

Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of January 27th, 2019*

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: **Everyone!***

Giving an offering: Like it was for the Old Testament people of Israel, giving an offering is part of worship. Let your child see you put your offering in the plate. Children can also give an offering. It means more to your child if they are giving part of the money that they earn at home, rather than you just giving them money to put into the plate.

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

Start at Home: Evangelism does not just involve going to random people and telling them about Jesus. Evangelism is when you are sitting on the couch with your kids, talking on the phone with your brother, picking up the family after an event...If you have not already started making disciples of your family, **START NOW!** Pray for your family each day, specifically about their relationship with Jesus. Use conversations with them to deepen your faith and trust in the Lord. Let your actions model to them the importance of putting Christ first! Start at home!

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 Joshua 1-7. Feel free to ask your Pastor any questions that come up!

-Memory verse: Luke 4:43 – but he said to them, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose."

-Hymn: *Amazing Grace* LSB 744 in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 71

-Small Catechism (2017): Review together the section on the Commandments 1-5, What does this mean?, pg. 13-14. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Eighth Commandment, pg. 110-114.

-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: Play the game “Believe It or Not.” Have each person tell something about himself or herself that may or may not be true. If it is true and the guesser believes it to be true, then the guesser wins. If it isn’t true and the guesser believes it is, then the person telling the story wins. “What does Jesus want us to believe about him?” (*That he is my Savior because he gave his life for me.*)

READ THE BIBLE: John 2:23-3:21; Numbers 21:4-9

KEY VERSE: John 3:15, “*Then everyone who believes in him will have eternal life.*”

TALK ABOUT IT: Who was Nicodemus? (*John 3:1. He was a Pharisee, a Jewish religious leader.*) Why did Nicodemus come to Jesus? (*John 3:2. He was curious to know if Jesus was from God.*) Who is Jesus talking about when he says, “Son of Man, who came from heaven” in verse 13? (*Himself.*) What does God give to those who believe in him according to John 3:16? (*Eternal life.*) Why do you think Nicodemus came to Jesus at night? (*He did not want anyone to see him because he was embarrassed/afraid. Pharisees were supposed to have all the answers. He didn’t want others to know he was talking to Jesus.*) What do you think Jesus meant by saying he must be “born again”? (*Believe and be changed.*) Do you know Jesus now? What do you believe about Jesus?

PRAYER: Thank God that he changes our lives when we believe in Jesus as our Savior. Thank God that we can have the hope of eternal life in heaven with God.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

FAMILY TIME OPTIONS: Throughout the week talk about how we are different because we believe in Jesus.