



In-Home Worship (Personal/Family)

JOY & STRENGTH

Greetings from TLC! Thank you for downloading this resource and making the effort to practice Christian faith in your home. You will never regret it. May God bless you as you grow in your life with Jesus Christ!

All: O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thank You for this day You have made! As we come to worship, please open our hearts to all Your great mercies that are new with each morning, that we may turn from our sins, trust in Christ our Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen!

***In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.***



***No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand!***

Make a sign of the cross (nose, belly button, nose, left ear, right ear, nose) to remember your baptism. Dip your hand in water if you choose. Your sins are washed away. You have the Holy Spirit. You are a child of God!

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made;

Leader: From the rising of the sun

Leader: the name of the Lord

Leader: Enter His gates with thanksgiving

Leader: give thanks to Him

All: let us rejoice and be glad in it!

All: to the place where it sets,

All: is to be praised!

All: and His courts with praise;

All: and praise His name.

Take a moment in quiet reflection to confess your sins. Remember that silence is a great blessing for time with God.

All: Almighty God, please have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Leader: Because of God's great mercy, Jesus Christ was sent in order to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus, He gives the grace to become His own children and grants them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord continue His good work within us!

All: Amen. Thanks be to God!



Leader: "Come, let us settle the matter," says the Lord.

All: "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;

Leader: though they are red as crimson,

All: they shall be like wool."

All: 1. You shall have no other gods. 2. You shall not take God's name in vain. 3. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. 4. Honor your father and your mother. 5. You shall not murder. 6. You shall not commit adultery. 7. You shall not steal. 8. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house. 10. You shall not covet anything else that belongs to your neighbor.

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Leader: Let us pray a blessing on God's Holy Word:

All: Lord, thank You for the gift of grace that is Your Word. Help us to listen, learn, and grow. Holy Spirit, You are welcome here! Please accomplish Your work in us today. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

From the Bible, read Nehemiah 8:1-12. Don't worry about the difficult names- just do your best!

Think/Talk About It



1. Can you remember your very first Bible? What are some of the things you remember about it?
2. In this passage, notice all the people (with their crazy names!) who worked to teach the Bible to the people and help them learn. Who were/are some of the people who have taught you God's Word?
3. What makes a person a good Bible teacher? Look at v.8 for a clue. And what makes a person a good student of the Bible? Look at v.3 for a clue.
4. In v.10, a leader named Nehemiah told the people that "the joy of the Lord is your strength." How does God's Word bring us joy and give us strength? Try to give a specific example(s) as you answer.

All: Lord, we give You today what is already Yours, because You have given Your all for us. Help us to give our lives in return- our time, talents, and treasures- out of love for You and the sake of Your work in the world. Help us be cheerful givers today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Take time to pray to God. Remember the "2 Best Prayers We Know: 'Thank You for...'" and 'Please help...'."

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Leader: God is good! **All: All the time!** Leader: And all the time- **All: God is good!**

Leader: Let us bless the Lord! **All: Thanks be to God!** Leader: Go in peace! **All: Serve the Lord! Amen.**

God bless our native land; firm may she ever stand through storm and night.

When the wild tempests rave, Ruler of wind and wave,

Do Thou our country save by Thy great might.

So shall our prayers arise to God above the skies; on Him we wait.

Thou who art ever nigh, guarding with watchful eye,

To Thee aloud we cry: God save the state!



OPTIONAL FAMILY ACTIVITY: GOD'S WORD GIVES US JOY & STRENGTH

In our devotional time today, we learned how God's Word fills us with two pretty amazing things: 1) Joy and 2) Strength. Spend some additional time in the Bible right now and try to find at least 3 Bible verses about joy and 3 verses about strength. Use a concordance (in the back of some Bibles) or an internet search for help. May God bless you as you, as these Israelites did so long ago, keep growing up in God's Word!