

Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of May 2nd, 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 Young Children!***

Be patient! Parents, it may seem as though you “get nothing” out of the Divine Service when you're worshipping with your children. 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!*

Start at Home: Evangelism does not just involve going to random people and telling them about Jesus. Evangelism is when you are sitting on the couch with your kids, talking on the phone with your brother, picking up the family after an event...If you have not already started making disciples of your family, **START NOW!** Pray for your family each day, specifically about their faith in Jesus. Use conversations with them to deepen your faith and trust in the Lord. Let your actions model to them the importance of putting Christ first! Start at home!

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 1 Kings 18-22 and 2 Corinthians 1-2! Feel free to ask your pastor any questions that come up!

-Memory verse: John 15:12-13 – “¹² This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down His life for His friends.”

-Hymn: *Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice*

LSB 556, also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 98

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on Baptism, Part 3, on pg. 24. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Lord's Prayer - Introduction, pg. 237-241.

-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 everyone answer the following: “What is something that you do that is very much like something your mom does? (Or something your dad does?) Think of mannerisms, habits, or even hobbies and interests.” One of the best examples our parent(s) demonstrate is what it is like to follow Jesus.

READ THE BIBLE: Acts 16:13-15

KEY VERSE: Proverbs 31:30, *Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.*”

TALK ABOUT IT: How many things can you tell us about the woman named Lydia? (*Read Acts 16:14.*) Who helped her pay attention and listen? (*Acts 16:14. The Lord God.*) Who talked to Lydia about Jesus? (*Acts 16:14. Paul.*) After Lydia paid attention to Paul, how did she respond to his message? What happened to her and her whole family? (*Acts 16:15. They believed and were baptized.*)

Lydia was paying attention to Paul’s message. Do you think Paul may have paid attention to someone so that his message was clear to others? Who? (*Paul paid attention to God. Paul preached the message as God told him to do and Lydia received the message as God helped her to do. If we pay attention to God, by praying, trusting in Him, and reading His Word, He can use us to help lead others to Jesus, too.*)

Tell about a time your mom or special person pointed you to Jesus. Or, think of examples of what she does to point you to Him. How can you be more eager and willing like Lydia to pay attention to what God is telling you?

PRAYER: Have each family member thankfully pray for ways their mom or another person has helped lead them to Jesus or been an example of Him. Pray that family members would pay attention to what God is teaching them through His Word and also the opportunities He provides to share the gospel with others.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

Rather than celebrate Mother’s Day on only one day, let the whole week be Mother’s Appreciation Week. Each family member tries to do something every day that shows Mom some appreciation. Include her in your prayers each day, thanking God for the good gifts He has given to you through her.