

# WORSHIP GUIDE | CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

// Review of last Sunday- February 17th

**Sermon Text:** [Ephesians 6:1-4](#)

**Questions to Prepare:** Why would Paul talk about the family here? What do family relationships and the gospel have to do with each other? What does my parenting tell my kids about God's character?

**Songs:** [Spotify playlist](#)

**Sermon video:** <https://cccplainfield.org/sermon/family-and-the-gospel>

## Readings:

### // Prayer of Preparation //

This is the day that you have made, Lord.  
Help us to rejoice in it and be glad!  
Remind us of the privileges we enjoy as your people: to come to you in these moments, to confess our sins, to receive forgiveness and give it,  
to pray and sing and listen, to renew our fainting spirits, to rest in all your promises.  
Open our eyes to see you, Lord. Amen.

### // Call to Worship //

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. – Ephesians 2:4-7

### // Prayer of Confession //

Leader: Holy God, we come to You confessing that we never have enough.  
All: We are never satisfied with what You have given us.

Leader: We look at others with envy and we want more, even when our homes are overflowing with stuff.

All: We think we are in need when really we are just in want.

Leader: We cling tightly to our things, hoping they will bring us security. Help us to realize that our

privileged lives are often a burden and a hindrance to Kingdom living. Show us what it means to live in complete submission to You and Your purposes.

All: May we hold tightly only to You. You are everything we need. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

### // Assurance of Pardon //

Nothing is impossible for God. God can do ANYTHING! He can calm a storm! Stop the sun! Make a pathway through the sea!  
Is there anything God CAN'T do?  
Just one thing.  
Ever stop loving you.

[God says] "You are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you." - Isaiah 43:4

(Taken from *Thoughts that Make Your Heart Sing* by Sally Lloyd-Jones, "The One Impossible Thing")

### // Passing of the Peace //

Because God reached down for us, we can reach out and across the aisle to one another... we are those who announce God's grace and peace. Let's enjoy this time of fellowship in God's peace now by greeting one another.

### // Benediction //

May God flood your hearts with light for greater knowledge, wisdom and understanding of the confident hope he has given to those he has called. Go now in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Peace be with you!

(Based Ephesians 1:17-18)

All: And also with you!

### Reflection Questions:

- In our *Prayer of Confession* we confessed that we are never satisfied with what God has given us. When are you unsatisfied with God's provision and wanting more? What makes you feel like you don't have enough? What would it look like to be reminded that you have all you need in those moments?
- What parenting advice have you received? How does it square with Paul's instructions here in Ephesians 6?
- What do think you need in order to be better at nourishing your children? What do you think your children need in order to live into their call to obey their parents?
- What do you need to repent of as a parent? Share that with a friend and ask them to pray for you.

**Resources:** Paul Tripp's [14 Gospel Principles for Parenting video shorts](#)  
[6 Tips for Reading the Bible with your Kids](#) by David Murray  
[When Parenting By Grace Doesn't Lead to Change](#) by Jessica Thompson

## FAMILY BIBLE TIME!

### But first, a short article for Parents:

[Your Child is Your Neighbor](#) by Jen Wilkin

READ Together: Ephesians 6:1-4

[1] Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. [2] "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), [3] "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." [4] Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

### ASK:

- What did you notice in these verses?
- Why do you think God tells children to obey?
- When do you feel most loved by Mom and Dad?
- Do you obey perfectly? Do Mom and Dad teach you perfectly? Then why doesn't God punish us?? (A: Because he punished Jesus for us. Now we get to have Jesus' perfect life and all of God's love!)
- What does God say we should do when we disobey? (A: repent!)

### PRAY:

*The Lord's Prayer: Matthew 6:9-13*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

### REVIEW

[NEW CITY CATECHISM: Question 7](#)

Q: *What does the law of God require?*

A: Personal, perfect, and perpetual obedience; that we love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and love our neighbor as ourselves. What God forbids should never be done and what God commands should always be done.

## // Prepare for this Sunday- February 24th

**Sermon Text:** [Ephesians 6:5-9](#)

**Questions to Prepare:** Why is my work important? What do my relationships at work say about who I am?  
What do they say about who God is?

**Songs:** [Spotify playlist](#)

### **Readings:**

#### **// Prayer of Preparation //**

Lord, as people of the way your joy is our strength.

As we assemble here this morning we ask you fill our worship with the joy of your Spirit.

May joy and gratitude for what you've done for us fill our hearts and minds as we prepare ourselves to meet together as your people and hear from you.

Amen.

#### **// Call to Worship //**

"An important characteristic of worship... ..is that it centers on God rather than ourselves and our feelings. Our attention is drawn to the majesty and glory of the triune God, who created all things and by whose power all things are sustained, who was revealed in Jesus Christ, raised from the dead to rule over all things, and who is at work as the giver of life in and among us by the power of the Holy Spirit."

– Book of Common Worship

Leader: The LORD reigns, let the nations tremble; he sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.

**All: Great is the LORD in Zion; he is exalted over all the nations. Let them praise your great and awesome name—he is holy.**

Leader: The King is mighty, he loves justice—you have established equity; in Jacob you have done what is just and right.

**All: Exalt the LORD our God and worship at his footstool; he is holy.**

– Ps 99:1-5

#### **// Prayer of Confession //**

Dear Lord, we rejoice that in You we find our hope.

We have tried and failed to manage our lives. We have tried to guard what we say and don't say. We have tried to serve selflessly. We have tried to contain our appetites and desires. We have tried not to judge or condemn.

We have tried to control our thoughts.

The harder we try, the more obvious it becomes we cannot attain perfection. We confess our brokenness and weakness to You. We humbly thank You for forgiving our sins and washing us clean through the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### **// Assurance of Pardon //**

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. —Psalm 32:1-2

#### **// Passing of the Peace //**

In Christ there is complete peace. Peace with God. Peace with each other. That peace gives us great joy. So let's greet one another here this morning, showing what a joy it is to be together.

#### **// Benediction //**

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

Go in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and may God's peace be with you.

**All: And also with you**