

Faith *in* Focus

PRACTICAL HANDOUTS AND FAMILY GUIDES

The Family Altar

A GUIDE TO FAMILY WORSHIP

A "family altar" is simply a regular time when your family meets with God together. It doesn't need to be long or fancy — faithful and simple is best.

◆ Pick a time that fits your family

Choose a moment you're already together — after supper, before bed, or the start of the day. Ten to fifteen minutes is plenty. Guard the time and keep it.

◆ Keep it simple — four parts

- 1 **Read** — a few verses or a short Bible story.
- 2 **Talk** — ask one or two questions: What does this teach us about God? What can we do?
- 3 **Pray** — let each person pray, even one sentence. Keep a family prayer list.
- 4 **Sing** — one chorus or hymn you all know.

◆ Make it stick

- ✦ Same time, same place builds the habit.
- ✦ Let children help — read, pick the song, or say the prayer.
- ✦ Add a weekly memory verse (see Scripture Seeds).
- ✦ Miss a day? Simply begin again the next.

*"These words which I command you today shall be in your heart... you shall teach them diligently to your children."
— Deuteronomy 6:6-7 (NKJV)*