

Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of February 24th, 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!*

How can we prepare for church so that we can be on time? Getting out of the house in the morning is hard enough, but adding kids makes it a thousand times more difficult. Do the little things beforehand. Pick out your child's clothes and set them out the night before. Go to bed a little earlier on Saturday night. Have a designated breakfast person, the parent that gets up the earliest, who can get breakfast ready for the family. Stick to your guns and get those kids out of bed at the time you told them you would.

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

Workplace Ideas – Hospital Visits: Be intentional about going out of your way when you hear a coworker is in the hospital. You can call the informational desk at any hospital in town and get their room number. Then stop by and see how they are doing. Send them a card. Give their room a call. The hospital can be a lonely place and then you show up! This is a great opportunity to ask as you leave or sit by them “can I pray for you?” or to simply say on your way out “I will be praying for you.”

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 Amos 5-9 and Romans 1-2. Feel free to ask your Pastor any questions that come up!

-Memory verse: Luke 9:35 – And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!”

-Hymn: *O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair* LSB 413 in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 99

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on the Lord's Prayer: Third Petition, What does this mean?, pg. 20-21. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The First Article, Part One, pg. 133-145.

-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: Say: "Tell about a time you were the hungriest you've ever been!" Serve snacks as you discuss. Then ask, "What do you think it feels like to be hungry in your spirit instead of just hungry in your body?" (*"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that comes from the mouth of God."* – Matthew 4:4)

READ THE BIBLE: John 6:1-42

KEY VERSE: John 6:35, *"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never become hungry, and whoever believes in me will never become thirsty."*

TALK ABOUT IT: In the Bible event, there was a large crowd of how many people? (*John 6:10. Five thousand men, not counting women and children.*) One boy offered his lunch. What did he have to offer? (*John 6:9. Five loaves of bread and two small fish.*) Before Jesus gave the loaves to the people, he did what first? (*John 6:11. Jesus gave thanks.*) When Jesus distributed the food, everyone had all they wanted to eat. How much food did they collect as leftovers? (*John 6:13. Twelve baskets.*) After that, why did people come looking for Jesus? (*John 6:26. They wanted more food handouts.*)

In verse 27, Jesus said, *"Work for the food that lasts into eternal life. This is the food the Son of Man will give you."* What do you think he meant? (*Jesus gives us His own body in the Lord's Supper*) In John 6:35, what kind of food did Jesus say he was? (*The bread of life.*) What do you think he meant by that? (*When we receive His body and blood in the Lord's Supper, our sins are forgiven and we have life in His name*) What did he say would happen to those who come to him and believe in him? (*They would never go hungry or thirsty.*) What do you think he meant by that? (*Jesus promises us a life that never ends!*) Compare food that perishes with food that lasts forever. How are they alike? How are they different? (*They both provide nourishment; but only Jesus can nourish us forever.*) When your spirit is hungry, how does Jesus, the "bread of life," come into your life? (*Through His Word and Sacraments*).

PRAYER: Thank God for giving us a life in Jesus. Thank him that Jesus gives us food that satisfies us forever.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

FAMILY TIME OPTIONS: Talk to your church to see if you can help volunteer as a family working in the church's food pantry, or perhaps volunteer at a homeless shelter helping prepare or serve meals. Talk about how you are sharing the message that Jesus is the bread of life that feeds our bodies and our spirits.