

Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of August 30th, 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: **Parents with Young Children!***

Follow along! Take out the Bible from the pew in front of you (or be in the habit of bringing your own!). Have your child open the Bible to the Scripture readings for that day and follow along as they are read in the service. If they can't find the right place, help them learn to navigate the Word. If you don't know, it's okay to use the Table of Contents as you learn yourself.

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

Focus on Them: Too often you worry about yourself and what will happen to you if you witness. The better question is what will happen to them if you do not? Evangelism is not easy and does cause anxiety but do not let that anxiety restrain you. Tell them what they need to hear out of deep concern for their spiritual and everlasting welfare. Let love for them drive you through your anxiety and cause you to speak. Allow love to help you care more about them than you do about you. "Perfect love casts out fear...we love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:18,19)

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 Isaiah 40-46! Feel free to ask your pastor any questions that come up!

-Memory verse: Matthew 18:15-17 – ¹⁵"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

-Hymn: *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart* [LSB 641](#), also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#) (regular hymn of the week is [LSB 820](#) My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker; I opted for another hymn as this one appears as the hymn of the week more than once)

-Psalm: 117

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on the Table of Duties, on pg. 33. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Benefit of the Sacrament of the Altar, pg. 331-334.

-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: Invite every family member to think of a favorite thing they like to do. Then give each person 15 seconds to act it out. Who can guess what he is doing? Now share a favorite activity that happens during worship. Does God use any of these worship activities to show us more about who He is? (Think about elements of worship like the Lord's Supper. Everything in worship teaches us something about God!) When we know more about who God is and what He does for us, it gives us great reason to love Him and serve Him more.

READ THE BIBLE: Read excerpts of Exodus 25-27 from an easy to understand Bible translation. In worship, God meets His people as their rescuer using the objects and ceremonies of Old Testament worship. God was painting a picture of the ultimate Rescuer, Jesus.

KEY VERSE: Psalm 29:2b "Worship Yahweh in the splendor of His holiness."

TALK ABOUT IT: From the Bible reading, what were some things used in Tabernacle worship and what did they remind the people of? 1. Altar of burnt offering: Sin is serious. The cost for forgiveness is the price of a life. 2. Altar of incense: Your prayers are sweet to God. 3. Showbread or "the Table of the Presence": God says, "I give you bread and you give Me your best back," 12 loaves of bread representing the twelve tribes of Israel. 4. Golden lampstand: God says, "I am the light that will shine forever and I bring light into your dark world." 5. Curtain separating the holy place from the most holy place: sin has separated us from the holiness of God. 6. Ark of the covenant: God keeps His promises to us, He rules over us. 7. Mercy seat on the ark: God says, "I will be with you."

PRAYER: Praise God for the ways He teaches us about Himself. Thank Him for how He points to Jesus throughout the whole Bible, even in the Old Testament. Thank Him that He comes to us in worship by giving us His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

Talk about rituals that help the family talk more about God at home or help the family grow spiritually. (Mealtime prayers, devotions, talking at home after church, etc.) Is there a special event that you might plan to help the family do this more? Talk about what this event might be and plan it on your calendar.