

**Horton Road Church of Christ**  
**Home Devotional Guide**  
**July 3-9, 2011**

It is important to worship the Lord together on Sundays, as the church of Christ gathers to pray, sing, share in remembrance and proclamation around the Lord's Table, and hear God's Word taught. But it is also important that God's Word is heard in our homes throughout the week.

In Acts 2:42-47, we learn that the early church met daily for fellowship, prayer, and teaching. One outstanding way to do this is as a family. The Bible teaches us that fathers are to “bring them [their children] up in the training and instruction of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4). Combined with 1 Timothy 3:5 and Titus 1:6-7, which describe an elder as an effective manager of faith in his household, we learn that we have a responsibility to make sure that the faith is taught in our households.

This booklet is provided as an aid to reading and teaching the Bible in your homes.

**How to Use this Booklet**

*As an individual*

1. At a time when you can concentrate, read the assigned Bible passage for the day.
2. Consider using a journal where you can record your observations, notes, and answers to the questions. This will allow you to go back over time and note how you've grown in knowledge and wisdom, as well as give you more material to discuss with your family (if you are leading your family in this).
3. Use the daily prayer focus as a supplement to your regular prayers. Use the focus statement to pray for you and others.

*As a family*

1. The one leading the devotional time should read the assigned Bible passage ahead of time, preferably in the morning, making notes and writing down observations. This way, you will be ready to lead your family in discussion and prayer.
2. Gather your family together at a convenient time when all of you can concentrate. Each family member should have a Bible (preferably the same translation).
3. Read the passage out loud. This can be shared among a family by each person reading a verse or two, or one person can read the passage while the rest follow along in their own Bibles.
4. Discuss any thoughts or questions that arose from the reading.
5. Use the provided questions for further discussion. Focus the discussion on application. Be careful not to talk about doctrine only but teach and discuss application.
6. Use the daily prayer focus as a supplement to your family prayers. Use it to frame your prayer and focus the prayer requests from your family.

**Sunday – Read Psalm 119:97-120 and John 1:1-18**

1. What did you find most profitable in these scriptures? Why?
2. What did you find most profitable in this morning's sermon? Why?
3. How will you apply what you learned?

Prayer focus: Pray for the wisdom to understand God's word and to apply it to your life.

## **Monday – Psalm 119:97-120**

1. What is this psalm about?
2. From this psalm, what do you learn about how, or in what ways, should the word of God be understood and applied?
3. What examples does this writer give about the value of God's word?
4. How do you value God's word?

Prayer focus: For God's word to lead you into greater faith.

## **Tuesday – Psalm 119:97-120**

1. What things has the writer learned about God and following God?
2. What has he learned about the wicked?
3. How does God's word help him avoid wickedness?
4. How do you apply God's word to help you grow in faith and avoid wickedness?

Prayer focus: For greater dedication in following God.

## **Wednesday – John 1:1-18 (1-5)**

1. How does John describe Jesus?
2. What comparisons can you make between God's creation of the world and the declaration of Jesus as the “Word”?
3. How powerful is the light that Jesus brings into the world?
4. How is Jesus God's word to you?

Prayer focus: For growth in God through his word, Jesus.

### **Thursday – John 1:1-18 (6-13)**

1. What was John's role? Why is this important?
2. How was Jesus received by the world?
3. What did Jesus do for those who did receive him?
4. What evidences would you expect to see in someone's life who has received Jesus?

Prayer focus: To be a strong witness to Jesus, the light of the world.

### **Friday – John 1:1-18 (14-18)**

1. What did the Word do?
2. What did the Word reveal?
3. What have we received from the Word?
4. Do you approach God through law, or through grace and truth?  
What do you need to do to live by grace and truth?

Prayer focus: For a stronger experience of God's grace and truth.

### **Saturday – Read Psalm 119:121-144 and John 1:19-51**

1. What are the main themes of these sections of scripture?
2. How do these sections of scripture develop and extend the teaching from the earlier sections you studied this week?
3. How do they help you prepare for Sunday worship?

Prayer focus: To be prepared to hear the word of the Lord on Sunday.