



## At Home Devotion Guide

We encourage everyone to use this guide in your home this week, and to adapt it to your specific household situation. This guide can be used in one sitting or can be broken up and used throughout the week.

### Scripture Reflection

**Read passage:** Acts 15:36-41

**For young children:** Sometimes Christians have sharp disagreements with each other, but God still works in His people to share the good news of Jesus.

**For older children and adults:** In this passage, Paul and Barnabas have a sharp disagreement over John Mark's ability to be involved on their next missionary journey. Unfortunately, brothers in Christ will often disagree, but God still empowers His church to be witnesses in the world. When disagreements arise in the church we should strive to see things from the other person's point of view and determine what God wants to do in us through the situation to make us more like Christ.

**Question:** When have you had a disagreement with another Christian? What did God teach you through this experience?

**Pray:** Ask that God would increase the unity and harmony of our church.

### Weekly Catechism Questions

**For Children:** What is God's desire for all believers? *That we grow up in our salvation.*  
(1 Thessalonians 4:3; 1 Peter 2:2-3; 2 Peter 3:18).

**For older children and Adults:** With what attitude should we pray? *With love, perseverance, and gratefulness; in humble submission to God's will, knowing that, for the sake of Christ, he always hears our prayers.*  
(*The New City Catechism: Q39,*  
[http://www.newcitycatechism.com/New\\_City\\_Catechism.pdf](http://www.newcitycatechism.com/New_City_Catechism.pdf))

**Suggested Hymn:** #83, *Be Thou My Vision*

## How to Use This Guide

At Bethany, we recognize that worship is not just something that happens on Sunday morning. Though corporate worship is important, it is also important that we are striving to worship God in our homes on a regular basis. According to Donald Whitney, "God deserves to be worshiped daily in our homes by our families." This guide will help you to lead worship in your home.

**Scripture-** Begin by reading the passage from the sermon. Based on the ages of those involved, briefly discuss the meaning of the passage and how it applies to your lives.

**Catechism-** This is a great way to learn what the whole Bible teaches about a particular topic. Read the question, then read the answer. If possible, try to put the answer in your own words.

**Prayer-** Pray that God would help you obey and understand the truth that you just discussed.

**Sing-** If someone is able to lead in song, then take some time to sing to the Lord. The guide will provide a suggested hymn from *The Baptist Hymnal, 2008.*

Feel free to adapt this guide to your particular household situation. This is not meant to be a heavy burden. It is an aid in helping members of your household to grow in Christ.

**Families with young children-** Don't feel like your devotions have to be long and tedious. Start with short amounts of time, then get longer as the children get older.

**Families with older children-** Also, don't feel like your devotions have to be long and tedious. Avoid 'preaching' to your family. Instead, let the word of God speak for itself.

**Couples without children-** This guide is for you as well! Household devotions will help you go deeper in your study of God's word and grow together in Christ.

**Singles who live alone-** Utilize this guide as part of your regular devotion time.

Begin today! This discipline will help you and other members of your household grow in their walk with Christ. It will also aid you in passing on the faith to the next generation.