

## **FHBC Family,**

Our purpose, mission, and vision at Fortified Hills is to make much of God by making disciples of Jesus Christ among all peoples. In our aim to faithfully make disciples we recognize the incredible God given privilege and responsibility parents have in the discipleship of their children. This resource is just one of the ways that we want to continue to come alongside you as parents as you seek to lead your families to know and follow Christ.

Some of you may have already established a rhythm of family worship in your homes while for others this may be completely new. Christians throughout the history of the church have found the home to be a natural and important place of worship. While our kids and student ministries are not meeting as usual we wanted to make sure that you were well equipped to continue to disciple your families. In fact, even when these ministries are meeting normally we hope this remains an important part of your family's week.

One of the keys to worshipping together as a family is simply to have a plan. Since you are most likely spending much more time at home this is a perfect time to add an intentional time together as a family. Pick one time a week and designate that as the time when you will gather as a family and spend some time in worship.

Remember this doesn't have to be long or formal but you can simply follow the short guide we have here. This guide requires no preparation and is connected to what we are doing together on Sunday mornings.

Each week the guide will contain four main elements: Sing, Read, Teach, and Pray. You could do the whole thing in 15 minutes as a family or if the discussion is going well feel free to go longer. Remember to give yourself grace and trust that the Lord will supply what you need. It won't always be smooth and it may sometimes feel like little was accomplished. The key is just to spend regular time together in worship and point each other to Jesus. Think of ways to make this time interactive and engage your kids.

You aren't in this alone. The Lord is with you and so are we. Feel free to share with us how your worship together is going. We would love to help you with any struggles you may be facing and celebrate all the victories. Know that we are praying for you each week as we send out this resource. We are so excited to see what the Lord does as he works in and through you and your families.

**Grace and Peace,  
Josh Price**

## **Sing – His Mercy Is More**

What love could remember no wrongs we have done  
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

(Chorus)

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more  
Stronger than darkness, new every morn  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam  
What Father, so tender, is calling us home  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us  
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

## **Read - Acts 27:13-26**

<sup>13</sup> Now when the south wind blew gently, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, they weighed anchor and sailed along Crete, close to the shore. <sup>14</sup> But soon a

tempestuous wind, called the northeaster, struck down from the land. <sup>15</sup> And when the ship was caught and could not face the wind, we gave way to it and were driven along. <sup>16</sup> Running under the lee of a small island called Cauda,<sup>[a]</sup> we managed with difficulty to secure the ship's boat. <sup>17</sup> After hoisting it up, they used supports to undergird the ship. Then, fearing that they would run aground on the Syrtis, they lowered the gear,<sup>[b]</sup> and thus they were driven along. <sup>18</sup> Since we were violently storm-tossed, they began the next day to jettison the cargo. <sup>19</sup> And on the third day they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. <sup>20</sup> When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small tempest lay on us, all hope of our being saved was at last abandoned.

<sup>21</sup> Since they had been without food for a long time, Paul stood up among them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me and not have set sail from Crete and incurred this injury and loss. <sup>22</sup> Yet now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship.<sup>23</sup> For this very night there stood before me an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I worship, <sup>24</sup> and he said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar. And behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.' <sup>25</sup> So take heart, men, for I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told. <sup>26</sup> But we must run aground on some island."

## Questions to Discuss

*You may want to take a moment to look in the maps in the back of your Bible to see where Paul is on his voyage to Rome. Use this as a reference in your discussion.*

1. How would you describe Paul's voyage on the sea at this point? (*Stormy, Scary, Bad, They are hungry, Hopeless – v20*)
2. What brings Paul (and the sailors) hope in this hopeless situation? (*Promises from God – v24-25*)
3. We see in this that we have a God who keeps his promises. What are some promises that he has made to us? (*Hebrews 13:5; Philippians 1:6; Romans 10:9; there are many other places you could go here as well.*)
4. Let's think about some times that we have had to rely on God's promises in hard situations. (*Parents, take some time to share with your kids, and remind yourself, when you had to trust in God's promises in your life or in your family.*)

## Teach – New City Catechism

How many persons are there in God?

K: There are three persons in one God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

A: There are three persons in the one true and living God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. They are the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

## Pray

Pray from the text:

1. Praise God for Him being both a promise-making and a promise-keeping God.
2. Pray that God would help us in the midst of temptation and hopelessness to trust in His promises.

Ask if anyone has anything specific they would like to pray for and include that in your prayer time as well.