

## **Faith at Home Corner** - *For the week of March 17<sup>th</sup>, 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: **Parents!***

**Couch time:** Mom and Dad, when the work day is over, while kids are awake and can see you, take ten or fifteen minutes to sit on the couch as a couple and share your personal and relational needs. Provides children a visible sense of a couple's togetherness. Letting your kids see that Dad loves Mom and Mom loves Dad is more important than anything you can buy for them.

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

**Give a Gift** – One easy gift for many of us to give is a little snack or treat. If you like baking, make something and take it to your neighbor (as you get to know them, you can do this even better by making something you know they really like!). It's a simple way to show you love and care for your neighbor, and to begin building a solid relationship with them, through which you can share Christ.

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

-Memory verse: Luke 13:2-3 – <sup>2</sup> And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? <sup>3</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.

-Hymn: *May God Bestow on Us His Grace*                      LSB 823/824 in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 75

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on the Lord's Prayer: Sixth Petition, What does this mean?, pg. 22. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Second Article, Part One, pg. 164-175.

-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:** For discussion: "Tell about a time you had been to a funeral (or saw a funeral on TV.) What was it like?" Discuss and then say: "Jesus brings people back to life. He showed that he has the power to do that when he raised Lazarus from the dead. He has the power to bring us back to life with him in paradise after we die. Even though funerals are sad because we miss people we love, when we trust Jesus, we will be together one day in paradise. That will be lots of fun!"

**READ THE BIBLE:** John 11:1-54

**KEY VERSE:** John 11:25-26, Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

**TALK ABOUT IT:** How long had Lazarus been in the tomb when Jesus arrived? (*John 11:17. Four days.*) What did Jesus ask of his Father God when the tomb of Lazarus was opened? (*John 11:41-42. To hear him so that the crowd standing around the tomb would know that God sent Jesus.*) How did Jesus show his authority over death? (*John 11:43. He commanded Lazarus to come out of the tomb and he did.*) According to John 11:4 and John 11:15, why did Jesus let Lazarus die? (*To bring glory to God and to increase the faith of the disciples with the miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead.*) If Jesus knew beforehand that he was going to bring Lazarus back to life, why was he so sad that he cried? (*John 11:33-38. He loved Mary and Martha so much that he was sad they were so sad. It hurt Him to see people He loved hurting!*) What remnants of death did Jesus command Lazarus to be freed from after he came out of the tomb? (*John 11:44. Strips of cloth wound around his feet, hands and face.*)

So when we are raised to new life, will we still have any remnants of sin or death? (*No! Pain and suffering and tears and death will all be gone!*) Have you ever felt like Mary and Martha, wondering why Jesus did not heal someone you loved and he/she eventually died? How did you feel? Does the key verse bring you comfort? Why? How can this verse help you when someone you know is dying? How does this verse or Bible event help you from fearing death?

**PRAYER:** Pray for those who have a loved one that has recently died or is very sick. Pray that God would help all to trust that Jesus has power over death and will bring his followers back to life.

## Family Time Option

*One day this week, try...*

**FAMILY TIME OPTIONS:** As Easter approaches, set aside an evening to watch one of the Jesus films that you may already own, have at your local video store, or even in the church library. Aim for titles like *Passion of the Christ*, *Risen*, *The Robe*, or *The Gospel of John*.