

## **Faith Family Worship Guide – Week 29**

### **READ & MEMORIZE:**

o Psalm 9 is a triumphant song of thanksgiving for vindication written by David. In the Psalm, David praised the Lord for manifesting His righteousness in judging wicked nations and for being a true and eternal Judge in whom the afflicted may trust. He then prayed that God would give him further cause for praise by seeing his own affliction and removing it.

o Psalm 9:1-2 David resolved to praise the Lord wholeheartedly, to tell of His wonderful deeds, to be joyful in God, and sing to Him. The word “wonderful deeds” is used frequently to describe God’s works in the Psalms and literally refers to “things extraordinary or surpassing.” Questions: What are some “wonderful deeds” of God for which you are thankful can praise God?

o Psalm 9:3-9 The cause for David’s praise is recorded in these verses. The Lord has manifested His righteousness by protecting God’s people from the evil schemes of the wicked. Notice how David gives God the credit for his enemies’ defeat in verses 4-6. Questions: In what ways do you often take credit for your successes in life? Who should receive credit for all of these things?

o Psalm 9:11-20 In view of God’s past deliverances, David now calls on God to respond to his affliction and give him reason to praise. In danger of dying, he calls on God to “lift (him) up from the gates of death” (v. 13). If delivered, he would then “tell of all Your praises” (v. 14). David then proceeds in verses 15-18 to celebrate how God defends the poor by defeating their oppressors. Questions: What truths about God’s character are most clearly seen in these verses? What affliction are you currently experiencing?

**The Bottom Line: God is just and His wonderful deeds are to be praised!**

### **MEMORIZE:**

Psalm 10:12 Arise, O Lord; O God, lift up your hand; forget not the afflicted.

### **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. Remember that 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 (Birth-Kindergarten)**

o Before you begin, gather a small reward; this could be stickers, candy, etc. Next, choose a simple chore like dusting the furniture. Explain to your child there is a small job that needs to be done and that you have set aside a reward for anyone who helps with the job. Ask the child or children if they would like to help. Explain the chore and pass out the supplies needed to complete the job. After the job is done bring everyone together. Reward one child (or adult if there is only one child) with more stickers/prize than the others. An example might be: give one child 10 stickers and the other child only 1 or 2. Now ask your children if they think this is a fair or just reward for the chore we did? No, probably not! One of us was rewarded more for our hard work than the other. Didn’t we all do the same chore? Shouldn’t we all receive the same reward? Yes, that would be the “just” or “fair” thing to do.

o The good news is, that even though we don’t always know what is “just”, “right” or “fair”, God does! God is always just and right. Ask your children if God were distributing today’s reward, how would He do that? What is fair? He would give an equal share to each person, so now you can redistribute the reward to each child has the same reward. God’s plan is always better than ours. Let’s praise God and thank Him for being our just and rightful God!

**Children (Grades 1-5)**

o After reading Psalm 9 and answering the questions, have your children complete the word search. They could do this independently, together, or even in teams if you have several school aged children. As they are finding the words, engage them in a brief discussion about what some of the words mean. (They are attributes of God...reasons that He is worthy of praise.) Tip: Encourage your children to look for words that might appear backwards in the puzzle.

o Once the word search is completed, as a family, write your own Psalm of thanksgiving and praise to God for His "wonderful deeds". Give thanks for your successes and achievements in life and for your salvation that ultimately lifts you from the gates of death. Use some of the words from the word search. Below is a sample format you may want to use. Don't be shy or intimidated! Allow every member to participate and don't "edit" it to make it "pretty". This should be heartfelt and spontaneous! The first verse and last verse come from Psalm 9.

o I will praise You, O Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonders. o Your deeds are wonderful to me. (Write 1 or 2 sentences that give specific examples of God's wonderful deeds.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. o You are worthy of praise because You are \_\_\_\_\_.

o In our time of need You \_\_\_\_\_ (Has there been grief in your family, have you been blessed by others' generosity, did your family pet run away and return home, etc.?)

o When we are afraid we can trust You. You \_\_\_\_\_ (How has God helped or comforted you when you were feeling afraid?) o We love You because \_\_\_\_\_.

o I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.

**Praise:**

- Praise God for giving us:
- Himself
- Grace and Mercy
- Salvation
- Our family
- Our church family
- What has God done in our family this week that we can give him praise?

**Pray:**

Use the ACTS model (Example below.)

- ADORATION – "He keeps His promises."
- CONFESSION – "Confess times when we have not obeyed"
- THANKSGIVING – "How has God been faithful to your family?"
- SUPPLICATION – "God encourages us to bring all of our needs and burdens to Him."
- Pray that we will live obediently to God's Word.
- Pray for your neighbors by name! Pray that God will bless them!