does the second commandment forbid?

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

Question 52 What are the reasons for the second commandment?

Answer 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.



Sing

SONG

Holy, Holy, Holy



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 27



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

...they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.
Acts 17:11

Question 53 What is the third commandment?

Answer The third commandment is: *You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.*

Question 54 What does the third commandment require?

Answer The third commandment requires the holy and reverent use of God's names, titles, qualities, regulations, word, and works.



Sing

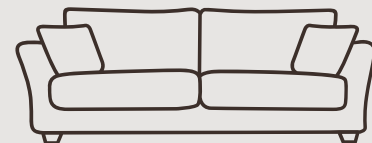
SONG

No Other Name



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 28



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Question 55 What does the third commandment forbid?

Answer The third commandment forbids our treating as unholy or abusing anything God uses to make himself known.

Question 56 What is the reason for the third commandment?

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



Sing

SONG

Lord Have Mercy (For What We Have Done)



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 29



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

...they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.
Acts 17:11

Question 57 What is the fourth commandment?

Answer The fourth commandment is: *Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.*

Question 6 What does the fourth commandment require?

Answer 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.



Sing

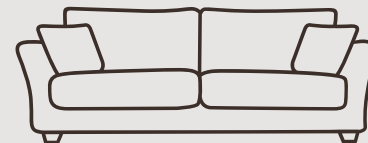
SONG

Be Still My Soul (In You I Rest)



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 30



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 59 Which day of the week has God designated as the Sabbath?

Answer 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.

Question 60 How do we keep the Sabbath holy?

Answer 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.



Sing

SONG

Come Thou Fount



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 31



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

And the Lord came
and stood, calling as
at other times,
“Samuel! Samuel!”
And Samuel said,
“Speak, for your
servant hears.”
1 Samuel 3:10

Question 61 What does the fourth commandment forbid?

Answer The fourth commandment forbids failing to do or carelessly doing what we are supposed to do. It also forbids treating the day as unholy by loafing, by doing anything in itself sinful, or by unnecessary thinking, talking about, or working on our worldly affairs or recreations.

Question 62 What are the reasons for the fourth commandment?

Answer The reasons for the fourth commandment are these: 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.



Sing

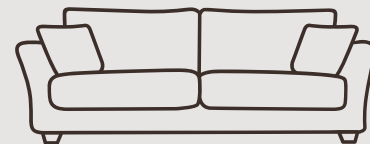
SONG

The King of Love My Shepherd Is



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 32



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 63 What is the fifth commandment?

Answer The fifth commandment is: *Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.*

Question 64 What does the fifth commandment require?

Answer The fifth commandment requires us to respect and treat others, whether above, below, or equal to us, as their position or our relationship to them demands.



Sing

SONG

Build My Life



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 33



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

And the Lord came
and stood, calling as
at other times,
“Samuel! Samuel!”
And Samuel said,
“Speak, for your
servant hears.”
1 Samuel 3:10

Question 65 What does the fifth commandment forbid?

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

Question 66 What is the reason for the fifth commandment?

Answer 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.



Sing

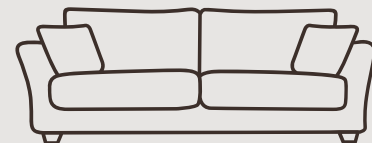
SONG

As For Me and My House



Pray

PRAAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 34



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 67 What is the sixth commandment?

Answer The sixth commandment is: *You shall not murder.*

Question 68 What does the sixth commandment require?

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

Question 69 What does the sixth commandment forbid?

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



Sing

SONG

Far Too Wonderful (Psalm 139)



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 35



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

And the Lord came
and stood, calling as
at other times,
“Samuel! Samuel!”
And Samuel said,
“Speak, for your
servant hears.”
1 Samuel 3:10

- Question 70** What is the seventh commandment?
Answer The seventh commandment is: *You shall not commit adultery.*
- Question 71** What does the seventh commandment require?
Answer The seventh commandment requires us and everyone else to keep sexually pure in heart, speech, and action.
- Question 72** What does the seventh commandment forbid?
Answer The seventh commandment forbids thinking, saying, or doing anything sexually impure.



Sing

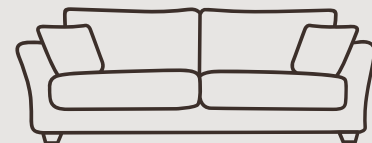
SONG

O Great God



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 36



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 73 What is the eighth commandment?

Answer The eighth commandment is: *You shall not steal.*

Question 74 What does the eighth commandment require?

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

Question 75 What does the eighth commandment forbid?

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



Sing

SONG

Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 37



Read

The law of the Lord
is perfect, reviving
the soul; the
testimony of the Lord
is sure, making wise
the simple.
Psalm 19:7

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 76 What is the ninth commandment?

Answer The ninth commandment is: *You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.*

Question 77 What does the ninth commandment require?

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

Question 77 What does the ninth commandment forbid?

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



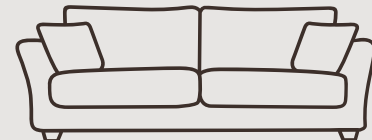
Sing

SONG

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



Pray



PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 38



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 79 What is the tenth commandment?

Answer The tenth commandment is: *You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.*

Question 80 What does the tenth commandment require?

Answer 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.

Question 81 What does the tenth commandment forbid?

Answer 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.



Sing

SONG

My Worth is Not in What I Own



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 39



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

The law of the Lord
is perfect, reviving
the soul; the
testimony of the Lord
is sure, making wise
the simple.
Psalm 19:7

Question 82 Can anyone perfectly keep the commandments of God?

Answer 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.

Question 83 Are all sins equally evil?

Answer 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.



Sing

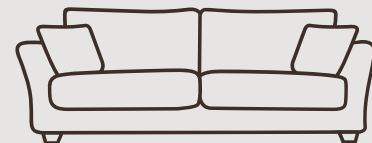
SONG

His Mercy is More



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 40



Read

SCRIPTURE
READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Question 84 What does every sin deserve?

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

Question 85 What does God require from us to escape His anger and curse, which we deserve for our sin?

Answer 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.



Sing

SONG

Living Hope



Pray

PRAYER
REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 41



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Question 86 What is faith in Jesus Christ?

Answer 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.

Question 87 What is repentance unto life?

Answer 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.

Oh how I love your
law! It is my
meditation all the day.
Psalm 119:97



Sing

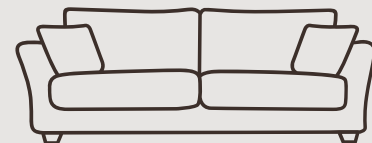
SONG

Lord I Need You



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 42



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 88 What are the ordinary, external ways Christ uses to bring us the benefits of redemption?

Answer The ordinary, external ways Christ uses to bring us the benefits of redemption are His regulations, particularly the word, sacraments, and prayer, all of which are made effective for the salvation of His chosen ones.

Question 89 What makes the word effective for salvation?

Answer The Spirit of God causes the reading and especially the preaching of the word to convince and convert sinners and to build them up in holiness and comfort through faith to salvation.



Sing

SONG

Speak, O Lord



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Question 90 How is the word to be read and heard in order to become effective for salvation?

Answer For the word to become effective for salvation, we must pay careful attention to it, prepare ourselves, and pray for understanding. We must also receive it with faith and love, treasure it in our hearts, and practice it in our lives.

Question 91 How do the sacraments become effective means of salvation?

Answer The sacraments become effective means of salvation, not because of any special power in them or in the people who administer them, but rather by the blessing of Christ and the working of His Spirit in those who receive them by faith.

Oh how I love your
law! It is my
meditation all the day.
Psalm 119:97



Sing

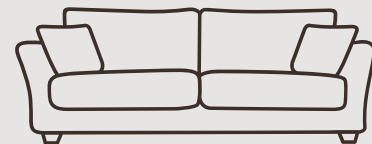
SONG

Show Us Christ



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 44



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 92 What is a sacrament?

Answer A sacrament is a holy regulation established by Christ, in which Christ and the benefits of the new covenant are represented, sealed, and applied to believers by physical signs.

Question 93 What are the sacraments of the New Testament?

Answer The sacraments of the New Testament are baptism and the Lord's Supper.



Sing

SONG

Keep the Feast



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 45



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Like newborn infants,
long for the pure
spiritual milk, that by
it you may grow up
into salvation—if
indeed you have tasted
that the Lord is good.
1 Peter 2:2-3

Question 94 What is baptism?

Answer The sacrament of baptism is a washing with water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, which is a sign and seal that we are joined to Christ, that we receive the benefits of the covenant of grace, and that we are engaged to be the Lord's.

Question 95 Who should be baptized?

Answer Those who are not members of churches should not be baptized until they have publicly stated that they believe in Christ and will obey Him, but the infant children of church members should be baptized.



Sing

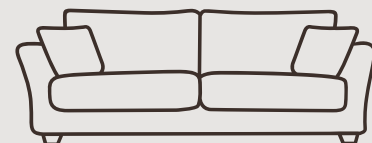
SONG

This I Believe (The Creed)



Pray

PRAAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 46



Read

SCRIPTURE
READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Question 96 What is the Lord's Supper?

Answer The Lord's Supper is a sacrament in which bread and wine are given and received as Christ directed to proclaim His death. Those who receive the Lord's Supper in the right way share in His body and blood with all His benefits, not physically but by faith, and become spiritually stronger and grow in grace.

Question 97 What is the right way to receive the Lord's Supper?

Answer The right way to receive the Lord's Supper is to examine whether we discern the Lord's body, whether our faith feeds on Him, and whether we have repentance, love, and a new obedience - so that we may not come in the wrong way and eat and drink judgement on ourselves.



Sing

SONG

Behold the Lamb (Communion Hymn)



Pray

PRAYER
REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 47



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Like newborn infants,
long for the pure
spiritual milk, that by
it you may grow up
into salvation—if
indeed you have tasted
that the Lord is good.
1 Peter 2:2-3

Question 98 What is prayer?

Answer Prayer is offering our desires to God in the name of Christ for things that agree with His will, confessing our sins, and thankfully recognizing His mercies.

Question 99 How does God direct us to pray?

Answer The whole word of God, but especially the Lord's prayer, which Christ taught His disciples, directs our prayers.



Sing

SONG

What a Friend We Have in Jesus



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 48



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 100 What does the beginning of the Lord's prayer teach us?

Answer The beginning of the Lord's prayer (*Our Father in heaven*) teaches us to draw near to God with completely holy reverence and confidence, as children to a father who is able and ready to help us. It also teaches that we should pray with and for others.



Sing

SONG

Good and Gracious King



Pray

PRAAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



The law of his
God is in his
heart; his steps
do not slip.
Psalm 37:31



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Question 101

For what do we pray in the first request?

Answer

In the first request (*hallowed be your name*) we pray that God will enable us and others to glorify Him in everything He uses to make Himself known and that He will work out everything to His own glory.

Question 102

For what do we pray in the second request?

Answer

In the second request (*your kingdom come*) we pray that Satan's kingdom may be destroyed, that the kingdom of grace may be advanced, with ourselves and others brought into and kept in it, and that the kingdom of glory may come quickly.



Sing

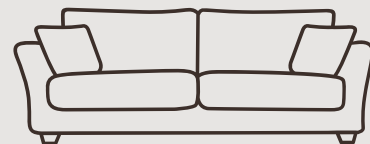
SONG

What a Beautiful Name



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 50



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 103 For what do we pray in the third request?

Answer In the third request (*your will be done on earth as it is in heaven*) we pray that by His grace God would make us have the capability and the will to know, obey, and submit to His will in everything, as the angels do in heaven.

Question 104 For what do we pray in the fourth request?

Answer In the fourth request (*Give us today our daily bread*) we pray that we may receive an adequate amount of the good things in this life as a free gift of God and that with them we may enjoy His blessing.



Sing

SONG

A Christian's Daily Prayer



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER
SHORTER
CATECHISM
IN MODERN
ENGLISH,
(WSCME)

Question 105 For what do we pray in the fifth request?

Answer In the fifth request (*Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors*), encouraged by God's grace, which makes it possible for us sincerely to forgive others, we pray that for Christ's sake God would freely pardon all our sins.

Question 106 For what do we pray in the sixth request?

Answer In the sixth request (And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one) we pray that God would either keep us from being tempted to sin or support and deliver us when we are tempted.

The law of his
God is in his
heart; his steps
do not slip.
Psalm 37:31



Sing

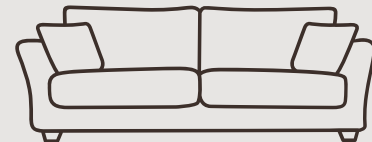
SONG

Before the Throne of God Above



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Week 52



Read

SCRIPTURE READING

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM IN MODERN ENGLISH, (WSCME)

Question 107 What does the conclusion of the Lord's prayer teach us?

Answer The conclusion of the Lord's prayer (*for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever*) teaches us to be encouraged only by God in our prayers and to praise Him by acknowledging that kingdom, power, and glory are His. To show that we want to be heard and have confidence that we are, we say "Amen".



Sing

SONG

The Lord's Prayer (It's Yours)



Pray

PRAYER REQUESTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



McCheyne's Reading Plan

The 19th-century Scottish minister, Robert Murray M'Cheyne (also spelled McCheyne), who lived from 1813 to 1843, devised a Bible reading plan that allows readers to explore the New Testament and Psalms twice a year, while covering the remainder of the Bible once a year. This plan entails reading approximately four chapters each day.

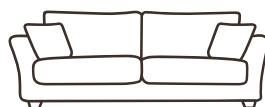


Scan the QR code or visit
www.mcheyne.info/calendar.pdf
to view the calendar for the reading plan.

DIRECTIONS FOR M'CHEYNE'S DAILY BIBLE READING CALENDAR

1. The centre column contains the day of the month. The two first columns contain the chapter to be read in the family. The two last columns contain the portions to be read in secret.
2. The head of the family should previously read over the chapter indicated for the family worship and mark two or three of the most prominent verses upon which he may dwell, asking a few simple questions.
3. Frequently the chapter named in the calendar for family reading might be read more suitably in secret; in which case the head of the family should intimate that it be read in private, and the chapter for secret reading may be used in the family.
4. The metrical version of the Psalms should be read or sung through at least once in the year. It is truly an admirable translation from the Hebrew, and is frequently more correct than the prose version. If three verses be sung at each diet of family worship, the whole Psalms will be sung through in the year.
5. Let the conversation at the family meals frequently turn upon the chapter read; thus every meal will be a sacrament, being sanctified by the Word and prayer.
6. Let our secret reading prevent the dawning of the day. Let God's voice be the first we hear in the morning. Mark two or three of the richest verses and pray over every line and word of them. Let the marks be neatly done, never as to abuse a copy of the Bible.
7. In meeting believers on the street or elsewhere, when an easy opportunity offers, recur to the chapters read that morning. This will be a blessed exchange for those idle words which waste the soul and grieve the Holy Spirit of God. In writing letters to those at a distance, make use of the provision of the day gathered.
8. Above all, use the Word as a lamp to your feet and a light to your path- your guide in perplexity, your arm our in temptation, your food in times of faintness. Hear the constant cry of the great Intercessor, "SANCTIFY THEM THROUGH THY TRUTH : THY WORD IS TRUTH."

St. Peter's, Dundee, 30th Dec. 1842

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