



At Home Devotion Guide

We encourage everyone to use this guide in your home this week and to adapt it to your specific household situation. This guide can be used in one sitting or can be broken up and used throughout the week.

Sermon Reflection

Read passage from sermon: Acts 4:1-22

For young children: We should be bold in our witness for Jesus, even when people don't like our message.

For older children and adults: Peter and John were unwavering in their witness for Jesus, even in the face of persecution. They were filled with the Holy Spirit, had a certainty about who Jesus is, had an intimate relationship with Jesus, and feared God more than they feared man. We should follow their example.

Question: What do you think is preventing you from being a bold witness for Jesus. Misplaced priorities? Fear of what others think? A lack of trust in God's power?

Pray: Ask God that he would make the members of your household bold witnesses for Jesus.

Weekly Catechism Questions

For Children: Does Jesus command us to be baptized? Yes. *Everyone who has received Jesus as Savior is to be baptized.* (Matthew 28:18-20).

For older children and Adults: What hope does everlasting life hold for us? *It reminds us that this present fallen world is not all there is; soon we will live with and enjoy God forever in the new city, in the new heaven and the new earth, where we will be fully and forever freed from all sin and will inhabit renewed, resurrection bodies in a renewed, restored creation.* (The New City Catechism: Q52, http://www.newcitycatechism.com/New_City_Catechism.pdf)

Suggested Hymn: #192, *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

How to Use This Guide

At Bethany we recognize that worship is not just something that happens on Sunday morning. Though corporate worship is important, it is also important that we are striving to worship God in our homes on a regular basis. According to Donald Whitney, "God deserves to be worshiped daily in our homes by our families." This guide will help you to lead worship in your home.

Scripture- Begin by reading the passage from the sermon. Based on the ages of those involved, briefly discuss the meaning of the passage and how it applies to your lives.

Catechism- This is a great way to learn what the whole Bible teaches about a particular topic. Read the question, then read the answer. If possible, try to put the answer in your own words.

Prayer- Pray that God would help you obey and understand the truth that you just discussed.

Sing- If someone is able to lead in song, then take some time to sing to the Lord. The guide will provide a suggested hymn from *The Baptist Hymnal, 2008*.

Feel free to adapt this guide to your particular household situation. This is not meant to be a heavy burden. It is an aid in helping members of your household to grow in Christ.

Families with young children- Don't feel like your devotions have to be long and tedious. Start with short amounts of time, then get longer as the children get older.

Families with older children- Also, don't feel like your devotions have to be long and tedious. Avoid 'preaching' to your family. Instead, let the word of God speak for itself.

Couples without children- This guide is for you as well! Household devotions will help you go deeper in your study of God's word and grow together in Christ.

Singles who live alone- Utilize this guide as part of your regular devotion time.

Begin today! This discipline will help you and other members of your household grow in their walk with Christ. It will also aid you in passing on the faith to the next generation.