

Family Worship Guide
New Life Presbyterian Church
The Lord's Day: May 24, 2020

Call to Worship

Psalm 86:8-12

(all read together)

There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours. All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name. For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God. Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name. I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever. (ESV)

Opening Hymn

“Immortal, Invisible”

(sing or read together)

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious—Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest—to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest—the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish—but naught changeth Thee.

(continued on next page)

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render—O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

Prayer of Invocation

(head of household prays)

Heavenly Father, you seek those who will worship you in Spirit and in Truth. Today, we ask the blessing of the one who is Truth, Your Son and Our Savior Jesus Christ. Send Your Spirit, that we might be excited in our hearts to praise and worship You, with the Son and Spirit, Three Persons, yet One God, now and forever. Accept our songs, our prayers, and our confessions. Speak to us through your Word. Deliver us from the worries and miseries of this world, and delight us with the reality of the world to come. All this we ask, in the name of our Mediator and Head, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

Shorter Catechism Questions 76-78

(all recite together)

(Modern Language Version)

Q76: What is the ninth commandment?

A: The ninth commandment is: *You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.*

Q77: What is required in the ninth commandment?

A: The ninth commandment requires us to maintain and promote truth between men, and our own and our neighbor's good name, especially when called upon to bear witness.

Q78: What is forbidden in the ninth commandment?

A: The ninth commandment forbids whatever misrepresents truth, or is injurious to our own or our neighbor's good name.

Scripture References for Shorter Catechism Questions:

Q76: Exo 20:16; Deu 5:20

Q77: Zec 8:16; Acts 25:10; 3 John 1:12; Pro 14:5, 25

Q78: Lev 19:16; Psa 15:3; Pro 6:16-19; Luk 3:14

The Lord's Prayer

(all pray together)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Open Prayer Time

(head of household reads)

At this time I invite your prayer requests and thanksgivings.

(allow some time for praying out loud, then read this or pray in your own words to close the time of prayer)

Hear our praises, O Lord, not due to the eloquence of our words, but due to the worthiness of the Object of our praise. O Lord, hear our requests, not due to the worthiness of our petitions, but in your grace and mercy. Answer our prayers as is best for us and Your Glory. Not our wills, but Yours be done. This we pray, in the name of our Advocate, Jesus Christ. Amen.

(all read together)

“Now therefore, O our God, listen to the prayer of your servant and to his pleas for mercy, and for your own sake, O Lord, make your face to shine upon your sanctuary, which is desolate. O my God, incline your ear and hear. Open your eyes and see our desolations, and the city that is called by your name. For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive. O Lord, pay attention and act. Delay not, for your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people are called by your name.” (ESV)

Meditation

(Here we pause in silence to meditate upon our sin and need for forgiveness.)

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 103:8-12

(head of household reads)

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. (ESV)

(sing or read together)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this That caused the Lord of bliss,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down Beneath God’s righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb Who is the great “I Am,”
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on,
And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on.
And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on,
And through eternity I’ll sing on.

Scripture Reading

Exodus 20:16

“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.” (ESV)

Additional Reading

Exodus 23:1-9

¹ “You shall not spread a false report. You shall not join hands with a wicked man to be a malicious witness. ² You shall not fall in with the many to do evil, nor shall you bear witness in a lawsuit, siding with the many, so as to pervert justice, ³ nor shall you be partial to a poor man in his lawsuit.

⁴ “If you meet your enemy's ox or his donkey going astray, you shall bring it back to him. ⁵ If you see the donkey of one who hates you lying down under its burden, you shall refrain from leaving him with it; you shall rescue it with him.

⁶ “You shall not pervert the justice due to your poor in his lawsuit.

⁷ Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent and righteous, for I will not acquit the wicked. ⁸ And you shall take no bribe, for a bribe blinds the clear-sighted and subverts the cause of those who are in the right.

⁹ “You shall not oppress a sojourner. You know the heart of a sojourner, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt.” (ESV)

New Testament Reading

Matthew 5:33-37

³³ “Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’

³⁴ But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶ And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷ Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.” (ESV)

Sermon

“The Ninth Commandment: Lord of Truth”

(Note: the head of household may explain the passage to the family to make application or you may now play Pastor Jared’s sermon [link below])

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIHXL9a70hprumUJOMnSmXw>

Homepage: www.newlifehopewell.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/newlifehopewell/>

Closing Hymn

“Jesus Paid It All”

(sing or read together)

I hear the Savior say
“Thy strength indeed is small!
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all.”

*Refrain: Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain—
He washed it white as snow.*

Lord, now indeed I find
Thy pow’r, and Thine alone,
Can change the leper’s spots
And melt the heart of stone. *[Refrain]*

For nothing good have I Whereby
Thy grace to claim—
I’ll wash my garments white
In the blood of Calv’ry’s Lamb. *[Refrain]*

And when before the throne
I stand in Him complete,
“Jesus died my soul to save,”
My lips shall still repeat. *[Refrain]*

(head of household reads)

Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. GOD, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places. (ESV)

Table Talk

(These are questions to talk about over the dinner table, or for your own devotions, based on the text and sermon this week)

- 1) How does the Ninth Commandment help us understand the nature of God?

- 2) How is this command rejected in today's society?

- 3) In what ways are we tempted to violate the Ninth Commandment in our jobs? With our relationships? In our hearts?

- 4) How does Jesus apply this commandment in the Sermon on the Mount?

- 5) How does Jesus fulfill this commandment?

Dive Deeper: Larger Catechism (Modern English Version)

Q144: What does the ninth commandment require?

A: The ninth commandment requires that we maintain and promote truthfulness in our dealings with each other and the good reputation of others as well as ourselves. We must come forward and stand up for the truth, speaking the truth and nothing but the truth from our hearts, sincerely, freely, clearly, and without equivocation, not only in all matters relating to the law and justice but in any and every circumstance whatsoever. We must have a charitable regard for others, loving, desiring, and rejoicing in their good reputation as well as regretting and putting the best light on their failings. We must freely acknowledge their talents and gifts, defending their innocence, readily receiving a good report about them and reluctantly admitting a bad one. We should discourage gossips, flatterers, and slanderers; we should love and protect our own good reputation and defend it when necessary; we should keep every lawful promise we make no matter what; and finally we should do the best we can to focus our lives and thoughts on things that are true, noble, lovely, and admirable.

Q145: What particular sins does the ninth commandment forbid?

A: The ninth commandment forbids everything detrimental to the truth and the good reputation of others as well as our own, with special reference to legal matters in the courts. We must not give untrue evidence, suborn perjury, knowingly appear and plead on behalf of an evil cause, or engage in overbearing and boastful exaggeration. We should never participate in passing an unjust sentence, call evil good or good evil, or reward the wicked in a way appropriate to the righteous or the righteous in a way appropriate to the wicked. Forgery is forbidden, as is concealing the truth, remaining silent in a just cause, and not taking it on ourselves to reprove or complain to others about some wrong. We must not speak the truth at an inappropriate time, or maliciously to promote a wrong purpose, nor pervert it into a wrong meaning, into ambiguous equivocations, or in such ways as to undermine truth and justice. Also forbidden are: saying anything untrue, as well as lying, slandering, backbiting, belittling, gossiping, whispering, ridiculing, reviling, and expressing any kind of judgmental opinion that is rash, harsh, or prejudiced; misconstruing intentions, words, and actions; flattery and ostentatious boasting; thinking or speaking too highly or too poorly of ourselves or others; denying the gifts of God or the effects of his grace on us; exaggerating the significance of trivial faults; concealing, excusing, or rationalizing our sinful behavior when we are called to confess it voluntarily; gratuitously revealing the problems and failings of others; spreading false rumors, receiving and approving evil reports, and refusing to listen to a just defense; harboring evil suspicions; being envious of or grieved by the deserved honors others receive, trying to discredit those honors, and rejoicing at someone else's disgrace or evil reputation; scornful contempt and foolish admiration; breaking our lawful promises; and, finally, failing to promote everyone's good name, and doing, not avoiding, or not hindering in others, as we can, those things that give people a bad name.

Scripture proofs for Questions available here:

<https://www.pcaac.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Larger-CatechismwithScriptureProofs2.pdf>