



## 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 8:9-24

**For young children:** Simon wanted the power of the apostles, but did not have a heart that trusted Jesus. To be saved, your heart must be changed. You need to turn from your sin and have true faith in Jesus.

**For older children and adults:** As the gospel extends from the Jews to Samaria, we meet this man, Simon. Simon was amazed at the signs and wonders of the apostles. He was not amazed with Jesus, but with the miracles he saw. Salvation is by God's grace through faith, and true faith always involves repentance. Simon professed faith in Jesus and was baptized, but he never truly repented of his sin. True faith changes a person so that they live in surrender to Jesus.

**Question:** What does it look like to have a heart that has been changed by the gospel?

**Pray:** Ask that you may have a genuine trust in Jesus.

### Weekly Catechism Questions

**For Children:** Who wrote the Bible? *Holy men who were taught by the Holy Spirit.*  
(Acts 1:16; 2 Timothy 3:16; 1 Peter 1:10-11; 2 Peter 1:20-21).

**For older children and Adults:** Did God create us unable to keep his law? *No, but because of the disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, all of creation is fallen; we are all born in sin and guilt, corrupt in our nature and unable to keep God's law.*  
(*The New City Catechism: Q14,*  
[http://www.newcitycatechism.com/New\\_City\\_Catechism.pdf](http://www.newcitycatechism.com/New_City_Catechism.pdf))

**Suggested Hymn:** #529, *Change My Heart, O God*

## 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.