

Sunday Morning Worship

July 19, 2026



FIRSTBAPTIST
CHURCH
UPPERMARLBORO

7415 SW Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

301-952-0117 :: www.fbcum.org :: fbcum@firstbaptistum.com

Order of Worship

July 19, 2026

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer

Call to Worship — Psalm 27:1-4, 13-14

Song — The Lord Is My Light (Psalm 27)

Song — O Great God

Pastoral Prayer

Responsive Scripture Reading — Daniel 7:9-14

Song — All I Have Is Christ

Prayer of Thanks

Worship Through Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Message — Zach Schlegel

“How to Pursue Greatness”

Luke 9:37-50

Song — I Need Thee Every Hour

Benediction

Comfort Rooms: To help accommodate families with small children and individuals with special needs or medical conditions, a live video feed of the worship service is available in rooms 116, 117/118, 119, 120-125.

Visitors & Guests: Stop by the Welcome Desk for church information and to receive a welcome packet.

Call to Worship — Psalm 27:1-4, 13-14 (ESV)

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

² When evildoers assail me
to eat up my flesh,
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stumble and fall.

³ Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me,
yet I will be confident.

⁴ One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his temple.

¹³ I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of
the LORD
in the land of the living!

¹⁴ Wait for the LORD;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!

The Lord Is My Light (Psalm 27)

Lillian Bouknight

Verse 1:

The Lord is my Light and my salvation,
The Lord is my Light and my salvation,
The Lord is my Light and my salvation,
Whom shall I fear?

Chorus:

Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life.
Whom shall I fear?

Verse 2:

In the time of trouble He shall hide me,
in the time of trouble He shall hide me,
in the time of trouble He shall hide me,
whom shall I fear?

Verse 3:

Wait on the Lord and be of good courage,
Wait on the Lord and be of good courage,
Wait on the Lord and be of good courage,
whom shall I fear?

O Great God

Bob Kauflin

Verse 1:

O great God of highest heav'n
Occupy my lowly heart
Own it all and reign supreme
Conquer ev'ry rebel pow'r
Let no vice or sin remain
That resists Your holy war
You have loved and purchased me
Make me Yours forever more

Verse 2:

I was blinded by my sin
Had no ears to hear Your voice
Did not know Your love within
Had no taste for heaven's joys

Then Your Spirit gave me life
Opened up Your word to me
Through the gospel of Your Son
Gave me endless hope and peace

Verse 3:

Help me now to live a life
That's dependent on Your grace
Keep my heart and guard my soul
From the evils that I face
You are worthy to be praised
With my ev'ry thought and deed
O great God of highest heav'n
Glorify Your Name through me

Responsive Scripture Reading — Daniel 7:9-14 (ESV)

⁹ “As I looked,

thrones were placed,
and the Ancient of Days took his seat;
his clothing was white as snow,
and the hair of his head like pure wool;
his throne was fiery flames;
its wheels were burning fire.

¹⁰ A stream of fire issued
and came out from before him;
a thousand thousands served him,
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him;
the court sat in judgment,
and the books were opened.

¹¹ “I looked then because of the sound of the great words that the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was killed, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire.

¹² As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

¹³ “I saw in the night visions,

and behold, with the clouds of heaven
there came one like a son of man,
and he came to the Ancient of Days
and was presented before him.

¹⁴ And to him was given dominion
and glory and a kingdom,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him;
his dominion is an everlasting dominion,
which shall not pass away,
and his kingdom one
that shall not be destroyed.

All I Have Is Christ

Jordan Kauflin

Verse 1:

I once was lost in darkest night
Yet thought I knew the way
The sin that promised joy and life
Had led me to the grave
I had no hope that You would own
A rebel to Your will
And if You had not loved me first
I would refuse You still

Verse 2:

But as I ran my hell-bound race
Indifferent to the cost
You looked upon my helpless state
And led me to the cross
And I beheld God's love displayed
You suffered in my place
You bore the wrath reserved for me
Now all I know is grace

Chorus:

Hallelujah!
All I have is Christ
Hallelujah!
Jesus is my life

Verse 3:

Now Lord I would be Yours alone
And live so all might see
The strength to follow Your commands
Could never come from me
O Father use my ransomed life
In any way You choose
And let my song forever be
My only boast is You

I Need Thee Every Hour

Robert Lowry | Annie Hawks

Verse 1:

I need Thee ev'ry hour,
Most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine
Can peace afford.

Chorus:

I need Thee, oh, I need Thee;
Ev'ry hour I need Thee;
Oh, bless me now, my Savior,
I come to Thee.

Verse 2:

I need Thee ev'ry hour,
Stay Thou nearby;
Temptations lose their pow'r
When Thou art nigh.

Verse 3:

I need Thee ev'ry hour,
In joy or pain;
Come quickly and abide,
Or life is vain.

Verse 4:

I need Thee ev'ry hour,
Teach me Thy will;
Thy promises so rich
In me fulfill.

Verse 5:

I need Thee ev'ry hour,
Most Holy One;
O make me Thine indeed,
Thou blessed Son.

Message :: “How to Pursue Greatness” :: Luke 9:37-50

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## **This Week at First Baptist Church**

### **Sunday, July 19**

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes  
10:00 AM Sunday Worship  
12:00 PM Hospitality Team Mtg (Rm 115)

### **Monday, July 20**

### **Tuesday, July 21**

6:30 PM Mid-Year Financial Review

### **Wednesday, July 22**

7:00 PM Summer Seminar #2

### **Thursday, July 23**

### **Friday, July 24**

### **Saturday, July 25**

### **Sunday, July 26**

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes  
10:00 AM Sunday Worship  
6:00 PM Youth Night

## **Upcoming Events at First Baptist Church**

### **Tuesday, July 21**

6:30pm — Mid-Year Financial Review

### **Wednesday, July 22**

7pm — Summer Seminar #2: “Deacons, Part 1: Deacons and the Bible”

### **Wednesday, August 19**

7pm — Summer Seminar #3: “Deacons, Part 2: Church History and FBCUM History”

### **Sunday, August 23 — Members Meeting following worship**

### **Wednesday, September 9**

Regular Wednesday Evening Activities Resume

# Ministry Spotlight

*“Ministry Spotlight” highlights church ministries and programs at FBC Upper Marlboro. We hope you’ll consider how you can pray for and support these ministry efforts. Pick up a copy of “Places to Serve” in the magazine racks near the exits for information on all the church ministries.*

## **PRAYER MINISTRY**

**Bernice McGuire, Ministry Leader**

Serving in this ministry requires concentration, persistence and faithfulness, and the rewards are priceless. When you see prayers answered our faith is increased. We rejoice and praise Him for answering our prayers. Prayer is a command from the Lord and it is a great privilege to do so. According to Bernice, the Prayer Ministry is the most important ministry of our church. She has and continues to serve with dedication and devotion to the Prayer Ministry. It really is a precious gift from God.

When you join the Prayer Ministry one of the first things you will do as a member is to pray for the ministry and those that serve in the prayer ministry. Then you will commit to a specific time to serve each week, thus devoting one hour in the prayer room. Your name will be added to the schedule to ensure that members will not interrupt others during their prayer time. Prayer requests are to be kept confidential unless noted otherwise on the prayer request card.

You may be wondering how do you know what you will pray and for whom you will pray. Believe it or not, new prayer requests come into the Prayer Room each week through various sources to include Prayer Request Cards, telephone calls, email requests, Church Bulletin, Church Directory, IMB (International Mission Board), and NAMB (North American Mission Board.)

Individual personal prayer requests come from emails, calls and Prayer Request Cards. Individuals in the church will use one of these methods to contact the Prayer Room to make a request for a specific prayer need. These requests are recorded on a Prayer Card with the date of the request, the name, and details. This information once added to the Prayer Card will go into the Active Prayer box in an order that ensures that each request will be prayed for each week. Once you pray for the concern, you will place your initials on the Prayer Card indicating the date you prayed.



## Ministry Spotlight

Eventually, contact will be made with the person making the request to see if there has been any changes or updates. That contact will be recorded on the Prayer Card, so that others will be aware of the change/update and initialed by the member making contact. Other contacts, can be made by using a *Prayer-Gram*. A *Prayer-Gram* is a handwritten note that provides an opportunity to send encouragement and supportive scripture verses to bring comfort. This is also noted on the Prayer Card so that future members of the Prayer Ministry will know how best to move forward. Prayer Cards in the Active Prayer box are kept in order so that no prayer request is missed through the prayer rotation.

Our church encourages us to pray through the Church Directory. So you may use part of your time praying through the Church Directory in the Prayer Room. The Church Bulletin provides ***Praying with First Baptist Church*** which suggests prayers for our church, communities, and names of those that have requested prayer. We also have the IMB/NAMB publications that lists missionaries and their prayer concerns.

During your follow-up by phone, you may discover that the prayer need has been *answered!* This is when the Prayer Card is moved into the ***Answered Prayer box***. ***The Answered Prayer box*** is a constant reminder of the Lord's faithfulness and demonstrates the power of the Lord to meet and satisfy the needs of those that have faith and trust in Him. ***The Answered Prayer box*** is a precious treasure chest of the love of Christ Jesus.

To recap, the Prayer Room provides several methods for people to present their prayer requests, by email - [Pray4mefbc@gmail.com](mailto:Pray4mefbc@gmail.com); by phone - 301-952-8877; or by submitting a Prayer Request Card (usually found in the worship center in the back of the chairs).

***The Prayer room is a place where you seek the Lord to answer a specific prayer requests. If you are interested and willing to serve others through prayer, please contact Bernice McGuire and join the Prayer Ministry!***



# Praying with First Baptist Church

## A Prayer Guide for the week of July 19

### **Prayer of the week:**

Consider using the Apostle Paul's prayer from the book of Colossians 1:12 as a springboard for your own prayer time this week. If you're praying through the church directory, this is a great prayer to give thanks to God for the work He has done in the brothers and sisters in Christ in our church family.

*"we have not ceased to pray for you... giving thanks to the Father,  
who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. "*

We recognize our need for God's help in all the areas of our lives. The categories and requests listed below are intentional ways to pray for each other as a church family. For help in knowing how and what to pray for, look up the Scripture included with each item.

### **Ongoing prayer items in the life of our church:**

- Pray for opportunities and boldness to share the gospel with loved ones (Matt. 28:19)
- Pray for conversions (John 3:3, Acts 16:14)
- Pray for the children of our church to hear and understand the gospel and be saved. (Luke 8:8)
- Pray for the preaching of God's word – for faithfulness, fruitfulness, and God's glory (2 Tim. 4:2, 1 Cor. 2:4-5, Isa. 55:10-11)
- Pray for increased one to one discipleship relationships in our church family (Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray for unity in our diversity both on Sunday and through the week (Rom. 15:13, Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for continued growth and joy in the gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-5, 2 Pet. 1:12)
- Pray for growth in holiness, hatred of sin and growth in humility (Prov. 8:13, 1 Pet. 1:14-16)
- Pray for honest, loving relationships in our church (Col. 3:12-13, James 5:16)
- Pray for families: marriages to thrive, parents to teach/love/discipline carefully, and children to obey (Eph. 5:22-6:4)
- Pray that giving would be faithful, joyful, consistent, and sacrificial (2 Cor. 8:9)

### **Prayer items outside our church:**

- Pray for fruitful ministry in other gospel-proclaiming churches in our area. (Rom. 15:20, 1 Cor. 16:1-3, Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray that our elected officials would fear God, seek His wisdom, have integrity, humility, and work together for the good of society and not self. (1 Tim. 2:1-2, Rom. 13:1-7)
- Pray that God would bring a swift end to wars going on throughout the world and establish peace. Pray for protection and care for the many refugees fleeing to safety. Pray that those impacted would trust in God in the midst of their suffering. (Ps. 139:23-24)

- Pray for our ministry partners locally and around the world—Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware (BCM/D), North American Mission Board (NAMB) and International Mission Board (IMB). Pray especially for those we have direct partnerships with: Jeremy McClain (Mercy of Christ Fellowship Church, DC), Joel Kurz (The Garden Church, Baltimore), Daniel and Brandy Spandler-Davison (Bangkok City Baptist Church, Thailand), and Tommie van der Walt (Imprint, South Africa). Pray the gospel would flourish and churches would be planted and strengthened through their work. Pray God would supply their needs. (Ps 93:4, Col. 1:5-6, 1 Pet. 4:12-17)
- Pray for those effected by recent natural disasters (earthquakes in Venezuela, wildfires in western USA). Seeing the fragility of this life, pray that many would look to God for eternal hope. Pray for safety and diligence of emergency response personnel as they work to preserve life. Pray for leaders to make wise decisions. Pray for comfort for those who have lost loved ones. (Ps 46:1-2; John 14:27; Is 43:2)
- Pray for the 440+ people groups of Sub-Saharan Africa who have never been engaged or reached with the gospel message. Pray for missionary exploration teams as they travel to isolated places and learn new languages in order to share Christ with those who have never heard. Pray for fruitful cooperation among Christians around the world toward this goal. (Phps. 1:27)

#### **Particular prayer items in the life of our church:**

- Pray that God would help our church family use the summer season for unique opportunities of evangelism, to build each other up, and to love one another well (Rom. 12:9-21)
- Pray that our Summer Seminar series led by the elders would be helpful, informative, and productive as we consider the following topics; Marijuana and the Christian (June 17), Deacons and the Bible (July 22), and Deacons in church History and Our History (August 19).
- Pray God brings good spiritual fruit in the lives of our children and students this summer through Vacation Bible School (June 22-26) and Youth Summer Camp (July 13-18). (Gal 5:22-23)
- Pray God would guard our church from fear, anxiety, and disunity. Pray we would trust that God is good and be assured that He is in control. (John 13:34-35)
- Pray that God would help us comprehend his good design for the church and center our lives around it for the sake of his glory being made known. (Eph 3:10; 3:21)
- The following individuals have expressed particular prayer concerns:

**Family of Connie Crawford (died July 8), Nikki Crawford (death of brother), Marjorie Griffin, Jackie Jones, Eileen Kessler, Henry Phillips (death of brother), Peter Pierce, Ahkeem Smith (death of mother), Paul Stolarik, Matthew Willis (death of mother)**

**[Consult the church directory for a list of those who are homebound and unable to attend.]**

(To submit a prayer request, please use the Prayer Request Card available in the sanctuary and drop them in the offering basket or contact the Prayer Room at 301-952-8877.)

# Announcements

1. **Hospitality Team Meeting :: TODAY after worship.** Hospitality Team members, please mark your calendars for Sunday, July 19, for our annual team meeting immediately following the worship service in room 115. Please, don't forget to RSVP.
2. **Summer Seminar #2 :: "Deacons and the Bible" — July 22, 7-8pm.** Join us for the second Summer Seminar as we seek to understand how the Bible describes the role of a Deacon. Q&A will follow. Mark your calendar for seminar #3 (8/19) on the topic of "Deacons in History".
3. **Mid-Year Financial Review :: Tuesday, July 21, 6:30pm.** All church members are welcome to attend this mid-year opportunity to review the church budget and ask questions..
4. **Mid-Year Giving Statements.** The church is happy to supply a mid-year giving statement to those that request it. As a reminder, your giving statement is always available online through our giving portal ([fbcum.org/give](http://fbcum.org/give)). Please contact Tanya Joy ([fbcum@firstbaptistum.com](mailto:fbcum@firstbaptistum.com)) in the church office to request your statement.
5. **Giving.** We thank God for the faithful giving of our church family that sustains the gospel ministry here at FBC Upper Marlboro. As a reminder, there are three ways you can give:
  - online: click the link or scan the QR code,
  - in-person: designated boxes in the church foyer or during the worship service,
  - by mail: send to the church office.



## **Digital Communication Card**

Are you interested in receiving more information about the church, meeting with a pastor, or sharing a prayer need? Scan the QR code to fill in our digital communication card and someone will follow up with you. You're always welcome to contact the church office: 301-952-0117.



# The Gospel of Luke: Confidence about Jesus

[Luke 9:37-50](#)

“How to Pursue Greatness”— July 19, 2026



## Introduction

At the root of all sin is pride. It comes from thinking we can live our own way and wanting the honor that belongs to God. There are two types of pride: security-seeking pride and glory-seeking. We seek security through trying to control various aspects of life. Security-seeking pride can be hard to recognize. Those seeking security could look like humility, but it is really a proud refusal to trust God. Glory-seeking pride is a result of looking to self for significance, successful, and wisdom. Glory-seeking pride attempts to steal glory that belongs to God and attribute it to self.

To overcome pride, you must admit that you are prideful. Where do you see yourself? Are you security-seeking or glory-seeking? It's easy to see in others, but it is difficult to see in self. Pride affects our relationship with God who is opposed to the proud.

Knowing the Jesus' death was just around the corner, He told His disciples what was to come. The warning is repeated here in [vs. 44](#). In chapter nine, Jesus is preparing His disciples for what was to come.

## Sermon Outline

1. Turn from security-seeking pride. Vs. 37-45
2. Turn from glory-seeking pride. Vs. 46-50

## Read & Discuss

### 1. Read Vs. 37-45

After coming down from the glorious mountain top experience ([vs. 28-36](#)), they reenter darkness, evil and sin. There is a father who brought his only son to Jesus. The son was not simply sick; he was being assaulted by evil. His symptoms were like what we know today as epilepsy. Sickness and mental health shouldn't always be equated with demonic activity, but there is a spirit here affecting the boy's symptoms. The nine disciples tried to cast out the demon, but they could not. ([vs. 40](#)) They were powerless to do anything. Why weren't they able to cast out the demon? In [vs. 1](#) you see that Jesus had given the disciples power when He sent them out. In [vs. 41](#), Jesus gives the answer. They were faithless, but even in their faithlessness, Jesus was bearing up with them. He loved them. He was patient with them. Are you challenged to bear up with others? In their unbelief, they were trusting themselves. They failed to pray and ask God. Prayerlessness leads to self-reliance. In your flesh, you may not ask for help. Pridefully, you want to do it yourself. You may try to dress it up as something honorable, but it is a proud refusal to trust God. Do you see how you might quickly drift into self-reliance and pride? Do you pray before you act?

Jesus rebuked the demon and gave the son back to his father. During the time the boy was possessed, the father-son relationship had been ruined. The cruelty of evil and the wickedness in this world may ruin your relationships as well. Can you relate to this father? Do you know something of the pain and sorrow of a ruined relationship? Do you believe that God can restore that relationship? It may be hard to believe, but Jesus has the power to heal and restore. Don't give up praying. Don't give up hope in Jesus.

On the mountain top, Peter, James and John saw the majesty of God, but Jesus majesty is also seen in the valley. ([vs. 43](#)) It was then that Jesus admonished them to let His next words sink into their ears. Jesus foretold of His death. Jesus is the Son of Man, and His kingdom is everlasting. ([Daniel 7:14](#)) But first, He must be delivered to the hands of men and be killed. First comes the cross, then the crown. Yet, the disciples didn't understand what Jesus was talking about. ([vs. 45](#)) In [vs. 41](#), Jesus referred to them as a faithless and twisted generation. Moses referred to the children of Israel in the same way. ([Deuteronomy 32:5](#)) God had delivered them from slavery and soon after, they began to grumble, complain and trust self. Idolatry has a spiritual effect on you. What false god are the disciples trusting in? Self! This becomes clear in [vs. 46](#).

When you have to wait on, rely on, and trust God, it gets hard. In the waiting, the human heart naturally searches for security and control outside of God. You may rely on knowledge or power or strength or money, etc. so you don't have to wait. It's understandable that you would do this, but it isn't right. The disciples could not heal the boy in their strength. Do you notice your heart trying to control or know all things? Only God controls all and knows all. When you try to be God, you will exhaust yourself. God doesn't demand our humility because He is worried about His dignity. He demands your humility so that you will know Him. It is in knowing God that you are

free and at rest. Have you slipped into security seeking pride? What is your hope? Bring your heart, your problems, your concerns, etc. to Jesus. ([Vs. 41](#)) Come to Him if you are broken and weary. Christianity begins with humility. You must acknowledge that you are a sinner. We all deserve death and hell, and because God is good and just, His righteous wrath is coming. It was essential for Jesus to be delivered to the hands of men. He is the Lamb of God who takes away your sin and mine so we can be reconciled to God. It is then that you can find your refuge in Christ. Lay aside your self-reliance. Trust in Christ. Humility is also a call to the Christian. ([Matthew 11:28-30](#); [Proverbs 3:5-6](#)) You can trust Him with your life.

## 2. Read Vs. 46-50

In [vs. 20](#), Peter and the disciples had rightly acknowledged who Jesus is. Jesus was going to lay down His life for them. That is what makes their argument about who was the greatest so shocking. How do you respond to God? Are you thankful for God's mercy and grace? Or do you think you are entitled to it? This could be what was happening in the hearts of the disciples. It could be that they were jealous of Peter, James, and John. It could be that the power and authority that they were given in vs. 1 went to their heads. Maybe the crowds, that constantly followed them caused, them to think that they came for them. They had been infected with a glory-seeking pride. Pride is competitive. Pride wants more than another. Let Jesus words in [verse 44](#) sink in. At the foot of the cross, you are the same as every other person who needs to come to Christ. We are all saved by grace through faith.

Pride is an issue of the heart. You may not be able to untangle it, but God can. Jesus is not against greatness, but He has a different path than the world does. Have you ever been around a person who name dropped? They think that this adds to their social status. Here, Jesus mentioned a child. ([vs. 47](#)) In that society, a child was a nobody. In the kingdom of God, people are not currency to advance yourself. Jesus makes the point that ALL people are somebody to love and serve. Jesus path to greatness takes faith. The reward doesn't come in this life. Do you believe that Jesus is telling the truth? You must guard your heart in all things. Social media is a place that you may find the most trouble. What do you post? Does it matter how many "likes" you get?

Examine your heart. Do you associate your value and worth with your role or job? Any talk about limiting a role or job feels insulting and devaluing. Arrogance can be the result of trying to gain worth through a role or job. Your value – young or old, rich or poor, male or female – is rooted in being made in the image of God. It is not in a role or job.

This glory seeking pride can tarnish your good works. If your motivation to do something to get noticed, that is the opposite of what Jesus is saying. The humble person is free. They don't think less of themselves, they just don't think about self. Their value is rooted in God. They are set free to care about others. Humble people are interested in getting to know you not telling you how important they are. Their security is in God.

Envy and pride go together. The disciples were feeling territorial. ([vs. 49](#)) How do you feel when others succeed and you don't? Envy feeds off of comparison. As believers, we are not in competition with other believer. Our church is not in competition with another church. We are one local church in the Kingdom of God. If you find yourself envying another, pray that God will bless that person. It's hard to be envious when you are praying for the blessing of another. Pride tells us that you are on your own. You are NOT. God is the answer to both glory-seeking pride and security-seeking God. ([Psalm 3](#)) God is a shield – your security. God is your glory. When you come to Him weary and heavy laden trying to be God, He is the lifter of your head.

## Prayer of Response

- 1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to confess? From what do I need to repent?
- 2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come. If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at [www.fbcum.org](http://www.fbcum.org).

**Next week's sermon text:** [Luke 9:51-62](#) "Counting the Cost of Discipleship"

## Family Guide for week of July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026

*Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.*



### Suggestions on getting started:

- Decide on a time & place (breakfast, dinner, before bed, etc.)
- Start simple and short (ten minutes or less). Start with three things: 1) Read God's word, 2) Pray together and 3) Sing together. Scripture memory and catechism questions are *optional* if you have the time. Better to start small than bite off more than you can chew and give up.
- Be flexible. It doesn't need to look cookie-cutter similar for every family. Know yourself and know your kids: their personality, age, maturity, etc. [For younger kids consider starting with a good children's Bible like [The Big Picture Story Bible](#).]
- If you don't know the answer to a question someone has, don't act like you do! Say something like, "Great question, let me look into that." Study, ask a pastor or Christian friend and get back to them.
- Embrace the chaos. Kids are kids – don't expect it to be a perfect roundtable discussion with quiet, attentive children every time. Be patient and persistent. Patterns and habits help to set expectations over time.
- To learn more about family worship check out Donald Whitney's book (available at our church bookstall): [Family Worship: In the Bible, In History, and In Your Home](#).



# Family Guide for week of July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026

*Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.*



## **Bible Intake:** (Listening to God)

Day 1 – 1 Samuel 21:1-9

Day 2 – 1 Samuel 21:10-15

Day 3 – 1 Samuel 22:1-5

Day 4 – 1 Samuel 22:6-23

Day 5 – 1 Samuel 23:1-14

\*Read Luke 9:51-62 in preparation for church on Sunday, July 26, 2026

## **Prayer:** (Talking to God)

Pray about one thing you read in Scripture together.

Pray for a few church members on pg. 28 (page beginning with Crystal Rivers) of our church directory. Pray for any specific needs of you and your family.

Take a moment and thank God for the bible and the way it instructs us on how to live for Him. Ask Him to help you delight in His word so that you can obey and enjoy life with Him.

## **Sing together**

"I Need Thee Every Hour" – Use the bulletin from Sunday.

## **Memory verses for the month**

**Matthew 5:16** *"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."*

**Psalms 145:14** *"The Lord upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down."*

## **Catechism question for the week<sup>1</sup>**

**Question 1: What is our only hope in life and death?**

**Answer:** *That we are not our own but belong, body and soul, both in life and death, to God and to our Savior Jesus Christ..*

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<sup>1</sup> New City Catechism (<http://newcitycatechism.com/>)