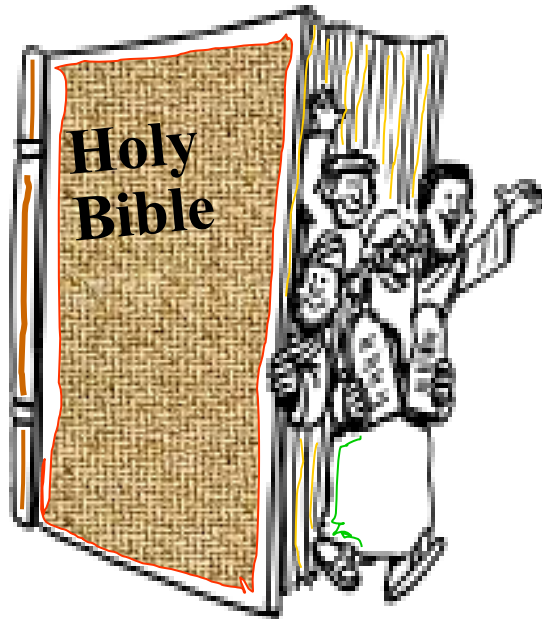


Family worship

with Multiple Ages

91 ideas!



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Family worship

2

with Multiple Ages

[We had nine.]

58 flavors to spice up your Bible Time

1. Monday is the day to talk about the pastor's sermon.
2. Mom reads the Bible. Kids draw pictures on 3x5 cards.
Great for narrative passages.
Dad draws the pictures for the littlest and they color the pics.
Talk about it afterwards. This may be one of our most common habits.
3. Read the book of Acts and everybody draw a red cross  in the margin of your Bible next to every time people are saved *[about 30 x]*.
4. Read the book of John and use a red pen to circle "believe" every time you find it—*almost 100 times*.
5. Read the book of Philippians and everybody draw a smile face in the margin of your Bible next to verses that have the word "rejoice" or "joy" *[more than a dozen times]*.
6. Read the book of Luke and everybody draw a  next to miracles.
7. Read Genesis and draw an arrow up  next to every time somebody does something right and an arrow down  next to every time somebody does something wrong.
8. Read a chapter in Proverbs and write your initials *[in pencil so you can erase them later]* next to verses that give you a horrible time obeying.
9. Read Isaiah and circle the words "that day." It usually refers to that Great Day when Jesus will come to earth *[almost 50 x]*. "The day" also often refers to His return to earth.
10. Read the book of The Revelation and notice how many descriptions there are of Jesus. Put a Mogen David  in the margin. A good sleuth may find dozens of names, nicknames, and descriptions.
11. Mark's Gospel is a grammatical disaster. It is often one huge run-on sentence. In the original 70% of the verses start with the word "and" *[468 out of 677 start with the Greek word "kai"]*. Read it without taking a breath.
12. Also in Mark, find "immediately" or a similar word like "straightway" about 40x. Mark is in a hurry to tell his story.
13. When Jesus rides into town on the donkey there is only 1 week left in His life. Find out what chapter Palm Sunday occurs in each of the Gospels. In which Gospel does this take place about halfway through the book?
14. Can you put these 6 sections of Romans in order? *This would be your outline.*
Salvation [2 chapters in-a-row]

Sin [3 chapters in-a-row]

Serving [3 chapters in-a-row]

Sovereignty [3 chapters in-a-row]

Sanctification [3 chapters in-a-row]

Salutation [chapters 15 & 16]

if you can do this, it shows you are pretty good at inductive Bible study thinking. Check yourself with a commentary. Many of their outlines will show how close you are.

15. Sing! If you've got little guys, the big ones could probably help the little ones make several kinds of "rhythm band" instruments. *Keep them in a box in the living room.*
16. Perform a musical right there in your living room. Or take it to a local nursing home.
17. Draw pics in the margin in The Revelation: dragons, beasts, candlesticks, a mountain of sin, etc. *My 4 1/2 year old and I read through The Revelation each Sunday morning for many months and I drew scores of pictures in the margin of my Bible.*
18. On busiest days just pray & quote the Scripture verses the family is trying to memorize.
19. Have a race to see who can read the whole New Testament fastest. Pair off the family somewhat evenly. *By the way, thousands and thousands of people have read the whole Bible in 90 days. Go ahead, check it out on line. In my Bible it averages out to 15 pages each day. Some Bibles might be 12 or 10.*
20. Get 5-part missionary stories from CEF, Child Evangelism Fellowship, and take turns reading a chapter each Thursday for 5 weeks.
21. Go to a cemetery with your Bibles and look up verses on the resurrection.
22. On the way to Church take a big pan of warm "Rice Krispies candy" and a half gallon of milk [this is going to be breakfast] stop at a local park along the way and read your 3 favorite Psalms. *We used to stop at the same park each time. It was close enough to the church so that the bigger kids could walk and everybody else climbed into the van.*
23. Hotseat—One person sits on the special stool and tells everything he/she knows about.... Pick one: *The resurrection, creation of Eve, prophet Isaiah, Saul/ Paul's salvation, etc.* Afterward the rest of the family may add.
24. Have an "**old standby**" **ritual for Family Worship**. You don't have to be creative more than once in a while. Rotate these 5 basic ingredients among family members:
 - #1 person starts by picking a song
 - #2 chooses the chapter to read
 - #3 prays *[or picks someone to pray]*
 - #4 tells about "the best God-thing that happened this week"
 - #5 tells is how you can pray for "me," then closes in prayer
25. Parents' Hotseat—another wrinkle to this one is that the kids get to ask the parents any question in the Bible and the parents have to sit there until they find the answer. *This is not for trivia questions.*
26. Watch a DVD. Talk about what was right and wrong. Give this time a nickname like: "What's wrong with this picture?" or "Did anybody see what I saw?"

27. Skype somebody from your previous church. Tell them what you did this week for Family Worship.
28. Use Strong's Concordance to look up unfamiliar words, or the frequency of some familiar words. *That's how I found how many times "that day" was found in Isaiah.*
29. Listen to Romans on a CD for 30 minutes each Thur, Fri, & Sat for 3 weeks. You'll get through the whole book a couple times.
30. Anyone who reads one chapter of the Bible every day will get through the whole Bible 10 times or more before he/she dies.
31. Make a poster-chart of everything Paul did. or Moses, Jesus, Peter, Joshua, Abe, Noah.
- Make a legend: ☑ = sermons, ☒ = miracles, △ = cities visited, ☺ = friends he travels with, ☠ = danger, etc.
32. STOP IT! If some method isn't working for your Family Worship, or seems to be dreaded, Stop!
33. Buy a Bible story book and read it every Saturday.
34. Keep It Short Sweetheart [KISS]. Pastors learned at seminary, "There has never been a bad, short sermon" even though they forget that sometimes. Practice brevity.
35. Bible Trivia: Dad vs. the whole family one night, Mom vs. the whole family another night.
36. Download mini-flags from every country where missionaries you know serve. Tape them to a world map.
37. Pray for a different country every mealtime. "Ask the Lord of the harvest to send missionaries into the harvest." *DOC'S PARAPHRASE = "Beg God to send church planters overseas." Luke 10.2*
38. Pray at mealtimes for any country in the news that day [good or bad].
39. We always stopped to bless the food before meals in fast food places. With nine kids we always spread across a couple tables as we held hands and prayed aloud. *It seems from the comments we received that many other families were blessed as well.*
40. When neighborhood kids are over in the yard or basement, include them in Family Worship *even if you have to hurry up and reschedule it before they have to go home for supper or go to bed.*
41. Take turns reading the Bible in a dramatic style: passionately, whispering or shouting, angrily or gently as appropriate. Blue ribbon for an exceptional job. *Or chocolate chip cookies.*
42. Someone quote a verse and others have to guess what book it came from. *This was probably our family's most frequent ritual when I was growing up.*
43. Climb a tree like Zaccheus [*the only one in our yard was actually a bush 6' tall*] each of us took turns being Mr. Z and the ones "down on the ground" took turns being Jesus. Remember that Jesus witnessed to Mr. Z and led to him to the faith that day. So we each took turns telling the one in the bush [*sycamore tree*] how to get to heaven.

44. Ask your pastor's wife to put the pastor's shoes out on the porch some⁵ night. Sneak over and shine all his shoes.

○ 45. Have Family Worship down by the lake [pond, stream, community swimming pool] for any of the water scenes in the Bible.

46. Make up a plate of chocolate chip cookies for your youth pastor, or Sunday School teachers.

*"Let the one who is taught the Word share all good things with him who teaches." Galatians 6.6
Hey! Jason Chollar, age 9, baked and brought me a delicious plate of fudge brownies since I was his Junior Church pastor! His own idea.*

47. Look up verses on fasting then skip your next night's supper.

48. Go to a refugee's house [or some family who just moved into the neighborhood] and invite them to church. *I betcha nobody else in your neighborhood will invite them to a church for the next 3 years, and they won't just wander in out of curiosity, either.*

49. Pantomime a Bible story—and always end by telling in more than one sentence why God bothered to write that story.

50. Turn out the lights and say as many Bible verses as you can remember.

Okay if you forget the reference. Verse must be at least 6 words long.

51. Make a small poster for the wall with your general schedule.

Sun Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat
X X

Cross out the 2 most hectic days.

Nail it on the refrigerator.

Then add different ingredients which you'll try to incorporate on different nights.

○ 52. In one home, Family Worship in the evening didn't work because of the kids' sports schedule. After breakfast didn't work because Dad left for work at 4.30 am, so they all got up before Dad left and had Family Worship every day while it was still dark. *The boys went back to bed. Mom stayed up and did housework. One brother became a pastor and the other brother became an elder in his younger brother's church.*

53. If your family messes up and you neglect Family Worship for a number of days [or weeks] in a row—all is not lost. Just crank it back up.

54. Invite your pastor over to give communion, or preach a special "sermonette," or explain his favorite chapter, or join you for Passover, or just read your family's favorite chapter, or.... *Then give him a plate of warm chocolate chip cookies. Remember, home school families can invite the pastor over during times when nobody else can—for lunch or even breakfast on his way to work. Do this after you shine his shoes.*

55. Write a list of as many things you like about God IN THREE MINUTES! Post it on the refrigerator for a month.

56. Let one person have the family read any chapter in the Bible he wants.

57. Have a Bible Sword Drill.

*Someone says a verse reference.

*The family repeats the reference.

*The person says, "CHARGE!"

○ *Everybody tries to find the verse in the Bible quickly.

*As soon as each person finds it he/she reads just the first word of the

verse.

*Wait until everybody has found it.

Little kids start immediately at CHARGE!

Bigger kids have to wait several seconds before they start to look.

Adults wait even longer.

58. Memorize the names of the 66 books of the Bible. See how long it takes for everyone to be able to say them in 30 seconds or less.

Remember there are 5 sections in the OT: *Gen [5 bks], Josh [12 bks], Job [5 bks], Isaiah 5 major prophets], Hosea [12 minor prophets]*

and 5 sections in the NT: *gospels [4 bks], history [1 bk], Paul's letters [14 bks], other letters [8 bks], The Revelation [1 bk]*

One family even made 66 small "books" out of pieces of 2"x4" wood.

Painted them 5 colors [OT], and 5 colors [NT]. Then used a White-Out pen to write the names on the spine of the books. I think they wrote a number on the bottom of each block so they could check the correct order quickly.

59.

SECTION TWO

Here are 33 things you can **schedule on your annual calendar** and plan on just as faithfully as Turkey dinner.

These take the place of a normal Family Worship that day.

- A. Spend 2 evenings baking 50 dozen chocolate chip cookies, then take them to twenty-five houses right near the church, and invite those families to special meetings, or just to Sunday School.
- B. On Thanksgiving make a list of as many things as you are thankful for. *I used to give out Snickers bars for any Sunday School kid who could come up with 100!*
- C. Visit a hospital. Visit a rescue mission, not to serve a meal, but to sit through the sermon and eat a meal with the homeless. *Your prayers for the homeless in your town will change, I'm sure!*
- D. Four days a week might be "regular nights" and just once a week is something out of the ordinary. Maybe Tuesday is usually the un-ordinary night.
- E. On-the-Spot—Each week one person is given a Bible story *[or verse or doctrine]* and has to tell as much as he can about it. When he is finished, the rest of the family gets to fill in the gaps.
- F. One night a week needs to be Scripture memory review night.
- G. Memorize a short Psalm every June.
- H. For a whole week have Family Worship in a different park each night sometime in August.
- I. Another week have a different dessert **INSTEAD OF SUPPER** while you have Family Worship. Extensive studies of hospital records confirm that no child has ever died from having Family Worship while he was eating ice cream instead of green beans.
- J. Go over to a neighbor's house *[especially if he speaks with an accent]* and put on a

mini-Christmas or Easter play in their living room. I'm going to guess ⁷ they'll take photos and give you some dessert [*chocolate chip cookies if they have any*].

*Sing two Christmas carols.

*Bring a Christmas tree ornament with your family name on a tag.

*Ask them to come over to your house during their next national holiday. I promise you they will be glad you came. Probably nobody in the neighborhood has visited them.

K. Put up Christmas lights for an elderly neighbor then read the Christmas stories in Matthew 2 & Luke 2 to them.

L. See how many tracts you can collectively pass out at a local parade. *Our family record is about 400.*

M. Serve egg nog and lots of warm chocolate chip cookies to the trash men just before Christmas. Give them each a salvation tract and \$10 each. *Our trashmen used to come by at 5.30 am. When they arrived we lined up across the road and blocked the truck. When one of the men saw the tract with the title, "Am I Going to Heaven?" he looked at us and said, "NOT OF WORKS !"*

N. Conduct the Christmas pageant on your front lawn every July. Spend a couple Family Worship evenings preparing.

O. Older kids are totally in charge twice a month—anything goes !

P. Schedule Family Worship at the same time every evening. Somebody can set his cell phone [*or the kitchen timer*] to ring promptly at 7 pm. *No dessert for a year if you're late.* 😊

Q. On Thanksgiving stop every hour on the hour and spend 5 minutes praying for one of the following topics: kids & cousins, missionaries, pastors, state & federal Supreme Court members, churches, neighbors, ministries at church, Sunday School teachers, etc.

R. Pray [November] for all elected officials in your town.

s. Pray [September] for all teachers and principals and schools [*public & private*].

T. Pray [October, pastors' month] for every pastor you know. Take a car ride past every church within a radius of X miles, and pray for their members. *These kinds of adventures and projects take the place of Bible reading and prayer for the evening.*

U. Memorize a poem together each year. *If you just read it twice a week for a month, you'll have a head start before you begin memorizing it.*

V. Skype a missionary. Tell them what you do for Family Worship. *Pray for them before you hang up.*

W. Each Monday act out a "Two Minute Drama" complete with a minimum of props. *Big kids help little kids.* Record them on your cell phone camera.

X. The whole family memorizes and recites Luke 2.1-20 at the church Christmas pageant. *Start early or mid-November.*

Y. Mondays pray for missionaries.

Z. On the day after Christmas make lists of verses for each kids to memorize for the next year. One or two a month.

One list for the littlest kids

Another list for the bigger kids

Another list for the biggest kids and the parents

Kids get to pass judgment on their lists and make recommendations.

Kids who finish early get a special privilege or reward.

- AA. Plan a way to serve the community twice a year.
 clean an intersection in town
 clean the church
 clean a vacant lot
 make sandwiches & chocolate milk for homeless
 [kids choose the kind of sandwiches]
 trim an old lady's shrubs
 cook 3 meals for a stranger whose house burned
 wash and wax an old man's car
- BB. Read a [missionary] biography aloud every year. Keep it in the car and read it only as the family drives.
- CC. Play a Bible game on your computer 3x a year.
- DD. On the first day of each month, let somebody give a DRAMATIC READING [mini-costumes encouraged]. Pick an exciting story! *Jonathan and his armor bearer sneaking up the hill. David & Goliath. Moses getting really ticked off at Pharaoh. Jesus yelling at the Pharisees. Elijah yelling at the priests on Mt Carmel.*
- EE. One day each month—just pray!
- FF. One day each month—just sing!
- GG. One day each month—just talk about what you underlined during your Quiet Times recently.

○ Remember, some of these exercises take the place of Family Worship that day.

If you want to keep this copy
 please leave \$2 on the front table.
 Otherwise just leave it on your seat. Thanks.

Now, go make copies of this for somebody else,
 and be faithful in immersing yourself
 in the WORD of GOD.

For those of you who received this by email, please circulate it widely.
 Forward it to as many as you can.
 They will be grateful.