Six Days of Family Worship

Christ Is First in Everything (September 21–26 • Colossians 1:1–2)

Instructions: Choose either the longer or shorter Scripture reading. Read it aloud, ask the questions that fit your children, sing or listen to the day's song, and finish by praying together. Keep it simple and warm; even 7–12 minutes can establish a meaningful family rhythm. Encourage every child to participate, even if a prayer is only one sentence.

One Truth for the Week

Because we belong to Christ, he defines our calling and identity and supplies the grace and peace we need.

Day 1 — A Letter for God's People

LONGER READING
Colossians 1:1–2, 15–20; 4:16

SHORTER READING
Colossians 1:1–2

The main idea: **Paul wrote to a real church in a small, overlooked town. The believers in Colosse mattered to God because they belonged to Christ. This letter was shared with other churches and preserved for us. Rusk Bible Church is not an afterthought in God's plan either. Jesus is the head of his church, and he deserves first place in everything.**

Younger Children

- Who wrote this letter?
- Who were the people in Colosse?
- Did Jesus know their little church?
- Who should be first in everything?

Older Children

- Why might people have overlooked Colosse?
- Why were the believers there important to God?
- Why did Paul want the letter shared?
- What would it look like for Christ to be first in our family?

Sing: **This Is My Father's World — Reawaken Hymns**
This hymn reminds us that Christ rules his world and faithfully cares for his people in every place.
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SCAN

Prayer Points

- Thank Jesus for knowing and loving his church.
- Ask Christ to be first in your family's life.
- Pray for Rusk Bible Church to represent Jesus faithfully.

Pray Together

Lord Jesus, thank you for knowing and loving your church. Help our family and Rusk Bible Church live with you first in everything. Amen.

Parent note: **Help children see that a church does not have to be large or famous to matter. Christ knows his people and works through them where he has placed them.**

Day 2 — Christ Calls Us to Himself

LONGER READING
Colossians 1:1; Acts 9:1–19

SHORTER READING
Acts 9:3–6, 15

The main idea: **Paul was an apostle because the risen Jesus had chosen and sent him. Paul had once fought against Jesus by harming his people the church, but in mercy Christ saved him. Grace changed both whom Paul trusted and what he lived for. Every Christian begins the same way: Jesus calls sinners to turn from self-rule, trust him, and belong to him.**

Younger Children

- Was Paul being kind to Christians at first?
- Who met Paul on the road?
- Did Jesus show Paul mercy?
- Who calls us to trust him?

Older Children

- What made Paul's calling an act of grace?
- How did meeting Jesus change Paul's future?
- Why must our calling begin with faith in Christ?
- Where is Jesus calling you to trust him today?

Sing: **Jesus Strong and Kind — CityAlight**
This song invites sinners and needy people to come to Jesus, who calls us with mercy and kindness.
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Prayer Points

- Thank Jesus for calling sinners with mercy.
- Ask God to help each family member trust Christ personally.
- Pray for someone who needs to hear Jesus' call.

Pray Together

Merciful Jesus, thank you for calling sinners to yourself. Help each of us trust you and follow wherever you lead. Amen.

Parent note: **Keep the order clear: we do not first improve ourselves and then come to Jesus. Christ graciously calls sinners to trust him, and his grace changes us.**

Day 3 — Christ Directs Our Calling

LONGER READING
Colossians 1:1; Ephesians 2:8–10; 2 Corinthians 5:17–20

SHORTER READING
Ephesians 2:8–10

Talk it through: **Paul's work as an apostle was a special calling, but every believer is called to represent Jesus. Our calling begins with belonging to Christ and continues wherever he has placed us. Children can reflect him at home and school, teenagers among friends, and adults at work, in retirement, or through illness. We do not serve to earn his love; his love and grace gives us a new life and purpose.**

Younger Children

- Who gives Christians work to do?
- Can children show others what Jesus is like?
- Do good works make Jesus love us?
- Where can you show Jesus' love today?

Older Children

- How is every Christian's calling different from Paul's apostleship?
- Why does service grow from grace rather than earn grace?
- How can hard circumstances become a place to represent Christ?
- Whom has Jesus placed in front of you to love faithfully?

Sing: **Only a Holy God — CityAlight**
This song turns our attention to the holy Lord who calls us to belong to him and live for his glory.
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Prayer Points

- Thank God for good work he gives his people to do.
- Ask for grace to represent Jesus where he has placed you.
- Pray for courage to love one person faithfully this week.

Pray Together

Lord Jesus, thank you that we do not earn your love by serving. Give us grace to represent you faithfully where you have placed us. Amen.

Parent note: **Avoid reducing calling to a future career. A child who trusts Jesus can represent him today, while every Christian depends on grace to serve faithfully.**

Day 4 — Our Identity Is in Christ

LONGER READING
Colossians 1:2; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 3:26–29

SHORTER READING
Colossians 1:2

Talk it through: **The Colossians lived in a particular city, but Paul said their deepest identity was "in Christ." Our abilities, failures, popularity, family, work, or pain may describe part of our story, but they do not define us. Everyone who trusts Jesus is forgiven, set apart for God, and joined to Christ. We obey because we are in Christ.**

Younger Children

- Where did the believers live?
- Who did they belong to?
- Does being fast or popular tell you who you are?
- If you trust Jesus, whose are you?

Older Children

- What is the difference between living in Colosse and living "in Christ"?
- Which labels can compete with our identity in Christ?
- Why does obedience grow from belonging?
- What label or achievement do you need to place under Christ?

Sing: **Amazing Grace — Reawaken Hymns**
This hymn celebrates the grace that gives lost sinners a new life and identity in Christ.
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Prayer Points

- Thank Jesus for giving believers a new identity.
- Confess a label or achievement you have placed above Christ.
- Ask God to help your family live from belonging to Jesus.

Pray Together

Father, thank you that everyone who has faith in Jesus belongs to him. Help us hear your truth above every other label and live as your people. Amen.

Parent note: **Speak carefully about labels children carry. Do not dismiss real struggles; show that Christ's word about those who trust him is deeper and more lasting.**

Day 5 — We Belong to God's Family

LONGER READING
Colossians 1:1–2; Ephesians 2:19–22; John 13:34–35

SHORTER READING
Ephesians 2:19

Talk it through: **Paul called Timothy "our brother" and the Colossians "brothers and sisters." Jesus does not save us into a lonely life. He brings believers into God's family, where different ages and backgrounds learn to love, forgive, serve, and grow together. The church is more than a meeting we attend. It is a family that belongs to Christ and helps one another live with him first.**

Younger Children

- What did Paul call Timothy?
- What did he call the Christians?
- Does Jesus give us a church family?
- How can we love someone at church?

Older Children

- Why does Paul use family words for the church?
- What unites Christians who differ in age or background?
- Why is church more than a weekly meeting?
- How can you strengthen someone in God's family this week?

Sing: **Great Is Thy Faithfulness — Reawaken Hymns**
This hymn praises our faithful Father, who supplies what his family needs day after day.
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Prayer Points

- Thank God for brothers and sisters in Christ.
- Ask for patience, forgiveness, and love in the church.

Pray for one person or family at RBC by name.

Pray Together

Father, thank you for bringing us into your family through Jesus. Teach us to love, forgive, encourage, and serve our brothers and sisters. Amen.

Parent note: **Family language should lead to practical love. Help children name one way your family can encourage or serve someone in the church.**

Day 6 — Grace Gives Us Peace

LONGER READING
Colossians 1:2; Romans 5:1–11; Philippians 4:6–7

SHORTER READING
Romans 5:1–2

Talk it through: **“Grace and peace” is more than a polite greeting. Grace is God’s undeserved favor that saves and sustains us. Peace is the settled security of being reconciled to God through Jesus. Grace comes first: we cannot build lasting peace by controlling every circumstance. Because Christ died and rose for us, we can come to our Father, receive what we need, and rest in his care.**

Younger Children

- Who gives us grace?
- What did Jesus do for our sins?
- Can we come to Jesus when we are afraid?
- Who gives us peace with God?

Older Children

- What is grace, and why must it come before peace?
- How is peace with God different from easy circumstances?
- Where are you trying to control what you need to entrust to Christ?
- How does the gospel help you bring that need to God?

Sing: **There Is One Gospel — CityAlight**
This song centers our hope on Jesus, whose death and resurrection bring sinners grace and peace.
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Prayer Points

- Thank God for saving grace and peace with him.
- Bring Jesus one fear, failure, or need you cannot control.
- Ask the Father to help your family rest in Christ’s care.

Pray Together

Father, thank you for giving us grace through Jesus and peace with you. Help us bring our fears and needs to Christ and rest in your care. Amen.

Parent note: **Do not promise that faith removes every hard circumstance. Point children to peace with God and the faithful presence of Christ in the middle of trouble.**