

## September 2016

# Family Worship - How do I do that?



Dr. Donald Whitney, instructor of our class and author of several books including *Family Worship*.

Last month we took a class at FamilyLife that included some teaching on Family Worship. It was one of the best classes we have taken at FamilyLife and we wanted to share some of the highlights with you.

The Bible instructs us to teach God's Word to our children. Deuteronomy 6:5-9 says, "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."

## Keep it Simple

**Read** - Read God's Word. Pick a book of the Bible and start reading it, one passage or chapter each day. Explain it in words your kids would understand. If you need help getting started there are many wonderful family devotional books out there. Don't make it harder than it is. Your Family Worship time should not take any advanced extensive planning and preparation. Just open the Bible and read.

**Pray** - The book of Psalms is a great place to start. Pray through a Psalm every day. Read it together and then pray about whatever pops in your head.

**Sing** - This one might feel the most awkward, but singing is an important part of worship. We are to make a joyful noise unto the Lord, nobody said it had to be a good, pleasing noise. There are many of worship songs online, pick your favorite and sing along together.

#### Remember

**Keep it Brief** - On average a session of Family Worship should take around 10 minutes, maybe less if your kids are very young.

**Do it Regularly** - Make it a habit, do it daily. But if you miss a day, don't give up, just do it again the next day.

**Be Flexible** - Find a time that works for your family, it may be around the breakfast table, in the car on the way to school (designate a child to read, don't read while driving), the evening meal or at bedtime.

#### Encouragement

**Don't expect perfection** - There will be days, perhaps many of them where you don't think your children are listening or you feel like what your are doing is not making an impact. Don't be discouraged, they are listening, it is making an impact! Maybe you will come to a passage that is difficult to understand or explain. Just move on to the next passage. Keep going, don't give up!

**Lead by example** - What you make time for in your life communicates importance to your children. Make sure they see that reading and studying God's Word is important to you. It will then become important to them.

# CAS Praises & Prayers

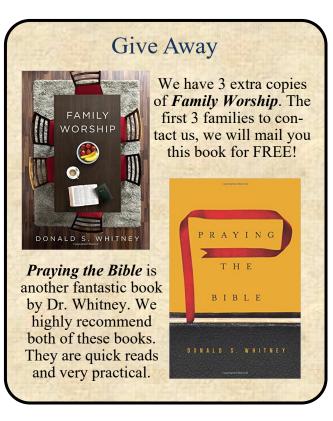
**Praise:** for a great start to our new Marriage Ministry at our local church. Pray we can connect with many couples and help them find and experience God's best in their marriages and families.

**<u>Pray</u>:** for us as we kick off our new fall small group bible study in our home. We are doing a study using the book *Smart Step-families.* We had 8 couples at our first class! Pray each couple will receive the biblical tools and practical tips they need to build a successful, godly marriage and family.

**<u>Pray</u>:** for many couples to attend a Weekend to Remember this fall. Pray that all those that attend will draw closer to the Lord and their spouse.

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock." Matthew 7:24-25





# Marriage Ministry



A few months ago we shared that we are heading up a team of volunteers and starting a Marriage Ministry at our local church.

### *Our purpose is to help people find and experience God's best in their marriages and families.* We plan to achieve our purpose by offering a variety of marriage related events, small group bible studies, and couple mentoring all year round.

If you are interested in starting a Marriage Ministry in your local church we would love to help you get started. Give Jennifer a call 636-358-4213

# Fall Season Starts Soon



There are 3 Ways to Save On your Registration

# **One: Financial Ministry Partner Certificate**

If you are a financial ministry partner and give regularly to our ministry; please contact us, we have a very special certificate for you. This certificate will allow you to register for the Weekend to Remember for only \$78/couple (regular price is \$300/couple).

If you can't use the certificate yourself, pass it on to someone that can. What a great way to bless someone else's marriage.

## Two: Use our Group Name

Go to **www.familylife.com/weekend** click on "Find Your Getaway" and then select the event you want to register for. Enter or group name "**FLWalker**" when registering and get \$100 off your couple's registration.

## Three: Register during our BOGO Sale

Buy One Get One Sale. Call 1-800-FLTODAY by **September 19** and ask for the BOGO deal. Buy your registration and your spouse goes free. Basically you will save \$150 off your couple's registration.

St. Louis, Nov 18-20, 2016