

Getting Ready to Worship

By Christy Huffman



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Getting out the door to make it to worship on time can be a trying experience for parents and children. Create a preparation ritual to help your family get ready to worship at your church, whether on Sunday morning, Saturday night, or during the week.

For
Young Family

Season
Winter

Needed

Cloth bag, children's Bible story books, pencils, spiral notebook for each child, crayons, quiet toys

Activity Plan

1. The night before worship, gather family members. (Or, if worship is in the evening, gather in the morning on that day.) Say this prayer to begin:

Good and gracious God, we are your people and we want to worship you. Thank you for helping us get ready to worship you with the people at our church. Amen.

2. Being mindful of the weather, have each family member set out a complete outfit to wear to worship, including socks, underwear, and shoes. Help younger children as needed.
3. Have each child, with help as needed, pick out a Bible story book and a quiet toy to place in the cloth bag. Make sure there are crayons, pencils, and a spiral notebook for each child in the bag. (If your family includes a baby, be sure the diaper bag is packed with essentials, including a favorite blankie or toy.) Set the cloth bag by the door.
4. Plan the meal you will eat before you leave for church and set the time you will eat it. Assign each family member a role in the meal preparation, such as setting the table, preparing the food, getting drinks, or clearing the table after eating.
5. After these preparations are complete, gather family members and do one or both of the following:
 - If your church follows the lectionary of Sunday scripture readings, use these links to find and read aloud the Gospel reading for this Sunday: [Revised Common Lectionary](#) or [Catholic Lectionary](#).
 - Invite family members to tell what they like most about worship at your church.

