

Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of June 28th, 2020*

by Rev. Steve Andrews Jr.

Weekly Tip for Worshipping with Your Children: *Worshipping with children is not easy, but it is necessary and worthwhile! 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: All Parents!*

How can we prepare for church so that we can be on time? Getting out of the house in the morning is hard enough, but adding kids makes it a thousand times more difficult. Do the little things beforehand. Pick out your child's clothes and set them out the night before. Go to bed a little earlier on Saturday night. Have a designated breakfast person, the parent that gets up the earliest, who can get breakfast ready for the family. Stick to your guns and get those kids out of bed at the time you told them you would.

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

Email Signature: Many of us who use email have some sort of signature at the bottom. The signature gives important information about the identity of the person sending the email. Take your signature one step further and show the most important part of your identity – Christian! Add at the bottom a favorite Bible passage that clearly articulates, in a way anyone can understand, Christ and what He has done.

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

-Memory verse: Zechariah 9:9 – "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is He, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.."

-Hymn: *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* LSB 699, also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 145

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on the Office of the Keys, on pg. 27. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Conclusion of the Lord's Prayer, pg. 279-280.

-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: “Let’s imagine our family had millions of dollars. What are some of the things we would buy?” Discuss. Then point out: “Did you notice that when we start thinking mostly about the things we don’t have, it is easy to be ungrateful for what we do have? Do we ever complain or become unthankful? What happens when we instead count our blessings?”

READ THE BIBLE: Psalm 103:2-5; Philippians 4:4

KEY VERSE: Psalm 103:2, *“Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.”*

TALK ABOUT IT: According to the Psalm 103 passage, what all has God done for us? *(He forgives all our sins, heals our diseases, rescues our life from the pit, crowns us with mercy and compassion, and fills our life with blessings.)* What is the ultimate sacrifice God gave to crown us with mercy and compassion? *(He sent Jesus to die on our behalf.)*

According to Philippians 4:4, how should we always be? *(Joyful in the Lord.)* How can we be joyful in hard times or difficult situations? *(Trust in God to meet our needs and keep His promises.)*

PRAYER: Mention as many thanksgivings as possible during this prayer time.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

Make a list of blessings and post it on the refrigerator. Invite family members to write one thing on the list every time they open the refrigerator.