

## *What is Morning Meeting with A Modern Charlotte Mason?*

Morning Meeting or Circle Time is a way to begin your day with a focus on the most important thing, God. A Modern Charlotte Mason seeks to honor God all day and with all work, but this is time exclusively devoted to God and the Bible.

### **Prayer and Thanksgiving Journal**

When calling the children to meeting, I suggest playing a few of the hymns from the Term. We open the meeting by making notes in our Thanksgiving and Prayer Journal of prayer requests, answered prayers, and areas of thanksgiving. Don't forget to pray for your homeschool. If you have Form 1 children, you might wish to write the notes for the children in a family journal, but by Form 2 the students will need their own journal. It needs not be fancy, just functional. Pray your requests and give your thanks as you each speak to God in silent prayer. I suggest that you have a different person close the prayer each day speaking whatever is in their heart, then ending the prayer together with the Lord's Prayer once all your students know it.

### **Hymn Singing and Hymn Study**

For Hymn study we focus on a single hymn for two weeks. We commit it to memory, do copywork from it, learn a little about the hymn or who wrote it AND sing it every day for those two weeks. We also sing the other hymns of the term, rotating throughout the week. There are links to the hymns.

### **Bible Reading**

We read from the Bible each day and narrate, often with drawn narrations for young students. Two days in the Old Testament, two days in the New Testament, and a day in Psalms. Use the Bible your children are comfortable hearing. I love the language of the King James Version. That doesn't mean that is what you should use. If in doubt, use what they hear in Church. I also have several recommended Story Bibles if you feel that your children aren't ready for the real Bible. Check the pinterest board.

For older students there are usually commentaries for insight into the readings from well-known, well-respected authors.

### **Recitation**

Your children will have Bible verses or passages to memorize. Let them fill their hearts with beautiful words. The students that do copywork will use the Bible for

## Combining Students

Combining students is the goal. You do NOT need to buy all the books for all the Forms. I find that most of the time it is better to go with the recommendations for the older students with a few exceptions which I have noted. If the students are widely spaced, you might find it best to hit in the middle. All students will use the first books on the list. Choose a version of Pilgrim's Progress, a Church history, and a character building book from those marked suitable for your students ages. Form 3 and 4 will need commentary. Some Forms will have one individual book addressing students of that stage. For Example, Form 4 reads *Mere Christianity*. There are also books from the public domain, and some books suitable as library books. Those marked with a \* are used over more than one year.

Here is an abbreviated guide to A Modern Charlotte Mason's Forms:

Form 1: Years 1-3

Form 2: Years 4-6

Form 3: Years 7-9

Form 4: Years 10-12

In the assignments, what is "grace"? When the assignment reads "grace," that means that it is schedule-free time. You can use the time to catch up, or go swing on the porch, or just move forward and finish a little early.

*Morning Meeting can be the most powerful part of your day. This special time was the largest blessing to me and my family and one of the things that made homeschooling so important to me. I hope this book blesses you and makes it a little easier homeschool your children.*

*Susan Harnish*