

His Throne in Your Home

A week to highlight the majesty of God's Son
and the importance of faith being lived out in every Christian home.

A Crisis in Christology

For forty days after his resurrection, Christ appeared to His followers to provide instruction and inspiration. On the fortieth day He ascended to heaven from the Mount of Olives. (According to the Christian calendar, Ascension Day will be celebrated on Thursday, May 13 in 2010). As God the Son returned to heaven, God the Father enthroned Him at His right hand. In this age of the church, the Son reigns in supremacy for the glory of the Father by the power of the Spirit.

A broad swath of the American church has lost sight of the glorious majesty of the Son. Many think of Him more as a mascot than a Monarch. They speak to Him only with requests to make their lives more prosperous, happy, and stress free.

Many believers have drifted so far in their view of the Son, they almost need to be “re-converted” back to all He truly is today. A focus on *His Throne in Your Home*, May 9-16, leads in that direction.

A Crisis in the Role of the Home

In recent years parents have tended to outsource the spiritual formation of children and others in their family to the church. Visionary church leaders now are restoring the biblical pattern for discipling children and teens—moving congregations from church-centered and family-supported to family-centered and church-supported.

Spending May 9-16 focusing on the ascension, enthronement, and reign of Christ at home provides an ideal opportunity to guide parents into spiritual leadership. The week also highlights the home as the primary arena for spiritual formation of the next generation.

Preaching

To multiply impact, pastors might preach sermons with themes similar to these:

Sunday Morning, May 9: **God's Plan for Faith at Home**

- Living to please God in the privacy of our homes. “Who we are at home is who we really are.”
- Family members seeking to encourage one another in faith. “The Great Commission begins at home.”
- Parents turning their hearts to their children and taking primary responsibility to disciple their children at home (Deut. 6).

Sunday Morning, May 16: **God's Son: Mascot or Monarch?**

- The Son—Majestic from Eternity Past
- The Son—Enthroned at the Right Hand of the Father
- The Son—Reigning for Eternity Future

May 16 also will be a time to hear and celebrate stories of families that have seen the majesty of Christ in fresh new ways.

Home Experiences

Sunday Afternoon (May 9)

Households of one or many will choose a chair at home to represent Christ's throne. They will drape across the chair a cloth or paper sash with the name of Christ. Many will close the day with prayers of anticipation and consecration for the week that will follow.

Evening Meals (May 10-13)

Families will move the throne to the dining table and set a place for the King each evening meal. Those families of one will acknowledge Christ finds delight in them, and the symbol of Christ's throne may facilitate deeper prayer and personal worship. They will commune with Him as they eat. Families of two or more will allow Christ to enjoy the laughter and stories of the day.

Media

Families will move the throne to face the TV or computer one or more times during the week. Parents can ask the family what they believe Christ would want to watch or which websites He would want to surf.

Evening Family Worship

Everyone in the church will be encouraged to take time each evening in their home to worship God. For households with children, Scripture, conversation, and prayer will be shaped to fit the ages of children. In preparation for Ascension Day, worship will emphasize these themes:

Monday: The Son's Eternal Existence and Role in Creation

Tuesday: The Son's Death in our Place

Wednesday: The Resurrection of the Son

Ascension Day (Thursday, May 13)

The family worship guide for this special evening will include Scripture, conversation, and prayer shaped around these three themes:

The Ascension of Christ: Mark 16:15-19

The Enthronement of the Son: Hebrews 1:1-3, 13

Christ's Return and Eternal Reign: Acts 1:9-11

Family Worship Guides

Family Worship Guides for the evenings of May 10-13 will be available online beginning March 31, at www.visionaryparenting.com/familyworship.htm. Leaders can go to that site now to see similar worship guides. The worship guides for *His Throne in Your Home* are written by Dr. Rob Rienow (Family Pastor for Wheaton Bible Church and founder of Visionary Parenting) in consultation with Dr. Richard Ross (Professor of Student Ministry at Southwestern Baptist Seminary).

Churches may make unlimited copies of the guides.

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