

Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of March 31st, 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!***

Give the reason why: As your child is old enough to understand, give them knowledge to take ownership of their behavior. Their understanding shouldn't be that I don't do that "because Dad and Mom said so", but because they know why. Example: If a younger child is running at the Lent supper at Church, explain that people are carrying plates or drinks and they could cause an accident.

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

Be Outside! – The inventions of things like AC and garage door openers, while nice to have, have really reduced our amount of time and contact with others in our neighborhoods. Find simple ways to be outside longer. Maybe it's putting a couple chairs on the front porch and enjoying some relaxation outside. Maybe it's hanging out with your children and neighborhood children as they play outside. Maybe it's taking a little longer to water the lawn, or mow the grass, or shovel the snow. Be outside more. And if you see a neighbor, just start with a "Hello!"

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 15-21. Feel free to ask your Pastor any questions that come up!

-Memory verse: Philippians 3:8-9 (Challenge! v. 7-11) – ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—

-Hymn: *My Song is Love Unknown* LSB 430 in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 36

-Small Catechism (2017): Review together the section on the Apostles' Creed, First Petition, What does this mean?, pg. 16. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Second Article, Part Three, pg. 188-194.

-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: Shine or clean another family member's shoes as you ask the question, "What did someone do for you last week that you especially appreciated?" Encourage all family members to share.

READ THE BIBLE: John 13:1-20

KEY VERSES: John 13:14-15, *"So if I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you must wash each other's feet. I've given you an example that you should follow."*

TALK ABOUT IT: On the night of the Passover meal, how did Jesus show his disciples he had come to be a servant? (*John 13:4-5. He took off his outer clothes and tied a towel around his waist. Then he washed his disciples' feet.*) What did Jesus say when Peter refused to let Jesus wash his feet? (*John 13:8. "If I don't wash you, you don't belong to me."*) How did Peter respond back? (*John 13:9. Peter said, "Lord, don't wash only my feet. Wash my hands and my head too!"*) What was the lesson Jesus was teaching his disciples? (*Footwashing was an especially dirty job, reserved for the lowest of servants. John 13:14-15. Since Jesus the Lord lowered himself to wash feet or serve them, they too, should serve others.*) Why was Jesus washing his disciples' feet such a surprise to them? (*Because Jesus was their master whom they followed and he became like a lowly slave to them.*) How did Jesus become a lowly servant for you and me and all people? (*He gave up his heavenly glory and became a human being. He then died on the cross taking on himself the punishment we deserve for our sins.*) Since we have been served, we want to serve others. What can you do to "foot wash" or serve others?

PRAYER: Thank God for sending Jesus to teach us true servanthood. Thank him for the gift Jesus gives us through his death and resurrection. Pray for Jesus' power to think of others first and to serve them because Jesus came to serve us.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

FAMILY TIME OPTIONS: Challenge each family member to come up with an idea to secretly serve someone in the family this week without being discovered. At the end of the week, see if any family member realizes they have been served and can guess who did it.