

The Next Chapter Family Prayer Guide | Week One



For Families

In the next chapter of 3Circle, we are called to be a church that **Gathers in Worship, Connects to Grow, and Scatters on Mission**. This week, our whole church family is **praying with one focus**: that God would gather His people to worship. Families can pray right alongside everyone else.

How to use this guide: Pick one time each day, such as breakfast, dinner, the car ride, or bedtime. It takes about 5 to 10 minutes.

- 1 Read the verse out loud together. Younger kids can repeat the short Memory Verse.
- 2 Learn by reading the short explanation.
- 3 Talk about the questions. There are no wrong answers.
- 4 Pray together. Let a different family member lead each day.
- 5 Try This if you have time. Each day has a simple activity.

Our Family Commitments

- ☐ We will gather. Our family will worship with our church family each week this season.
- ☐ We will pause to pray. We will set an alarm for 4:35 p.m. each day to remember John 4:35 and pray to “lift up our eyes.”
- ☐ We will invite one. We will ask God to show us one person or family to invite to church with us.

The person or family we will invite: _____



Day 1: Come, Let Us Worship



Key Verse: “Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!” (Psalm 95:6, ESV)

Memory Verse: “Oh come, let us worship.”

Learn: Notice the little words “let us.” God doesn’t only want us to worship Him by ourselves. He wants His family to worship Him together! We worship God because He is our Maker. He made every star, every puppy, and every person in our family. We didn’t make ourselves. God made us, and He takes care of us every day.

Talk About It:

- What is something amazing that God made?
- Why do you think God wants us to worship Him together and not just by ourselves?

Family Prayer: Dear God, You are our Maker. Thank You for making us and taking care of us. Help our family come to church ready to worship You. Help our whole church love You with happy hearts. Please bring back people who have stopped coming to church. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Try This: Kneel or bow your heads together while you pray, just like Psalm 95 says.



Day 2: Worship in Spirit and Truth



Key Verse: “But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” (John 4:23–24, ESV)

Memory Verse: “The Father is seeking people to worship him.” (John 4:23)

Learn: Jesus met a woman at a well who wanted to talk about the right place to worship. Jesus told her that what matters most is worshipping God with a heart the Holy Spirit has changed (spirit), and believing what God says is true about Himself (truth). Here is something amazing: God is looking for worshipers! God is the one who comes to find us. Because Jesus came looking for us, we get to sing to Him.

Talk About It:

- What is your favorite song to sing at church? What does it say about God?
- How does it feel to know that God came looking for you?

Family Prayer: Dear God, thank You for finding us through Jesus. Please bless our worship pastors, singers, musicians, and the people who run the sound and screens. Help them love You most of all. Help our whole church sing songs that are true about You. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Try This: Sing one worship song together as a family before you pray.



Day 3: A Devoted Church



Key Verse: “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” (Acts 2:42, ESV)

Memory Verse: “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching.”

Learn: To be devoted means to stick with something because you love it. The first church loved to learn God’s Word, spend time together, share meals, and pray. Think about a campfire. When the logs stay close together, the fire keeps burning bright. When one log rolls away by itself, it gets cold. God’s people are like that. We stay warm in our love for Jesus when we stay close to His Word and to each other.

Talk About It:

- Who is someone at church who helps you love Jesus more?
- Which of these four things could our family do more: learning God’s Word, being with church friends, being generous with our time and money, or praying?

Family Prayer: Dear God, help 3Circle be a church that loves Your Word, loves each other, and loves to pray. Help all of the 3Circle campuses be one church family. Please bring new people to know Jesus and help them feel welcome. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Try This: Invite a church friend or another family over for a meal this week.



Day 4: Pray for Our Pastor



Key Verse: “Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you.” (2 Thessalonians 3:1, ESV)

Memory Verse: “Pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead.”

Learn: Paul was a great missionary who started many churches. But even Paul asked people to pray for him! He knew that the power of a teaching doesn’t come from the preacher. It comes from God’s Word and the Holy Spirit. Paul wanted God’s Word to “speed ahead,” like a runner racing to tell good news to everyone who will listen.

Talk About It:

- What is one thing you remember from a sermon or lesson at church?
- What could we pray for Pastor Chris this week?

Family Prayer: Dear God, please bless Pastor Chris Bell as he studies Your Word and preaches. Help him be brave and faithful. Please protect his family. Help God’s Word speed ahead in our church this Sunday and help us listen and obey. Bless all our pastors and elders as they care for our church. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Try This: Write or draw a thank-you card for Pastor Chris and bring it on Sunday.



Day 5: Pray for Our Campus Pastors



Key Verse: “Shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.” (1 Peter 5:2–3, ESV)

Memory Verse: “Shepherd the flock of God that is among you.”

Learn: A shepherd takes care of sheep. He feeds them, protects them, and goes looking for the ones who wander off. God calls pastors to be shepherds for His people. Our campus pastors know the people at their campus. They visit people in the hospital and help families follow Jesus. But the sheep don’t belong to them. They belong to God! Jesus is the Great Shepherd who takes care of all of us.

Talk About It:

- How is a pastor like a shepherd?
- Who is the pastor at our campus? What is one way we could encourage him?

Family Prayer: Dear God, thank You that Jesus is our Good Shepherd. Please bless our campus pastors: Jonathon Duke at Daphne, Micah Gaston at Midtown, Aaron Miller at Robertsdale, Jourdain Thrash at Fairhope, and Nick Williams at Thomasville. Give them joy and wisdom as they care for people. Protect their families. Bring many people to worship You at every campus. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Try This: Read Psalm 23 together and talk about how God takes care of us like a shepherd.



Day 6: Do Not Neglect to Meet Together



Key Verse: “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:24–25, ESV)

Memory Verse: “Not neglecting to meet together ... but encouraging one another.” (Hebrews 10:25)

Learn: To neglect something means to forget about it or skip it. God tells us not to skip being together with His people. Church isn't only about what we get. It's also about what we give! Think about a puzzle. If one piece is missing, the picture isn't complete. When you are at church, you are part of God's picture. Your singing, your smile, and your kind words help other people love Jesus too.

Talk About It:

- How can you encourage someone at church this Sunday?
- What makes Sunday mornings hard for our family? How could we get ready on Saturday night?

Family Prayer: Dear God, help our family love going to church. Help us get ready with happy hearts. Please help families who have a hard time getting to church, people who have to work on Sundays, and people who are sick and can't come. Give us courage to invite the person You have put on our hearts. In Jesus' name, amen.

Try This: Get ready for Sunday tonight. Lay out clothes, pack bags, and pray for the person you want to invite. If you haven't invited them yet, do it today!



Day 7: Lift Up Your Eyes



Key Verse: “Jesus said to them, ‘My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. Do you not say, “There are yet four months, then comes the harvest”? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest.’” (John 4:34–35, ESV)

Memory Verse: “Lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest.” (John 4:35)

Learn: Jesus’ friends came back with lunch and said, “Jesus, eat!” But Jesus said something surprising. Doing what God wanted was even better to Him than food! Then He told them to look up. A whole town of people was walking toward Jesus to hear about Him, and many of them believed. A harvest is when farmers gather crops that are ready. Jesus was saying that people were ready to hear about Him right now. God is still gathering people today. The friends and neighbors around us are part of His harvest.

Talk About It:

- Who are some people in our neighborhood, school, or team who need to know Jesus?
- What would it look like for our family to “lift up our eyes” this week?

Family Prayer: Dear God, thank You for gathering Your people to worship You. Please fill our church today with people who want to hear Your Word. Open our eyes to see people around us who need Jesus. Use our family and every 3Circle campus to tell others about Him. Help us keep gathering to worship You every week. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Try This: On the way to or from church, look out the car window together. Pray for the homes, schools, and people you see.

