

## Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018*

*by Rev. Steve Andrews Jr.*

**Weekly Tip for Worshipping with Your Children:** *Worshipping with children is not easy, but it is necessary! Even from the time of birth, children learn the most by observing what their parents do. We are here to help. This week's tip is for: Parents with Young Children!*

**Be patient!** Parents, it may seem as though you “get nothing” out of the Divine Service. But hold on to God’s promises more than your undivided attention. God is rich in His grace! He still gives you His Word, in words and song, and His Body and Blood. What you do hear and receive is still edifying.

**Outreach Made Simply Practical!** *Live your normal, everyday lives with Gospel intentionality!*

**VBS Invite:** Use VBS as your opportunity to reconnect a grandchild with the church! Use VBS as your opportunity to get your neighbor connected to the church! Go the extra mile on this one. Bring the registration form to someone and invite them. Then extend this invitation, “I will bring your child to VBS and bring them back when it is done.” Make it as little of an inconvenience on the parents as you can, which makes it even harder to say no! Talk with the child in the car about what they learned, give them questions to ask their parents, and pray each day for the connection the Lord is making through VBS.

**Weekly Worship Helps for the Home:** *How do we go about doing devotions together as a family? How do we teach our children about their Lord and Savior? Here are some simple ways to do just that, to make Christ the center of your family and to be in His Word daily. This guide is designed to help your family read through the Scriptures together in three years and to cover the Small Catechism in just one year!*

*You can certainly do this however you would like. In my home, we read a chapter of the Bible together after dinner each night, followed by reciting the three chief parts of the Catechism (Ten Commandments, Apostle's Creed, and the Lord's Prayer) and then we sing a hymn. There are any number of ways to talk about God in your home!*

-Pray together! This week's **Prayer List**: <http://www.gracefaithlove.org/newsletter>

-Scripture Readings: Let's read Job 8-14. Feel free to ask your Pastor any questions that come up!

-Memory verse: 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 – <sup>9</sup> But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup> For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

-Hymn: *Beautiful Savior*

## LSB 537 in *Lutheran Service Builder*

-Psalm: 123

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on the Office of the Keys, pg. 27. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Conclusion of the Lord’s Prayer, pg. 279-280.

-Devotions resources: grab a copy of *Portals of Prayer* at church or subscribe to daily email devotions from [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org), [www.lutheranchurchcharities.org](http://www.lutheranchurchcharities.org), or <https://media.higherthings.org/reflections/>.

Feel free to share with family and friends, neighbors and coworkers, anyone you'd like!

# God Time at Home

Select questions and adapt for your family.

**FOR STARTERS:** Have family gather together for a dessert or snack. Ask: "Tell about a time when you were so hungry, you just did not know if you could take it. What happened? Do you remember what you finally ate?" After every one has had a chance to share, say: "Sometimes we take for granted all we have, like food and homes. Remember that God gives these to us and we should be thankful every day. This will help us \*trust God to take care of us."

**READ THE BIBLE:** 1 Kings 16:29 – 17:16

**KEY VERSE:** Proverbs 3:5, "*Trust the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding.*"

**TALK ABOUT IT:** What did Ahab do to make the Lord God of Israel more furious than all the kings of Israel before him? (*1 Kings 16:31-33. He married Jezebel; worshiped the god, Baal; and made poles dedicated to the goddess, Asherah.*) What warning did Elijah give to Ahab? (*1 Kings 17:1-2. The God of Israel will not let there be any dew or rain for the next few years.*) How did God first provide for Elijah while he was hiding beside the river? (*1 Kings 17:6. Ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and in the evening, and he drank from the stream.*) The stream dried up and God sent Elijah to Zarephath. How did God provide for the widow and Elijah? (*1 Kings 17:14. Until the Lord would send rain, the widow's jar of flour and the jug of oil would never be empty.*)

How do you think the widow felt when she was asked for bread and water knowing she had only enough for her family for one last meal? (*She was worried about her and her son's survival. It didn't make sense to give away her last food to the prophet. Maybe she felt hopeless. Maybe she had faith in God and the prophet Elijah, whom God sent.*) When times are hard will God still take care of us? Can we still trust him? We can \*trust God to take care of us. Just like God provided for Elijah, God is always with us. And best of all, he gives us his own Son Jesus, so that no matter what, we can be with him forever.

**PRAYER POWER:** Thank God for sending Jesus so that our sins can be forgiven and we can be children of God forever. Pray for some of the things that might be bothering any family member and then ask that in each need, family members learn to \*trust God to take care of them.

## Family Time Option

***One day this week, try...***

To better appreciate how God provides, let the family voluntarily give up a meal. Still gather at that time and give thanks for how God provides and ask him to continue. Calculate the money saved from the meal and donate it toward feeding the hungry.