



# **WELCOME To WORSHIP**

A Guide for Family Discussion

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
SMITHFIELD  
FALL 2020**

## Parent's Information

**Can you believe it!! Your child is in First Grade!** Even though it looks different this year, we want to acknowledge this milestone and encourage your child to join with the church family in worship each week as soon as your family is comfortable returning to the sanctuary. We have taken steps to create a safer environment. You may look on our website to see more about how things are set up as people enter, sit and engage in worship together. **IN THE MEANTIME, THE ONLINE SERVICE IS AN EXCELLENT WAY TO TEACH YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT WORSHIP EVEN BEFORE THEY COME IN THE SANCTUARY!** No worries about wiggles and whispers!! (note: worship service is live @ 10AM beginning August 23<sup>rd</sup> through October 25<sup>th</sup> on a trial basis)

**Welcome to Worship** will be different, too! We are going to do a series of videos and post them on our website each week for you to view at your convenience. May I suggest that you set up a family time to view the short video and then discuss what you have seen? I understand that the last thing you need is a list of things to do, so I have designed this to be a family discussion following the video. We all need the daily practice of centering our thoughts on God. It can be as natural to us as daily table blessings, a scripture verse spoken when we "rise up" and when we "lie down". Ask God to give you the desire to meet Him with your children. He will

certainly be pleased that you are teaching your children to put Him first.

**Video #1:** "Who Works at Church?" Meet the staff!

**Family Talk:** Who do you know that works at our church? After seeing the video, can you tell me who the music minister is...the youth minister...the secretary...etc. What are some of the things they do to help us know God and take care of others? Have you ever been to the church office? Have you ever been to Mrs. Amy's office? You are always welcome to visit! We would love to see you. It's ok to bring cookies, too!!

**Video #2:** "Come to Worship: Creating Sacred Space"

**Family Talk:** Our worship is a time to praise and thank God. Tell me something you know about God. Finish this statement: "God is \_\_\_\_\_" Let everyone in the family complete the sentence. What does the Bible say about God? I John 4:16, Psalm 77:13, Psalm 118:1, Deuteronomy 4:31 and 39. Maybe these verses can help start your talk. When and where could your family create "sacred space" each day?

**Video #3:** “There’s a LOT to do during a Worship Service!!”

**Family Talk:** Name one thing from the video that you can do in a worship service at church. Can these things be done at home, too? (Print a bulletin from the church website or look at one sent to you by mail)

**Words to explore:** bulletin, hymnal, prelude, offertory, pews, scripture reading, prayers of confession, sermon, benediction, i.e.

Discuss the service bulletin and talk about how it helps you to be ready to participate in the service as a worshiper. We can look up scripture and follow along when it is read. We can stand and sing the songs together. We can listen to quiet music and to people praying. We can pray silently. Should we close our eyes? We can give our offering of money. We can listen to the pastor and use our children’s bulletin, too. Watch an online service together and discuss as you participate in the worship.



**Video #4:** “Make a JOYFUL Noise for God!”

**Family Talk:** What is a hymn? Do you have a favorite hymn? What instruments do you like to hear in a worship service? How does the quiet music help us worship God? Why is it important to stand when we sing together at church? Make or Color a **bookmark** to use in the hymn book. Get in the habit of finding the hymns before each one is sung. How do the words of hymns help us learn about God? How do they help us show love to God? (Bookmarks are included for you in the Welcome to Worship bag we are delivering!)

**Video #5:** “What do I do when the Pastor preaches?”

**Family Talk:** How does the pastor prepare to share the Bible with the people? What does God want me to do while the pastor preaches? How can reading and listening to the reading from the Bible help me to be ready for the sermon? How can a pencil and piece of paper help me to “listen”?

**Video #6:** “The Church uses the Offering to do God’s Work”

**Family Talk:** What did you learn from the video about the money that is given at church? What Bible verse could you learn to help you remember that giving pleases God? How does our family give? In addition to your regular offering, what extra could you give for special mission offerings? Could you give up something in order to have more to share? If you get an allowance or money for chores, give at least 10 % to a church offering/mission. [Some children have used their birthdays as a way to collect for a charity instead of getting gifts!]

**Video #7:** “The B-I-B-L-E “

Family Talk: How can we show God honor and respect by using our Bibles? What is your favorite Bible verse? Make or Color a Bible bookmark. Look up the Bible passage for each Sunday’s service and put a bookmark there. Challenge: Look up the daily Bible readings from your Sunday School lessons each week. Learn the memory verse. Write it and put it on your mirror or refrigerator. Practice saying it at meals and other times.

Last year, you may have received the Discoverer’s Bible, which is the Bible used in our Sunday School department. If you did not receive one, we will give present them on September 27<sup>th</sup>. We can use our Bibles to learn more about God and how He wants us to live. Put your Bible in a special place where you will see it and use it every day. Mine is on my kitchen table!

