

Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of August 25th, 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!***

Use the tools we provide! Ask your usher on Sunday morning for one of our children's bulletins. They are filled with activities that are Scripture-themed and help your child focus on worshipping.

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

Host Summer Parties – Whether it's a weekly barbecue potluck or an ice cream party, having the neighbors gather together is a great way to add to and build up your community. You can get to know your neighbors better and share the gospel with them as well!

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 2 Chronicles 39-35. Feel free to ask your pastor any questions that come up!

-Memory verse: Hebrews 13:6 and 8 (Challenge! v. 1-9) – “⁶ So we can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?” ... ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”

-Hymn: *Son of God, Eternal Savior* LSB 842, also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 131

-Small Catechism (2017): Review together the section on Confession on pg. 25-27. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Nature of the Sacrament of the Altar, pg. 322-330.

-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: You will need a crazy hat, which will entitle the wearer to be “Master of the House.” You could make the hat from newspaper or construction paper. Pass the hat and have each wearer share one thing he would make everyone else do if he were indeed “Master of the House.” Then ask which of these masters would you especially *not* like to serve. The Bible warns us that we should not let sin be our master. What might sin say to us if it was our master?

READ THE BIBLE: Read Genesis 4:1-16, the Bible event of Cain killing his brother, Abel.

KEY VERSE: Genesis 4:7b: *“Sin is lying outside your door ready to attack. It wants to control you but you must master it.”*

TALK ABOUT IT: When God was not pleased with Cain’s offering, Cain was angry and disappointed. In verse 7, God gave him a warning. He said, “Sin is lying outside your door ready to attack.” Don’t let sin be your _____. (*Master.*) Did sin master Cain? What did he do? When Cain killed Abel, some blood got on the ground. Could that blood really talk? (*No.*) But God said, “His blood cries out to me.” What did that mean? (*God saw what Cain did to Abel. Cain needed to have a consequence.*) What consequence did God give to Cain? (*He made him a wanderer. But he also put a mark on him and protected him from anyone else taking revenge on him.*)

1 John 1:7 says, “And the blood of his Son Jesus cleanses us from every sin.” What does the blood of Jesus do? (*It cleanses us from all sin.*) Does the blood of Jesus call out, “Forgive them”? (*Yes!*) Do we need God’s forgiveness for the mean things we have done to our brother or sister? To Mom or Dad?

PRAYER: Pray for special needs in your family. Pray that sin would not be a master over your family and that the power of Jesus’ forgiveness would lift sin so that it does not make you hard and cold-hearted toward your family members.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

Healthy families know how to “fight fair.” In other words, when they have disagreements, they can often settle them without hurting each other. Gather as a family and make a list of rules that would be helpful when different members disagree with one another. Pray for God’s presence over your disagreements and the power of Jesus’ forgiveness when a person is hurt.