

Family Worship

- I. THREE SPHERES OF WORSHIP:
(It is right to worship God at any time and in any relationship. But there are three areas in which worship is crucial)
 - A. AS AN INDIVIDUAL. This is most basic. If we are not taking time for personal worship (Matt. 5: 6), it is doubtful that we will be worshipping in the family or the church.
 - B. IN THE FAMILY (Deut. 6: 4-9). Fathers have a special responsibility (Eph. 6:4). If they are not believers or will not lead, mothers should do so (2 Tim. 1:5).
 - C. IN THE CHURCH. We must remember that worship is not about us. It is about God. It is not designed for us to derive something, but to praise and adore Him. Also, it is the duty of parents to train and teach their children. The church may supplement and reinforce.

- II. EXCUSES FOR NOT HAVING FAMILY WORSHIP:
 - A. WE DON'T HAVE TIME: A problem of priority. We must find time; make time. We do so for things we deem crucial. Read of a busy day in the life of the Lord (Mark 1: 21-34). Then note v. 35. Jesus was never in a hurry, but always found time to do His Father's will.
 - B. IT'S NOT CONVENIENT: A problem of schedule. If you're looking for a convenient time, forget it. It will take sacrifice; cost.
 - C. I DON'T KNOW HOW: A problem of technique. Two rules: Keep it simple; Keep it short.

- III. COMPONENTS OF FAMILY WORSHIP:
 - A. SPEND TIME IN THE WORD. Read a short Scripture. Use a Bible storybook for young children. Emphasize Proverbs, a book designed for the purpose.
 - B. SPEND TIME IN PRAYER. Keep a prayer list. Include praise, thanksgiving; petition; let the children pray re. their concerns.
 - C. SPEND TIME IN PRAISE. Read a psalm; memorize it together. Sing a hymn of praise or a children's song that gives praise.
 - D. SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES (Deut. 4:9). Illustrate truth with things your eyes have seen.

CONCLUSION: Don't just teach; be a model for your children. As they grow older they know you are not perfect. Their concern: are you real? Are you genuine?