



FAMILY HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

Our goal at FBCN during this time of online worship is for parents to lead their families to worship King Jesus. While this concept sounds great in theory, we understand that it can be a struggle to find ways to do family worship with multiple children of different ages and attention spans. So, we offer the following steps as guidelines based on personal experiences. These steps are intended to help parents and children get the most out of our online services.

1. Try to keep your regular worship rhythm by worshipping together as a family at the same time you typically attend the worship gathering. For example, if you attend Saturday nights at 6PM, then view the livestream at that time. If you worship on Sunday mornings at 930AM, then view the livestream at that time. And so on.
2. Sing out loud and encourage your children to do the same. Don't worry if you're not ready to sing on *The Voice*. Your tune doesn't matter as much as your children seeing you sing praises to the Lord.
3. During prayer times, encourage your children to bow their heads and close their eyes and think about talking to God. Model this for them. Let them know that they can tell God how they are feeling, what they need, and trust Him to answer them.
4. When the pastor encourages giving online, consider giving and explaining to your children why blessing others is so important. Maybe ask them to consider if they have a possession that they could consider giving away to bless someone else.
5. Parents, have your Bibles out and ready for the sermon time. Have a notebook and pen ready to take notes.
6. Encourage smaller children to use the interactive children's sheet.
7. Encourage older children, who can sit through school lessons, to try to listen to the message and write down things they learn.
8. After the service, consider asking 2-3 brief discussion questions like: 1. What is one thing you learned about Jesus? 2. Was there anything you didn't understand? 3. What is one thing you think you should do as a result of the message? Let the conversation happen naturally, listen carefully to your children, let them answer the questions, and lovingly respond. If they get stuck, give some of your own answers as an example.
9. End your time together asking for prayer requests and then pray over your family.

These tips are offered in hopes of helping you and your children grow in relationship with each other and Jesus. They are meant to be supportive and not constraining. Therefore, do not feel bound or pressured to follow the steps too rigidly. Follow the Spirit's leading and don't be a parent who is inflexible, thereby making this sort of thing something they must do in duty rather than something they get to do in delight. Don't stress! In short, the goal is simply that your family would sing, pray, give, open the Bible and grow in love toward Jesus, one another, your church, and the world. Finally, remember that family Bible study requires a sense of humor, so be sure to have some fun, enjoy some laughs, and build some memories.