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.

Scripture Reflection

Read passage: Acts 8:8-18

For young children: Paul and Barnabas did not seek their own glory, but wanted the people in Lystra to know Jesus.

For older children and adults: In the power of the Holy Spirit, Paul and Barnabas healed a man who had been crippled from birth. The people of Lystra mistakenly thought the two men were pagan gods. Paul and Barnabas' response displays their humility and their desire to see all people come to true faith in Jesus. Christians are not called to seek their own glory, but to point others to the God who can save them.

Question: How can we point others away from ourselves and toward Jesus?

Pray: Ask God for true humility.

Weekly Catechism Questions

For Children: Can you repent and believe in Jesus Christ by your own power? *No. I can do nothing good without the Holy Spirit.* (John 6:44; Romans 8:8-11; 1 Corinthians 2:9-14).

For older children and Adults: How does the Holy Spirit help us? *The Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin, comforts us, guides us, gives us spiritual gifts and the desire to obey God; and he enables us to pray and to understand God's Word.*
(The New City Catechism: Q37, http://www.newcitycatechism.com/New_City_Catechism.pdf)

Suggested Hymn: #304, *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

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.