

## Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of May 12<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 with Young Children!*

**My child constantly craves attention. What can I do so I can still worship, too?** This is a difficult one. But you have to draw a line and make a choice to *partially* ignore your child. Do not give your child all of your attention! Your child needs to know that you are at church to worship God, to receive His gifts. You are not at church to entertain your child, or for them to entertain you. It is not easy, but it is vital for both your faith and your child's.

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

**Babysitting** – Offer to babysit for your neighbors so that they can get that increasingly rare date night. And do it for free! When they ask why, you can tell them about an even greater free gift (Christ and Him crucified).

**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 Jeremiah 19-25. Feel free to ask your Pastor any questions that come up!

-Memory verse: Revelation 21:3-4 (Challenge! v. 1-5) – <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup> He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

-Hymn: *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*      LSB 633, also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 88

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on the Baptism, Part 4, pg. 24. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Lord's Prayer: The First Petition, pg. 242-245.

-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:** Ask Mom ways she feels most appreciated. Ask her about past Mother's days. Which have been the most memorable? God often shows his love through other people. Ask: "How do you think God shows his love through your actions?"

**READ THE BIBLE:** Ephesians 6:1-3; Proverbs 31:28-31

**KEY VERSE:** Ephesians 6:2, "*Honor your father and mother...*"

**TALK ABOUT IT:** Read Proverbs 31:28-31. What does verse 28 say a woman's husband and children should do? (*Stand up and bless her.*) According to verse 30, what can a mother have that is even more valuable than "charm" or "beauty?" (*Fear of the Lord.*) What can you do to bless, praise, or reward your mother or another woman such as a grandma, aunt or friend in your life?

Read Ephesians 6:1-3. Why should we obey our parents? (*Ephesians 6:1. Because we are Christians and it is what God gives us to do.*) What promise do you receive when you honor your father and mother? (*Ephesians 6:3. Everything will go well for you and you may have a long life on earth.*)

**PRAYER:** Thank God for mothers and other women in your lives. Ask the Holy Spirit to show family members more ways they can honor, bless, and serve their mothers not just on Mother's Day, but every day.

## Family Time Option

*One day this week, try...*

**FAMILY TIME OPTIONS:** Pick another day on the calendar later in the year and name it "Second Mother's Day." Make the day special by again appreciating Mom in little ways that don't cost money. Mark it on the calendar and celebrate God's gift of moms.