

Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of July 22nd, 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!*

Should I punish my child for misbehaving in church? Avoid punishment or reward if possible. Calmly talk with children and redirect their behavior by explaining the standards you have set. This may take consistency and patience. Happy noise made by an infant or toddler is not bad behavior...it's another kind of praise and we are certain God loves it! And yes, crying by an infant or toddler happens, too!

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

Highlight One Person: Pick one person in your life that you have a consistent and meaningful connection to who needs to know the Lord or know Him more. When you think of that person or are with the person reflect on reasons why it is so important for you to speak up. Reflect on the reasons why God has made you the right person to do so. Reflect on the ways that you can easily bring up Christ in your relationship with that person. Reflect, pray, and then speak! Keep track of your conversations, thoughts, and their responses in a journal and keep praying!

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 29-35. Feel free to ask your Pastor any questions that come up!

-Memory verse: Genesis 9:14-15 (CHALLENGE! Gen. 9:8-17) – ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

-Hymn: *Entrust Your Days and Burdens* LSB 754 in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 136

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on What is the Sacrament of the Altar? Where is this written?, pg. 28. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Blessings of Baptism, pg. 292-296.

-Devotions resources: grab a copy of *Portals of Prayer* at church or subscribe to daily email devotions from www.lhm.org, 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: As leader, get some dessert and eat it while you gather everyone together. When others say they want some, refuse permission. If they object, note that their face is turning green. Have them check it in the mirror! Then say: "We have a saying that someone turns 'green with envy.' Envy means you become unhappy with what you have because you want what someone else has. Who will tell about a time they felt 'green with envy?'"

READ THE BIBLE: 1 Kings 21

KEY VERSES: Philippians 4:11b & 13, *"I've learned to be content in whatever situation I am in...I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me."*

TALK ABOUT IT: What did Ahab do when he found out he could not have the vineyard? (*1 Kings 21:4. Pouted, cried, whined.*) What did Jezebel do to get the vineyard for Ahab? (*1 Kings 21:8-14. She lied, had Naboth hurt and killed.*) Do you think Ahab really needed the vineyard? Why or Why not? (*No, he was the king and had lots of gardens and things already.*)

How do you react sometimes when you can't have something you want? (*Let children share examples.*) Do you ever pout? Let's see your best pouting face.

According to the key verses above, where does the power of contentment come from? (*Christ.*) How do we find contentment in Jesus' power in the times we feel greedy? (*Ask God. Pray.*) Ahab's greed went so far that it hurt others. What about times we wanted something so badly that we might have hurt someone physically or emotionally to get it? What can we do about those times? (*Ask God for forgiveness and the other person, too!*)

PRAYER POWER: Ask God's forgiveness for times of greediness and ask that our selfishness would not carry us away. Ask for God's help us to be content and thankful for the things he has given.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

Let each family member browse through the paper's advertisement section looking for something they wish they had. Cut out these pictures and color them with a green marker. Post them on the refrigerator to remind each person "don't let greed carry you away." When they choose to be unhappy because they don't have these objects, then they are envying.