

Faith Family Worship Guide – Week 16

MEMORIZE

1 Corinthians 1:18 – For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

READ

Read 1 Corinthians 1:10-18.

God has given Christians amazing blessings in Christ both now and for all eternity. We need to remember these blessings ourselves, and remind others of them. However, it seems the Corinthian church had allowed their focus to drift elsewhere. They had divided into various groups of people who followed different leaders, touting their loyalties to the various teachers. Christians, though, are to be united in community with one another. The message they are to unite around, of course, is that of Christ's cross, even though this will look foolish and unimpressive to the world.

Questions:

Why does the message of the cross appear foolish to the World?
What kinds of groups have you noticed the church dividing in to?
Why is it important for God's people to be united together?

Bottom Line: The gospel is what unites the people of God together in community.

SING

As we see in God's Word the folly in exalting certain leaders and teachers, let's fix our eyes on our Lord and King, Jesus the Christ through a time of musical worship. Just like the Corinthian church, we too are prone to set our affections on the admirable leaders of our time. Let us come to the Lord with humbled, repentant hearts and echo the words of this week's family worship song, "Behold our God... Come let us adore Him!"

Visit our website for a link to this song: www.brookhills.org/gathering/this_week.html.

SUGGESTIONS

These suggestions were created by the age-group ministry leaders as a way to help parents better communicate the biblical truths discussed in the Family Worship Guide. These suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God-centered discussions with their children. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help their children discover the truths of God's word and worship him together.

Preschool & Children

- Before you begin, you will need your Bible and a picture of a team of people (you can print one from the internet).
- Talk with your child(ren) about what it means to be on a team. The dictionary says that a team is a group of people on the same side, as in a game, or a group organized to work together for a common goal. Compare the similarities of being a member of a team to being a member of the community of Christ. Our common goal is to share the good news of Jesus with others and to love each other.
- God's love is given freely and we should share that love with each other. We need to share that love with people in our church, family and community.
- God loved us so much that he sent His one and only Son to earth to die on a cross so that we could have eternal life. God wants us to choose to follow Him and to love Him more than anything. He wants us to turn away from our sin and to trust Him. God wants us to share the good news of what Jesus has done for us with others too.
- Conclude your family time with prayer and thank God for your community, church and family.

Students

- Intro
 - Let's start out with a scenario. Imagine that your family is trapped on a deserted island.

- Your goal is to get off of the island. You can't stay on the island because it's sinking/dinosaurs live there/the sand is poisonous (remember this is pretend).
 - Ask each family member what their plan would be for getting off of the island.
 - Everyone probably said something a little different.
 - All of the different creative ways that each family member suggested could cause division because they might not all be the same.
 - These ideas, because they are different, could cause the family to lose focus of getting off of the island.
 - As a family, you are on a team.
 - You are all working for the same goal.
 - The desire to get off of the island is what joins you together, not the different ways everyone would go about that.
- Discussion
 - The Corinthian church lost sight of their main focus, what joined them together.
 - Read 1 Corinthians 1:10-17.
 - How are the people divided?
 - What could cause these people to be divided?
 - Now read 1 Corinthians 1:18.
 - According to verse 18, how do believers view the word of the cross?
 - Should all believers share in this same view?
 - Walk through the *Read* section above.
 - As a family, discuss the questions listed above.
 - How can you keep the cross at the center of your lives?
- What are ways to deal with the distractions that come up to draw our attention away from the cross?