

Family Discussion Guide

Passage: Romans 1:18-25 | Worshiping the Creator, Not the Creation

Big Idea:

We were created to worship. The question is not if we worship, but what or who we worship. When we worship anything other than God, our lives become misaligned. God alone is worthy of our worship.

Open in Prayer:

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for loving us and revealing Yourself through Your Word and through all You have created. Open our eyes today to see You more clearly and to recognize the places where our hearts may have wandered toward other things. Help us to understand that You alone are worthy of our worship, devotion, and praise.

Thank You for Your patience, mercy, and grace. Thank You that Your desire is not for anyone to perish but for all to come to repentance.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Icebreaker

Ask everyone:

"If you could spend an entire day doing one thing you love, what would it be?"

Let everyone answer.

After everyone shares, ask:

- Why do you enjoy that so much?
- How much time do you spend thinking about it?
- Could something good become too important in our lives?

Explain:

Many things we enjoy are good gifts from God. The problem happens when those gifts become more important to us than the One who gave them.

Read the Scripture

Read *Romans 1:18-25* together.

For younger children, summarize:

"People knew God was real because they could see His creation, but instead of worshiping God, they chose to worship other things. They exchanged God's truth for their own ideas."

Discussion & Teaching

1. God Has Revealed Himself

Read *Romans 1:19-20*.

Ask:

- What are some things in creation that remind you God exists?
- What amazes you most about God's creation?

Examples:

- The sun and stars
- Mountains and oceans
- Animals
- Trees and flowers
- Babies growing in their mother's womb
- Family Truth

Creation points us to a Creator.

Everything around us reveals God's power, wisdom, and creativity.

Psalm 19:1 "The heavens proclaim the glory of God."

2. Humanity's Problem

Read *Romans 1:21*.

Ask:

- What did people refuse to do?
- What happens when we stop worshiping God and thanking Him?

Paul says people knew about God but refused to worship Him or thank Him. Instead, they wanted to live life on their own terms.

Family Truth

When people reject God, confusion follows.

Our culture often tells us:

- Truth is whatever you want it to be.
- Right and wrong are personal choices.
- God's standards are outdated.

But God hasn't changed - His truth remains the same.

3. We Were Made to Worship

Read *Romans 1:25*.

Ask:

- What does Paul say people exchanged?
- What did they begin worshiping instead?

Explain:

People traded God's truth for a lie.

They stopped worshiping the Creator and started worshiping created things.

The issue wasn't that people stopped worshiping.

The issue is they worshiped the wrong things.

Modern-Day Idols

Ask your family:

What are some things people can worship today?

Possible answers:

- Sports
- Money
- Careers
- Popularity
- Relationships
- Social media
- Appearance
- Success
- Possessions
- Entertainment
- Ourselves

Explain:

These things aren't always bad.

They become idols when they become more important than God.

4. A Heart Check

Say:

It's easy to read *Romans 1* and think Paul is talking about "them."

But this passage challenges us too.

We all have the ability to take something God created and give it the place that belongs to God alone.

Ask:

- What gets most of your attention?
- What do you think about most?
- What do you get most excited about?
- What would be hardest for you to give up?

Sometimes our answers reveal what is receiving our worship.

Family Application

Activity: "The Throne of My Heart"

Tell everyone to imagine a throne.

Only one person can sit on that throne.

Ask:

Who sits on the throne of your heart?

Discuss:

- Is Jesus truly first?
- Have sports, work, school, hobbies, friends, or success taken His place?
- What is one practical step you can take this week to put Christ first?

Examples:

- Spend time reading Scripture daily.
- Pray before school or work.
- Turn off distractions during family worship.
- Thank God regularly for His blessings.
- Attend church with a heart ready to worship.

Key Takeaway:

We were created to worship.

If we don't worship the Creator, we'll eventually worship something else.

God alone deserves our love, devotion, attention, and praise.

The question isn't: "Am I worshipping?"

The question is: "Who or what has my worship?"

Memory Verse

Romans 1:25

"They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen."

Closing Prayer

Father,

Thank You for showing us through Your Word that You alone are worthy of worship. Forgive us for the times we have allowed other things to take Your place in our hearts. Help us identify any idols that may be competing for our attention and affection.

Thank You for Your patience and mercy. Thank You for pursuing us even when we wander. Give us hearts that love You more than anything else. Help our family put Jesus first in every area of life.

May our worship, our decisions, our priorities, and our lives point others to You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.