



PRACTICAL TIPS  
FOR WORSHIPPING  
TOGETHER AS A  
FAMILY

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not try to stop them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." **MATT 19:14**

## WORSHIPPING TOGETHER AS AN EXPRESSION OF FAITH

*“You are standing today, all of you, before the LORD your God: the heads of your tribes, your elders, and your officers, all the men of Israel, your little ones, your wives, and the sojourner who is in your camp, from the one who chops your wood to the one who draws your water, so that you may enter into the sworn covenant of the LORD your God, which the LORD your God is making with you today, that he may establish you today as his people, and that he may be your God, as he promised you, and as he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.” Deut 29:10-13*

**S**unday Worship Service is an important expression of faith and a vital part of the Christian life. Gathering together in God’s presence was common in the Old and New Testament. In corporate worship, families declare with one voice that Jesus is Lord over and above all things (Col 1:15-20).

By worshipping together as a whole family, a child learns that God is her parents’ supreme treasure and this is a vital way to honour Him. Children learn to set apart time from play to meet God just as parents put aside other things because they want to worship Him



Young children can be intentionally worship-trained to sit through a Sunday service. By being seated next to their parents, a young child observes how her parents respond in faith or express their devotion and give God their fullest attention. May the discipline of worshipping together bring joy to your family. ■

# WORSHIP-TRAINING YOUR CHILDREN FOR SUNDAY SERVICE



Since worship is such a valuable activity in God's eyes, we cannot overstate the cumulative impact it has on growing children when the whole family attends worship service together. Here are some tips and guidelines to make worship a happier and fuss-free experience

**1. Start worship training early in the home.** As parents, set an example in faith and practice. Let conversation about God, Bible reading and prayer be a part of the Christian home. (Prov 22:6)

**2. Establish parental authority.** Set boundaries. Teach your child first-time obedience, where she is expected to hear and obey immediately. (Col 3:20). Over time, the child learns prompt obedience pleases her Heavenly Father.

**3. Schedule sit-still time.** This is the time to be in one place for a quiet activity such as reading, a read-aloud, or family devotion. Reference Scripture to talk about waiting and being still at appropriate times (Ps 37:7). Increase the duration gradually.



**4. Walk the child through the worship service.** Let your child know the service has a certain order. There is a time to sing, stand, sit, pray, and a time to be quiet to listen to God's word.

Establish parental authority. Teach your child first-time obedience





Worship hour is precious so we are careful not to disregard God who has lovingly invited us into His presence



**5. Explain the ground rules often.** Frame them as necessary discipline because we are meeting the Almighty God together as a family. When we meet for worship with others, everyone observes the same rules and order of service.

**6. Behave.** Worship hour is precious, so we are careful not to disregard God who has lovingly invited us into His presence. Therefore, we shall sit and not walk or play about during the service so we do not disturb others who have come to worship too.

**7. Let the child have her own Bible.** Let very young children hold their own Bibles, even if they are not good readers yet. It adds significance to the worship experience. If the child is old enough to read and write, give her worship notes to aid attentiveness.

**8. Inculcate a good worship attitude.** Avoid giving the child things that take their minds off of God. Electronic devices, school books or storybooks, encourage a child to switch off from giving God and the worship service her full attention.

**9. Let children stay throughout the sermon.** A young child may not catch everything in the beginning, but removing her elsewhere gives the

impression that the hearing of God's word is less important than other parts of the worship service.

**10. Remove a restless child quietly and quickly.**

Take her to a designated family area until she is calm. If the difficulty remains, deal with it privately at home. Do not prolong the episode, but affirm the child after disciplinary action is taken.

**11. Keep questions till later as far as possible.**

When a child has questions keep your answers short. Commend and assure her that you will have a more meaningful discussion later after the service or in the home.

**12. Develop the habit of note-taking.** For the child who has learned to read and write, notes are a memory aid and helps develop thoughtfulness.

**13. Familiarise your children with service.** Get them accustomed to worshipping in church by naming objects, people and order of service as well as components of the worship event. Tell them they too can serve when they are old enough.

Serving alongside adults sends the message that everyone can serve God



**14. Introduce the child.** Let her get to know people across different age groups so she knows she's a part of the congregation. If you are serving, let your child help. Serving alongside adults sends the message that everyone can serve God.

**15. Talk about the service at home.** Through the week, talk about the worship experience as a family – scripture, parts of the sermon, the songs, a new word, even a sensation that was felt. Impress upon the child that the

worship experience also inspires Mom and Dad to be more obedient and faithful to God.





The Christian journey is a lifelong adventure with the Lord at the head and its centre. Join us as we travel together and discover God's purpose for our lives.

## **HOPE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH**

No 6 -1 & 8 - 1, Blk 3A, Jln Wangsa Delima 10,  
Seksyen 5, Wangsa Maju, 53300 Kuala Lumpur

Email: [hopeefcwangsamaju@gmail.com](mailto:hopeefcwangsamaju@gmail.com)

Web: [hope-efc.com](http://hope-efc.com)



Follow us on HopeEFC