

Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of January 10th, 2021*

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 Younger Children!***

Be patient! Parents, it may seem as though you “get nothing” out of the Divine Service. But hold on to God's promises more than your undivided attention. God is rich in His grace! He still gives you His Word, in words and song, and His Body and Blood. What you do hear and receive is still edifying!

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

Hand off a Bible: Go and buy a bunch of your favorite Bible to read and have them ready to hand off to others. WARNING – Do not give a hand off without a handhold! Write on the inside cover a note to them with your favorite places to read, good places to start, encouraging words, and your number if they have questions. Hand it off to them and then hold their hand as they learn to use it. That is why it is great to give your favorite Bible because you know how to use it. Be intentional about giving God's Word to others and helping them use it. Plus, I guarantee you will grow 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>

-Daily Scripture Readings: Let's read Mark 1-7! Feel free to ask your pastor any questions that come up!

-Memory verse: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 – “¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.”

-Hymn: *The Only Son from Heaven* LSB 402, also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 139

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on the Apostles' Creed: Second Article, on pg. 17. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Sixth Commandment and its meaning, pg. 93-104.

-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: Have each family member recall the time they were the most sick or the most injured. After all have shared, ask “Who can suggest where to go to find ‘body repair’?” Most will suggest doctors or hospitals. This would be true. But ultimately God heals us. He sent Jesus to show us this and Jesus not only repairs bodies, but also souls.

READ THE BIBLE: Read Mark 2:1-12. Jesus heals a paralytic.

KEY VERSE: Mark 10:27 - *Jesus looked at them and said, “With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.”*

TALK ABOUT IT: What was wrong with the man who was brought to Jesus? (*Mark 2:3. He was paralyzed. He couldn’t move or walk.*) How did he get to see Jesus? (*Mark 2:4. Four others brought him and made an opening in the roof and lowered him into the crowded room with Jesus.*) When Jesus saw the paralyzed man and wanted to heal him, what did He say to him? (*Mark 2:5. “Your sins are forgiven.”*) Why was it surprising that He announced the man’s sins were forgiven? (*Mark 2:6-7. Only God can forgive sins. Also, Jesus first talked about forgiving sins rather than healing him so he could walk.*) What did Jesus do to prove to the religious leaders that He had the authority to forgive sins? (*Mark 2:10-12. He healed him so he could walk.*) What did it take for Jesus to forgive the man’s sins as well as the sins of the whole world? (*Dying on the cross.*) Which is harder, healing someone’s body, or dying to forgive his or her sins? (*Dying on the cross.*)

Is there anything about your body now that needs healing? Jesus is our body repairman. Have you ever done anything that was not what God wanted and you felt terrible on the inside? Your soul needed healing, how could it be healed? (*Forgiveness*) What did God have to do to be able to heal our souls and give us forgiveness? (*Jesus had to die on the cross.*) *Jesus is our body and soul repairman.

PRAYER: Who do you know that needs special healing in their body? Can someone’s faith help another person become well? (*Yes, see Mark 2:5. Jesus noticed the faith of the friends who brought the paralytic.*) Pray for this person/these people. Your prayers do make a difference.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

A wonderful family servant event is to call the church and ask who is in the hospital that would like a visit. Make a card and hand deliver it. Be sure to pray for and with the person when you make the visit.