

TEACHING FOR TRANSFORMATION (TFT) RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

Continuing Christian Education at Home

TFT can be summarized through the phrase: **"See the Story: Live the Story"**

We need to recognize that we are all part of God's Story. We are part of His Grand Narrative! And we are all invited to play a role in this unfolding Story. Once we know this fact, then our next step is to figure out how to play our part in this Story. TFT provides 10 ways to think about this and we call these ways Throughlines. We can be on the lookout for Throughlines in all areas of our life: on a walk outdoors, in the media that we consume, in the science that we study, in the books that we read. But it is not enough to just talk about the Throughlines, we need to invite students to BE the Throughlines. For example, as we learn about Community Building, we need to create opportunities to BE Community Builders.

You have probably heard about TFT already, as your child's teachers use this framework. The Prairie Centre for Christian Education (<https://pcce.ca/>), with the help of some of our fantastic member schools, has created some resources to help you integrate TFT into this new learning journey at home. Each week you will receive a new resource that will provide a Throughline for your family to dive into. The resource package will include an overview of the Throughline, Scripture connections, related songs, activities and digital resources. But what we are most excited about are suggestions for Formational Learning Experiences (FLEx), where your family will not just learn about the Throughline, but will have an opportunity to BE the Throughline. As your family engages in the activities, we invite you to post photos to Instagram and Twitter using the hashtags: #LivingtheStory #YourSchoolName #PCCE. Follow PCCE on Twitter and Instagram ([@prairiecentre](#)). It will be exciting to see what other families in our Prairie Centre community are doing. Maybe you'll get a great FLEx idea from someone in Fort McMurray or Portage LaPrairie.

As you begin the transition to working with your child at home, here are a couple Family Rhythms we encourage you to add to your routine:

1

MORNING MEETING

Spend a few minutes once per day and try these three things:

- **Name:** welcome each person by name so that everyone hears their name spoken in a positive manner. You can include a question for everyone to answer: your favourite part of yesterday, something you're looking forward to today, your favourite pizza, an emotion that you're feeling right now, a favourite joke. Let your children select questions too.
- **Game:** include something fun that gets people laughing and/or moving. There are lots of websites with team-building type activities if you want to try a few new things. Brain science recommends doing 10 minutes of vigorous physical activity at the beginning of the day to optimize learning and reduce behaviour management.
- **Frame:** end your circle with a reading that frames the learning for the day. You could use a scripture from the Throughline resource or another reading you find. Again, include your children in selecting and reading. Include a prayer time.

2

FRIDAY REFLECTION TIME

Take some time each Friday to reflect on the week. The attached resource has some questions to guide this discussion as it relates to the Throughline of the week. Reflections can be done orally, in written form, video, acted out - be creative!

WEEK 3 - GOD WORSHIPPING

SUMMARY

Students understand that worshipping God is about celebrating who God is, what God has done and is doing, and what God has created. It is literally about standing in awe and wonder of knowledge of him and his promises. Students see this worship as a way of life.

GOING DEEPER

Glorifying and praising God is a joyful duty of being an image bearer. In fact, Christ says that if we don't praise God, the rocks themselves will cry out. And they do! Upon seeing the Grand Canyon for the first time, Hendrik Von loon exclaimed: "I came an atheist – I leave a believer." Praising God is not an option – or an elective or "frill."

God loves every part of this world. Our God is a God who loves diversity, complexity, and creativity. When we look at the world around us, the plants, rocks, animals, sea creatures, insects, the skies and beyond, and especially people and their intelligence and capabilities... we can't help but be awestruck.

God obviously takes delight in chickadees, giraffes and northern lights, but also wants us to delight in Creation. That's one of the reasons why we teach – to draw attention to God's creation and its wonder and weirdness. Albert Einstein once said, "There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as if everything is."

God gave us this world to enjoy, to play in, to explore. We worship God when we enjoy the delicate complexity of a butterfly wing and a tiny seed pod, or the immense awe of a sharp edged mountain ridge, and a towering thundercloud. We also realize, when we see this beauty, how much God loves us. Together, in community, we join in worship of our God.

BIBLICAL REFERENCES **Could be used for devotions or memory work.**

Colossians 1:10-13

"And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

- This passage not only tells us something about what worship is (bearing fruit, being strengthened by God's glorious might, joyfully give thanks) it also gives us the reason why (we have been rescued!)

Romans 12:1 (The Message)

"So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering."

Other Passages to Ponder:

- Psalm 68:3 (many of the Psalms are worship poems)
- Acts 17:28
- Colossians 3:11 (Christ is all!)
- I Samuel 12:24
- John 4:24

WEEK 3 - GOD WORSHIPPING

SONGS

You can use these as part of your morning devotions or to play in the background during work

- [AMAZING GRACE](#) (JUDY COLLINS)
- [MIGHTY TO SAVE](#) (HILLSONG WORSHIP)
- [JESUS PAID IT ALL](#) (KRISTIAN STANFILL)
- [CORNERSTONE](#) (HILLSONG WORSHIP)
- [LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING](#) (LEBANON COUNTY YOUTH CHOIR)
- [LIFESONG](#) (CASTING CROWNS)

ACTIVITIES

Ideas that you can connect to the learning that is happening or encourage in your student's free time.

- Discuss, "What is Worship?" - [Discussion starter](#)
- List the miracles in your life
- Write a Psalm
- Try a [Listening Prayer](#)
- Create a mural - What images draw you to God?
- Ask someone older to teach you a [hymn](#)
- Start an online prayer group with friends
- Plan & lead a class/family devotions
- "Attend" an online church service
- Memorize a [Psalm of Praise](#)
- Create a daily prayer journal
- Write a song/poem based on a nature walk
- Paint a depiction of a song
- Joshua & Crossing the Jordan [lesson plan](#) (a number of reinforcement activities - check out "Find 12 Stones")
- Read a whole book of the Bible in one sitting
- Create, collect & publish inspiring quotes/Bible verses

DIGITAL RESOURCES

Digital books, devotion ideas, online resources, blog articles, etc.

Student Focused:

- [A Collection of Worship Songs](#) - Youtube (Div 1-4)
- [Kids Worship Songs](#) - Youtube channel (Div 1-2)
- [Skit Guys \(My God is so Big\)](#) - Video (Div 1-3)
- [Adventures in Odyssey](#) - Website (Div 1-3)
- [A Life of Worship](#) - Youtube (Div 4)
- [What is Worship](#) - Youtube (Div 3,4)
- [Why Do We Worship](#) - Youtube (Div 3,4)

Teacher/Parent Focused:

- [Humble as a Child](#) - Blog
- [Defining Worship](#) - Youtube
- [The Purpose of Worship](#) - Lessons & Quizzes
- [Tips for Teaching Kids About Worship](#) - Video Interview
- [Because I Love You, Max Lucado](#) - Book Reading
- [Ligonier Ministries](#) - Teaching Resources unlocked
- [BibleProject](#) - Bible reading tool/resource

FORMATIONAL LEARNING EXPERIENCES (FLEX)

These are experiences that connect our learning/work to real people/problems (to go beyond our normal classroom walls). These are authentic opportunities for students to practice living the Kingdom story.

Send your pastor and/or worship leaders an email of gratitude for their work during this challenging time. Older students can connect with their church leaders to see if there are ways they can use some of their skills to help their "online church" (e.g., tech skills, worship, setting up a youth Bible study online, joining prayer groups, writing a Psalm of praise to be shared during a service, creating a Youtube channel of children's messages for kids at your church to watch, etc).

REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS/SENTENCE STARTERS

It is said that we don't learn from doing, but from reflecting on what we do. Give students time and space to reflect on their experiences and learning this week.

- How can we worship God without singing or praying?
- What did you learn about God this week?
- Why should we worship God?
- Who is somebody you know that lives a life of worship?
- When was a time when you found it difficult to worship God?
- Where is your favourite place to be in wonder of God?