

Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of June 23rd, 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!***

COLOR CHANGE: Notice that the different colors of the altar and the stoles (the sash that the pastors wear over their albs/robes) changed! The colors help us mark the time of the church year. We have switched to **green** in honor of the **Pentecost** season. These Sundays emphasize the subject of growth. Green is a neutral color, but there is nothing colorless about our need to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ. That's why the "green meadow" time of the church year is so lengthy. Time must be given to encourage all worshipers to maintain their faith through the constant use of God's means of grace.

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

Dinner at Your Place? – This could be a once in a while deal, or maybe it's monthly or even weekly. But the idea here is to invite your neighbors over for dinner. Maybe it isn't even a full dinner, but just coffee and dessert. Getting to know our neighbors helps us to share the gospel with them. We can't help them if we don't know what they need. We can pray more specifically. We can walk through life together. So, just invite them over for a simple meal and enjoy your company.

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 1 Chronicles 1-7. Feel free to ask your pastor any questions that come up!

-Memory verse: Galatians 5:22-23 – "22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."

-Hymn: "Come, Follow Me," *The Savior Spake* LSB 688, also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 84

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on What is Confession? What sins should we confess? Which are these? on pg. 25-27. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Lord's Prayer: The Seventh Petition, pg. 274-278.

-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: Ask family members what amazing place they would like to travel someday. Why? Then say, “God takes each one of us on an amazing journey through our lives. Wherever He takes us, we know that He blesses us in amazing ways.”

READ THE BIBLE: Acts 28:1-10, Mark 16:15-19

KEY VERSES: Mark 16:15, 17, “*Go into the world and preach the good news to all creation...and these signs will accompany those who believe...*” (amazing things).

TALK ABOUT IT: What amazing things happened to Paul when he was shipwrecked on the island of Malta? (Acts 28:3-8. *A snake bit him while he was adding wood to the fire. However, the poisonous bite had no effect on him. He healed sick people on the island.*) From Mark 16:15-20, what kind of miraculous signs did Jesus say would accompany believers who told the Good News of Jesus? (Mark 17-18. *Believers could use the power and authority of Jesus’ name to force demons out of people. They could speak new languages. They could pick up snakes and drink deadly poison and it would not hurt them. They could place their hands on the sick and cure them.*) Why do you think God did amazing things through Paul and Jesus’ disciples as they witnessed about Jesus? (To show the people that God was with His followers. To increase the faith of believers.) Do you think God still does amazing things today like He did in Paul’s day? What are some amazing things that might happen? (God answers our prayers for healing; God creates faith in many of the people we share the Good News with; people who are angry or mean might change when they receive love and understanding; people notice something different in your life because you follow God; etc.)

PRAYER: Thank God that the most amazing thing He did for us was to send Jesus to take the punishment for our sins. Thank Him for how He continually works in our lives and still does amazing things for us, providing for our daily bread. Ask for eyes to see God’s wonders and faith to trust Him as we follow Him and tell others about the Good News of Jesus. Praise God for His promises and especially that all believers will be with Him someday in that amazing Paradise.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

FAMILY TIME OPTIONS: Browse through a family photo album of past generations. Talk about some of the amazing ways that God has blessed your family.