



Tell to the Coming
Generations
Psalm 78:1-8
October 6, 2019

We engage in family worship with a hopeful expectation that God will demonstrate his grace through our obedience to his call to shepherd our children, to the end that God is glorified and the coming generations confidently hope in God.

I. PSALM 78: A MASKIL OF ASAPH

- Introduction (vv. 1-8)
 - Family worship with a purpose.
 - The call for Israel to tell the coming generations of the LORD's glorious deeds (or praises), might, and wonders (vv. 1-5), and five reasons to do so (vv. 6-8)
- Two recitations of the LORD's works in history (vv. 9-72)
 - Recitation one (vv. 9-39)
 - God's people rebel (vv. 9-11); God is merciful (vv. 12-16); God's people rebel (vv. 17-20); God is angry (vv. 21-33); God provides forgiveness (vv. 34-39)
 - Recitation two (vv. 40-72)
 - God's people rebel (vv. 40-42); God is merciful (vv. 43-55); God's people rebel (vv. 56-58); God is angry (vv. 59-64); God provides forgiveness (vv. 65-72)

II. THE WHAT AND THE HOW OF FAMILY WORSHIP

- Reading Scripture together (cf. Deut. 6:4-7; Ps. 78:1-8)
 - Be intentional about setting aside a consistent time to read the whole counsel of God together with your family
 - Additional resources:
 - David Helm's *The Big Picture Story Bible*, Kevin DeYoung's *The Biggest Story*, Sally Lloyd-Jones' *The Jesus Storybook Bible*, and Marty Machowski's *Gospel Story Bible*
- Praying together (cf. Ps. 78; Matt. 6:5-13; Luke 18:1; 1 Thess. 5:17)
 - Provide an atmosphere where your children joyfully pray with you
 - Additional resources:
 - The Joshua Project, *Operation World*, and the Voice of the Martyrs to aid in praying for unreached people groups and the persecuted church
 - Our own church membership directory and lists of missionaries

- *The Valley of Vision* (a collection of Puritan prayers)
- Singing together (cf. Ps. 78:4; Col. 4:16)
 - Joyfully sing the praises of our great God together with your family
 - Additional resources:
 - *Hymns of Grace*, published by the Masters Seminary
 - Seeds Family Worship albums, Slugs and Bugs albums (by Randall Goodgame)
 - These albums look to put Scripture to song

III. THE MOTIVATION FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

- Our *greatest* motivation for family worship must be personal and supreme satisfaction in God through Christ by the power of the Spirit (cf. Ps. 34; Luke 14:26)
 - Other factors surely motivate us to engage in family worship, but they are incapable of bearing the weight of being the *greatest* motivation

Suggested Reading:

Family Worship, Donald Whitney

A Neglected Grace, Jason Helopoulos

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read Psalm 78:1-8

1. When you think of family worship, or family devotions, what mental pictures spring up in your mind? How consistent are they with the picture of family worship described this morning?
2. Ps. 78:1-8 call for families to participate in family worship. Is your family currently engaged in family worship? If so, take some time discussing what it looks like within your family. If not, take some time talking about ways you can work towards establishing a pattern of family worship (be specific!).
3. Of the three elements of family worship (reading Scripture, praying, singing), which are you most comfortable engaging in with your family? Which are you least comfortable? Please take some time to talk through your answers.
4. From your response to question three, what resources might you utilize to help in those areas of family worship where you are least comfortable engaging in with your family?
5. What factors motivate you in pursuing family worship? Discuss why our greatest motivation must be our personal and supreme delight in God through Christ, and why other motivations simply will not ultimately sustain us.
6. What other questions are you left with regarding family worship? Talk through them together.