

Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of June 13th, 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!***

FOMO, the Fear Of Missing Out – Many parents have said it; most have lived it. They are concerned about all the things they are missing out on in church. They're here, but they can't hear because they're busy wrangling the children. Just by being here, in the Lord's house, your children are learning great things. They are learning to value worship, to value hearing God's Word, and to value receiving His forgiveness through Word and Sacrament. They're even learning the liturgy, the theology of the Church, and the rich beauty of our hymns. But you are, too! Sure, you can't summarize the sermon, but you received the forgiveness of your sins, with the Lord's help, you battled the devil's temptation to sleep in and take it easy, and you gathered together with your brothers and sisters in Christ for encouragement and accountability. If you really want to hear the sermon, we do post those on the church website!

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

Eat with Other People – Most of us eat 3 meals a day. That's 21 opportunities for church and mission each week without adding anything new to your schedule. And meals are a powerful expression of welcome and community.

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 2 Kings 19-25! Feel free to ask your pastor any questions that come up!

-Memory verse: 2 Corinthians 6:10 (Challenge! 6:4-10), We Christians are - "10As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything."

-Hymn: *Evening and Morning* LSB 726, also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 124

-Small Catechism (2017): Review together the section on the Lord's Prayer: 7th Petition and Conclusion, on pg. 22. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Lord's Prayer – Sixth Petition, pg. 269-273.

-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: Discuss what each family member is good at doing. Then ask: “How do you think each one of us might use what we do well to give glory to God?”

READ THE BIBLE: Acts 12:19-25

KEY VERSE: Matthew 5:16, *“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”*

TALK ABOUT IT: According to Acts 12:20, why did the people of Tyre and Sidon want to meet with Herod and ask for terms of peace? *(Because their cities depended on Herod for their food supply.)* What did the people start shouting when Herod gave his speech to them? *(Acts 12:22. This is the voice of a god and not of a man!)* According to verse 23, why did an angel from the Lord kill Herod? *(Because he did not give glory to the true God when the people compared him to a god.)* Why do you think the people praised Herod? *(Maybe they thought complimenting him would bring them favor.)*

Herod must have been a good speaker, but when the people praised him like he was so marvelous, he probably felt very proud of himself. God gives us our gifts and abilities so that when others take notice we can point to God as the giver of those abilities. This brings glory and honor to God rather than us. We should not think too highly of ourselves like Herod, but **give glory to God* for the gifts and abilities He has given us.

PRAYER: Thank God for the gifts and abilities He has given each family member. Ask for the Holy Spirit to help you be God-centered, not self-centered, and to give God the glory for the gifts He gives rather than thinking too much of ourselves.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

Follow up in one week with this question: “How have you used your special talents or abilities to give glory to God? How has God used your gifts to advance His kingdom?”